

12-19-2022

## The Meaning of Linguistic Diversity Survey

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### Recommended Citation

Reiko Kataoka. "The Meaning of Linguistic Diversity Survey" *Faculty Research, Scholarly, and Creative Activity* (2022).

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# The Meaning of Linguistic Diversity Survey

**Directions:** In answering, please reflect on your past experiences regarding the language(s) and dialect(s) you speak, the accent(s) you speak in, and your language use.

- You may decline to answer any question, and may complete or leave blank any response box for open-ended questions.
- You may change your answer to any question before submission.
- Once you start the survey, it will automatically close after seven calendar days. You can stop the survey partway and come back to complete it within seven days.
- **Submit the survey only once.**

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## Part I: Linguistic and Demographic information

### 1. Check all that apply. My gender is:

- Female
- Male
- Intersex
- Transgender
- Genderqueer or gender-fluid
- Self-identify: \_\_\_\_\_
- Decline to state

### 2. Check all that apply. My sexual orientation is:

- Bisexual
- Gay
- Heterosexual
- Lesbian
- Queer
- Self-identify: \_\_\_\_\_
- Decline to state

### 3. Check all that apply. With which racial/ethnic group do you identify?

- African American / African/ Black
- American Indian / Alaskan Native
- Asian / Asian American
- Chicanx / Hispanic / Latinx
- Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander
- White / Caucasian / European American
- Self-identify: \_\_\_\_\_
- Decline to state

4. **I am** [ drop-down]

- 18 – 25 years old
- 26 – 35 years old
- 35 – 45 years old
- more than 45 years old
- Decline to state

5. **My college affiliation is:** [ drop-down]

- College of Health & Human Sciences
- College and Graduate School of Business
- College of Education
- College of Engineering
- College of Humanities and the Arts
- College of Professional and Global Education
- College of Science
- College of Social Sciences
- Decline to state

## Part II: Your Experiences and Perceptions

6. Is English your native language? (Here, “native language” means the language you have acquired from your early childhood as a primary language at home and/or a primary language of the community)

- Yes (→ Go to a sub-set Q7 to Q29)
- No (→ Go to a sub-set Q30 to Q34)

\*\*\* [Sub-set: Q7 – Q29] \*\*\*

7. Do you identify yourself as a native speaker of American English? (The answer would be “No” if you speak another national variety such as British English as your native variety.)

- Yes (→ Go to sub-set Q13 to Q29)
- No (→ Go to the sub-set Q8 to Q12)
- I don’t know.
- Decline to state

\*\*\* [Sub-set: Q8 – Q12] \*\*\*

8. What national variety do you speak? (National variety includes, for example, American English, British English; Canadian English; Filipino English, and Indian English.)

[Text Response Box]

9. In the US, how similar do you think that the way you speak (e.g., grammar, vocabulary, accent) is similar to the majority of people you interact with in your everyday life?

1	2	3	4	5
Very different	Somewhat different	Neutral	Somewhat similar	Very similar

10. If you answered “Very different” or “Somewhat different” in Q9 above, in what way you speak differently from majority of people around you?

[Text Response Box]

11. In the US, how frequently do you speak in your national variety, which differs from American English?

1	2	3	4	5
Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always

12. In the US, how frequently do you use code-switching? (Here, code-switching means switching between American English and another national variety of English in the same conversational situation.)

1	2	3	4	5
Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always

\*\*\* [Sub-set: Q13 – Q29] \*\*\*

13. Which regional dialect do you most strongly identify yourself with? (Here, “regional dialect” is defined by the state, such as California English, Seattle English, etc.)

[Text Response Box]

(Please answer Q14 to Q17 only if you answer to Q13 with any regional dialect other than California English.)

14. In California, how similar do you think that the way you speak (e.g., grammar, vocabulary, accent) is similar to the majority of people you interact with in your everyday life?

1	2	3	4	5
Very different	Somewhat different	Neutral	Somewhat similar	Very similar

15. If you answered “Very different” or “Somewhat different” in Q9 above, in what way you speak differently from majority of people around you?

[Text Response Box]

16. In California, how frequently do you speak in your regional dialect, which differs from California English?

1	2	3	4	5
Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always

17. In California, how frequently do you use code-switching? (Here, code-switching means switching between California English and another regional dialect in the same conversational situation.)

1	2	3	4	5
Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always

18. Do you identify yourself as a speaker of African American English?

- Yes
- No
- I don't know.
- Decline to state

19. Do you identify yourself as a speaker of Chicano English?

- Yes
- No
- I don't know
- Decline to state

20. Do you identify yourself as a speaker of any other ethnic variety?

- Yes (Please specify) [Text Response Box]
- No
- I don't know
- Decline to state

(Please answer Q21 to Q23 only if you identified any ethnic dialect in Q18 to Q20 above.)

21. How similar do you think that the way you speak (e.g., grammar, vocabulary, accent) is similar to the majority of people you interact with in your everyday life?

1	2	3	4	5
Very different	Somewhat different	Neutral	Somewhat similar	Very similar

22. If you answered "Very different" or "Somewhat different" in Q21 above, in what way you speak differently from majority of people around you?

