

Implications of Language Attitudes

1. Language attitudes usually entail attitudes to the speakers of the particular language or dialect.
2. There is evidence that language attitudes influence sound change.
3. Language attitudes may influence how teachers deal with pupils.
4. Attitudes about language may affect second language learning.
5. Language attitudes may affect whether or not varieties are mutually intelligible.

Language Attitudes from "American Tongues"

- A Yalie girl's attitude to her boyfriend's Southern accent
- A Northerner's attitude to the "Southern brogue"
- Mike Hardin on New Yorkers' attitudes to the speech of Ohio
- ... and his attitude to the New York accent
- A Southern woman's attitude to "the way they speak" in the North
- The importance of *darlin'*
- Northerners' and Southerners' attitudes to the /ay/ - /æ/ variable
- Molly Ivins on the prejudice against a Southern accent

What are your attitudes to some varieties of American English?

What are Your Attitudes to Some Varieties of American English?

1. Name the variety that you have chosen
2. How pleasant is it?
 - a) Very pleasant
 - b) Pleasant
 - c) Neutral
 - d) Unpleasant
3. How prestigious is it?
 - a) Very prestigious
 - b) Prestigious
 - c) Neutral
 - d) Not prestigious
 - e) It has no prestige at all
4. The people who speak this variety are
 - a) Very intelligent
 - b) Intelligent
 - c) Neutral
 - d) Dumb
 - e) Really dumb
5. What kind of house would you expect a speaker of this variety live in?
6. What kind of your job would you expect a speaker of this variety to have?

Attitudes to Social Dialects

- In the clip from "Friends",
 - Why does Phoebe change her accent?
 - What accent does Phoebe imitate?
- Do you agree or disagree with these statements?
 - You can tell a lot about a person by the way they talk.
 - My language use at home is different from my language use at school.
 - Learning to do a new job can involve learning new ways to use language.
 - I adapt the way I talk depending on the people involved.
 - Communication difficulties cause interpersonal problems.
 - Communication difficulties cause political problems.

Language attitudes and linguistic capital

- French sociologist Pierre Bourdieu argued that ...
 - Linguistic exchanges invoke a complex network of power relations in which the producer, by producing an utterance or text, makes a bid for social authority, and the recipient or audience decides to what degree to recognize that claim to authority.

Language attitudes and linguistic capital

- Bourdieu introduced ...
 - The concept of **linguistic capital** to describe the respect or authority enjoyed by a speaker.
 - Those with high linguistic capital speak with "command," i.e., the power to influence a listener toward the desired interpretation.
 - Utterances are always ventured in a particular field or market, in which certain social expectations for speech and interaction obtain.

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Language attitudes and linguistic capital

- In a linguistic market ...
 - People undertake speech production with a certain anticipation of profit, or anticipation of the expected reception of their words.
 - Thus, according to Bourdieu, linguistic capital is created, adapted, asserted, and re-evaluated through linguistic encounters.

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Language attitudes and linguistic capital

- Linguistic production is governed by ...
 - linguistic **habitus**, or a historically and socially constituted sedimentation of experiences in linguistic markets.
 - Linguistic habitus signifies the internalized inclination toward certain types or styles of linguistic production, which is considerably shaped by one's personal history of social interaction and one's sense of the value of one's language.

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The Contribution of
Animated Movies

to the reproduction of linguistic
habitus

What do you think of these female
Disney characters?

- Snow White and the Prince
- Feline and Bambi in "Bambi"
- Cinderella and the Prince
- Wendy and Peter in "Peter Pan"
- Lady and the tramp in "Lady and the Tramp"
- The beauty and the prince in "Sleeping Beauty"
- Perdita and Pongo in "101 Dalmatians"
- Ariel and Prince Eric in "The Little Mermaid"
- Belle and the Beast in "Beauty and the Beast"
- Princess Jasmine and Aladdin in "Aladdin"

What do you think of these female
Disney characters?

- Are they tall or short?
- Are they fat or thin?
- Are they rich or poor?
- What is the color of their skin?
- What is the color of their hair?
- What do they sound like?

