

Dialects in Schools and Communities (\$24.95), by Walt Wolfram, Carolyn Temple Adger, and Donna Christian, explores the role of dialects in the acquisition of educational skills such as reading, writing, and using spoken standard English. It also includes examples of dialect awareness activities. A useful list of vernacular dialect structures for a full range of American English dialects is included. Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, 10 Industrial Ave., Mahwah, NJ 07430-2262, 1-800-926-6579, <http://www.erlbaum.com>

Spoken Soul: The Story of Black English (\$24.95), by John Russell Rickford and Russell John Rickford, is a highly readable account of the history, structure, and current controversy about Ebonics. The description shows how this dialect is effectively used by writers, orators, comedians, singers, and rappers at the same time that it is condemned in public commentary. John Wiley & Sons, 1 Wiley Dr., Somerset, NC 08875-1272, 1-800-225-5945, <http://www.wiley.com>

English with an Accent: Language, Ideology, and Discrimination (\$21.99), by Rosina Lippi-Green, presents a sobering account of the manifestation of language prejudice in American society. The description shows how pervasive and subtle language discrimination can be in venues that range from animated films to the legal and educational system. Routledge Customer Service, 7625 Empire Dr., Florence, KY 41042, 1-800-634-7064, cserve@routledge-ny.com

American Tongues, produced by Andrew Kolker and Louis Alvarez, is an award-winning video documentary on American dialects for high school level and up. It combines an entertaining presentation of American dialects with the reality of dialect prejudice in a way that encourages audiences to openly discuss their attitudes about dialects. A 40-minute high school version (\$150) and a 56-minute adult version (\$285) are available. CNAM Film Library, 22-D Hollywood Ave., Hohokus, NJ 07423, 1-800-343-5540, <http://www.cnam.com>

<http://www.cal.org> The web site of the Center for Applied Linguistics has information on the practical application of linguistic knowledge to social and educational problems. The dialect/Ebonics link provides helpful resources and references on dialects, as well as detailed information about the Ebonics controversy.

<http://www.ncsu.edu/linguistics> The web site of the North Carolina Language and Life Project offers audio examples and video clips of documentaries on dialects. North Carolina is one of the richest dialect areas in the United States, with Appalachian, Southern, Outer Banks, Native American and African American dialects, among others.

Note: The list of Related Resources is adapted and used with permission from the following:

Walt Wolfram. 2000. Everyone has an accent. *Teaching Tolerance Magazine*, 18(23). ©2000, Teaching Tolerance, Southern Poverty Law Center, Montgomery, AL.

75th Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America

Parasession on

Reading and Dialects

in the



Grand Hyatt Hotel
Washington DC
Constitution A

January 4, 2001

4:00–6:00 PM

Reading & Dialects

Chaired by

Cecile McKee
University of Arizona



4:00-4:15

Walt Wolfram
North Carolina State University

The Educational Context of Dialects

4:20-4:40

Charles DeBose
California State University, Hayward

The African American Literacy and Culture Project

4:45-5:05

William Labov
University of Pennsylvania

Using Our Knowledge of African American English to Raise Reading Levels in the Inner City

5:10-5:30

Geneva Smitherman
Michigan State University

Recent Publications Related to Ebonics

5:35-5:45

John Baugh
Stanford University

Beyond Ebonics: Some Implications for the Future

5:45-6:00

Discussion

This session constitutes the contribution of the Linguistic Society of America to the Decade of Behavior, an initiative of more than 50 societies representing the behavioral and social sciences. Its goal is to focus the talents, energy, and creativity of these sciences on meeting many of society's most significant challenges. The support of the James S. McDonnell Foundation is gratefully acknowledged.

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