[Text Response Box]

23. In daily life, how frequently do you use code-switching? (Here, code-switching means switching between an ethnic dialect and an ethnicity-neutral regional dialect such as California English in the same conversational situation.)

1	2	3	4	5
Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always

24. Do you identify yourself as someone who has heritage language?

- Yes (Please specify) [Text Response Box]
- No
- I don't know
- Decline to state

(Please answer Q25 to Q29 only if your answer to Q24 is "Yes.")

For Questions 25 to 29, please reflect on one heritage language that you are most strongly associated with, and answer on a 5-point scale.

25. How fluently do you speak your heritage language?

1	2	3	4	5
Not at all fluent	Not very fluent	Neutral	Somewhat fluent	Very fluent

26. How well do you understand speech in that language?

1	2	3	4	5
Not at all well	Not very well	Neutral	Somewhat well	Very well

27. How frequently do you use your heritage language?

1	2	3	4	5
Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always

28. How frequently do you hear your family members speaking your heritage language?

1	2	3	4	5
Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always

29. How frequently do you hear your friends speaking your heritage language?

1	2	3	4	5
Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always

\*\*\* [Sub-set: Q30 – Q34] \*\*\*

30. What is your native language?

[Text Response Box]

31. How many years have you been in the environment where you interact with people around you in English in your daily life, including the time you have spent/lived in the US? [drop-down]

- less than 1 year
- 1 to 2 years
- 3 to 4 years
- 5 to 6 years
- 7 to 8 years
- 9 to 10 years
- More than 10 years

As a university student, you must have good command of English in reading and writing in academic settings. For Questions 32 to 34, please reflect on spoken communication in everyday life.

32. How difficult it is for you to formulate sentences with English grammar quickly in everyday conversation?

1	2	3	4	5
Very difficult	Somewhat difficult	Neutral	Easy	Very easy

33. How difficult it is for you to find appropriate vocabulary quickly in everyday conversation?

1	2	3	4	5
Very difficult	Somewhat difficult	Neutral	Easy	Very easy

34. To what degree, do you think you speak English with a noticeable non-native accent?

1	2	3	4	5
Not at all noticeable	Slightly noticeable	Moderately noticeable	Very noticeable	Extremely noticeable

\*\*\* [For all participants] \*\*\*

For Questions 35 to 40, please reflect on your experiences in California rather than in other states or countries.

35. Have you experienced a situation where you felt you were treated negatively which you think was based on your language, dialect, accent, use of code-switching, and/or use of style shift?

- Yes
- No
- I don't know
- Decline to state

36. If you answered "Yes" to Q35, what do you think is the reason why you were treated negatively? Select all that apply.

- I spoke with grammar unique to my native non-American English
- I spoke with vocabulary unique to my native non-American English
- I spoke in non-American English accent
- I spoke with grammar unique to my non-California English dialect
- I spoke with vocabulary unique to my non-California English dialect
- I spoke in non-California English dialect accent
- I spoke with grammar patterns unique to my ethnic dialect
- I spoke with vocabulary unique to my ethnic dialect
- I spoke in my ethnic dialect accent
- I spoke my heritage language, which is not English
- I spoke my native language, which is not English
- I spoke in non-native accent
- I used code-switching (please specify which two codes you switched between)

- I used style-shifting (please specify how you shifted from one style/register to another)
- I don't know
- Decline to state

37. If you answered "Yes" to Q35, would you be able to describe one such situation? What happened? Do you remember what was said to you? How did you feel at that time?

[Text Response Box]

38. Have you experienced a situation where you felt you were treated very positively, which you think was based on your language, dialect, accent, use of code-switching, and/or use of style shift?

- Yes
- No
- I don't know
- Decline to state

39. If you answered yes, what do you think is the reason why you were treated positively? Select all that apply.

- I spoke with grammar unique to my native non-American English
- I spoke with vocabulary unique to my native non-American English
- I spoke in non-American English accent
- I spoke with grammar unique to my non-California English dialect
- I spoke with vocabulary unique to my non-California English dialect
- I spoke in non-California English dialect accent
- I spoke with grammar patterns unique to my ethnic dialect
- I spoke with vocabulary unique to my ethnic dialect
- I spoke in my ethnic dialect accent
- I spoke my heritage language, which is not English
- I spoke my native language, which is not English
- I spoke in non-native accent
- I used code-switching (please specify which two codes you switched between)
- I used style-shifting (please specify how you shifted from one style/register to another)
- I don't know
- Decline to state

40. If you answered "Yes" to Q38, would you be able to describe one such situation? What happened? Do you remember what was said to you? How did you feel at that time?

[Text Response Box]



### Part III: Meaning of Linguistic Diversity

41. Please type three words that comes to your mind when you think of your own native language, dialect, and/or accent.

42. Please type three words that comes to your mind when you think of current situation regarding linguistic diversity in San Jose.

43. Please type three words that comes to your mind when you think of the future of linguistic diversity in San Jose.

#### **Thank you for taking the Meaning of Linguistic Diversity Survey!**

Your participation will help us and our audience learn a range of social experiences and meanings of different language forms that coexist in our community. We hope the dialogue continues on this extremely important topic.