

Dialects, Accents, And Honey, Just Where Are You From?

A. Go to the following website and follow the directions below.

http://accent.gmu.edu/browse_atlas.php

1. Click on the ABOUT button and read the information on this site and it's purpose.
2. Click on BROWSE and then choose atlas/regions.
3. Click on a continent.
4. After viewing the location of the red flags, click on one of them.
5. To hear each sample, just click on the pause/play button of the sound control bar. You can also control the volume, the speed, and the cueing, by clicking on the other iconic buttons. Record the differences in the way you speak and the way the speaker says words. Focus on word pronunciation and inflection. (At least two for each continent.)
6. To see a pop-up window of a map of the speaker's place of birth, click on map. You can also browse with a world map that has indicators of representative speakers from different regions. Record where the speaker is from.
7. Repeat this process until you have sampled a dialect/accent from each continent.
8. Can you see similar pattern in areas in close proximity to one another?



He's laughing at your accent!

Language Patterns

Are the things you say funny? Do you use much slang? What are your language roots?

B. Form (and write out) a hypothesis about what groups influence your individual language and speech patterns. Then visit the site below and see if you are close when you get your results! Then answer the following:

1. Do the results reflect your family's culture?
2. Do the results reflect your family's movement throughout it's history?
3. If your family is from different places, which group influences your speech more?
Why?
4. Plot the areas that influence your speech on a map.

<http://www.blogthings.com/whatkindofamericanenglishdoyouspeakquiz/>