When were the films released?

a. "101 Dalmatians"	a. 1938
b. "Aladdin"	b. 1942
c. "Bambi"	c. 1950
d. "Beauty and the Beast"	d. 1953
e. "Cinderella"	e. 1955
f. "Lady and the Tramp"	f. 1955
g. "Peter Pan"	g. 1961
h. "Sleeping Beauty"	h. 1989
i. "Snow White"	i. 1991
j. "The Little Mermaid"	j. 1992

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Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs



© 1938

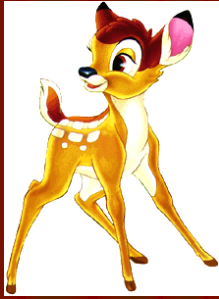
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Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs

- Snow White: ((Sings. Each line is echoed from the bottom of the well))
I'm wishing
for the one I love
to find me
today.
I'm hoping
and I'm dreaming of
the nice things
he'll say.

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Bambi



© 1942

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Cinderella



© 1950

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Cinderella

- Cinderella: oh my goodness!
- Prince: what's the matter?
- Cinderella: it's midnight.
- Prince: yes. so it is but [why
- Cinderella: [Goodbye
- Prince: no no wait you can't go now it's only,
- Cinderella: oh I must. please please I must.
- Prince: but why?
- Cinderella: well I I oh the prince ha ha I haven't met the prince.
- Prince: the prince but didn't you know that ((clock chimes))
- Cinderella: good!bye.
- Prince: no wait (.) come back oh please come back.

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Peter Pan



© 1953

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Peter Pan

- Wendy: Neverland oh I'm so happy I
(.) I think I'll give you a (.) a
kiss.
(.)
- Peter Pan: what's a (.) a (.) kiss?
- Wendy: oh well (.) I'll show you. (.)
↑oh

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Lady and the Tramp



© 1955

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Lady and The Tramp

((Rooster crows))

- Lady: o:h (.) oh dear
- Tramp: is something wrong Pidge?
- Lady: it's morning.
- Tramp: yeah (.) ((yawns)) so it is.
- Lady: ↑ I should have been home ↑ hours ago
- Tramp: why? (.) because you still believe in that ever faithful old dog Trey routine?

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Sleeping Beauty



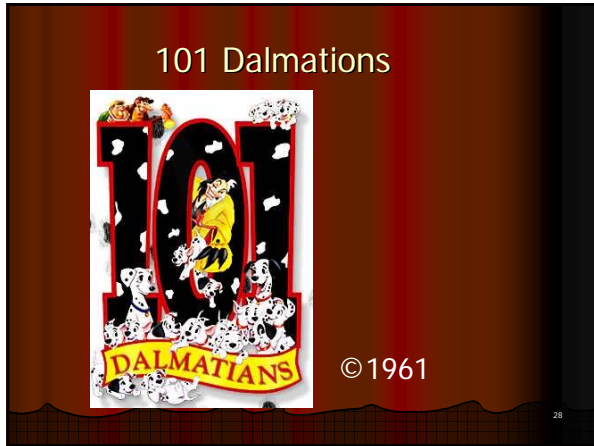
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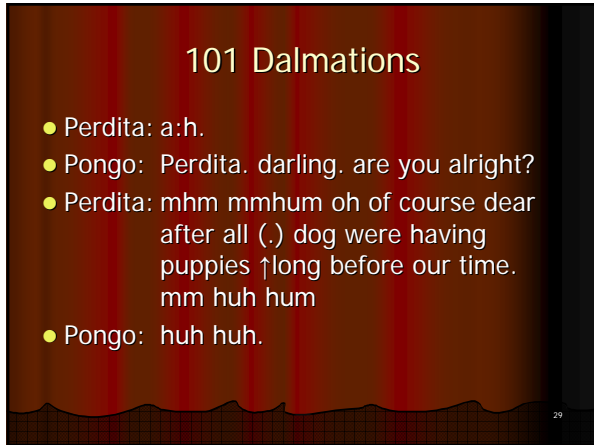
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Sleeping Beauty

- Prince: what's your name?
- Aurora: mm? oh (.) my name. why it's (.) it's oh no no I can't I (.) good↑bye
- Prince: but when will I see you again?
- Aurora : oh never (.)↑never.
- Prince: never?
- Aurora : (.) well maybe some day.
- Prince: when? tomorrow?
- Aurora : oh no (.) this evening.
- Prince: where?
- Aurora : at the cottage. (.) in the glen.

