

Why do people have different accents?



First language influence

Every language has a unique pronunciation system and as little children when we learn our first language, we internalise this pronunciation system. Thus, when we learn a new language (especially after puberty), it is filtered through the pronunciation system of our first language. This process causes the sounds to be influenced by the system of our first language. Thus, for most of us- for whom English is not the first language, the accent is influenced by our mother/native tongue.

Geographical influence



Languages have evolved over the years with the dynamic changes in society, cultures and people and so has the accent. The same language is spoken in different ways in various parts of the country, this is called a dialect. As people travelled around the world and began settling in other countries, they brought about an influence of their language in the way they spoke the foreign languages as well. Over the years (and even to this date) , this has changed the way, various groups speak in a place.

Socio economic influence

For many years, our has shown an evident presence of classes and ranks brought about by the difference in economic standards and social /cultural groups. Due to the closer interaction amongst one's own group/ rank, the language and accent have distinct differences that have developed over the years. The intermingling of these classes/ranks in the years of the modern era has also created hybrid dialects with a different pronunciation system.

Educational influence

Every country has its own laws on English as the medium of instruction in schools and colleges; this certainly has an influence in the development of the use of English. With the advent of students travelling to various countries to study, foreign student exchange courses and the rising using of English in higher education-the language has evolved and developed.

Climatic influence