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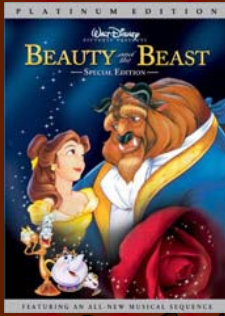


The Little Mermaid

- Ariel: I've never seen a human this close before o:h (.) he's very handsome isn't he?
- Bird: (.) I dunno he looks kinda hairy and slobbery to me.
- Ariel: Huh (.) not ↑that one (.) °the one playing the snarfblat°

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Beauty and the Beast



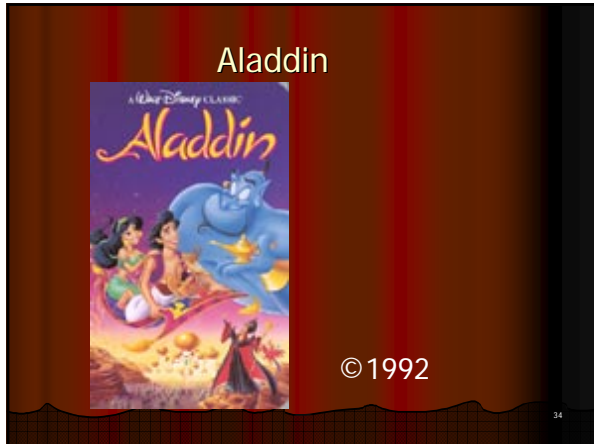
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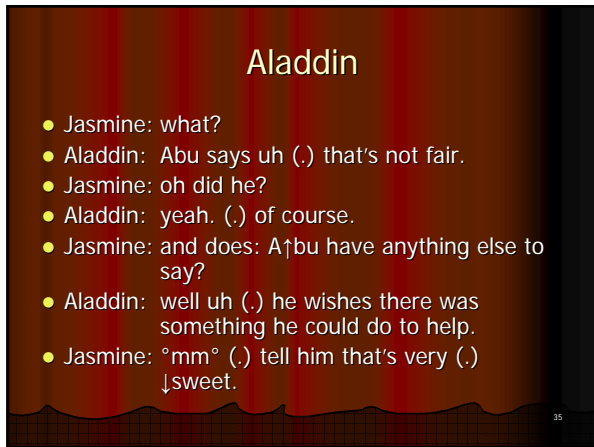
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Beauty and the Beast

- Beast: Belle? (.) are you (.) happy here with me?
- Belle: yes. (.)
- Beast: what is it?
- Belle: (.) if only I could see my father again. just for a moment. I miss him so much.
(.)
- Beast: there is a way.

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Compare the female and male leads and answer these questions

- Who is taller?
- Who is thinner?
- Who is richer?
- Who has darker skin?
- Who has darker hair?
- Who has the better accent?

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Compare your own accent with the characters in these movies

- Snow White and the Prince
- Feline and Bambi
- Cinderella and the Prince
- Wendy and Peter
- Lady and the tramp
- The beauty and the prince in "Sleeping Beauty"
- Perdita and Pongo
- Ariel and Prince Eric
- Belle and the Beast
- Princess Jasmine and Aladdin

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What about foreign languages?

- "French is a logical language."
- "Italian is beautiful, German is ugly."
- "Indians speak a primitive language."
- "Languages like Chinese have no grammar."
- "I love your British accent."

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What about foreign languages?

- French
 - Lumiere in "Beauty and the Beast"
 - The chef in "The Little Mermaid"
- Italian
 - The cook in "Lady and the Tramp"
- British
 - Mrs. Potts and Chip in "Beauty and the Beast"

Learning Activity

- Describe the linguistic models of young women that are portrayed in Disney cartoon movies.
- Are they good role models for our daughters?
- Why or why not?
