

Cambridge University Press
0521415144 - English in Language Shift: The History, Structure and Sociolinguistics of
South African Indian English
Rajend Mesthrie
Table of Contents
[More information](#)

Contents

<i>List of figures and maps</i>	<i>page</i> xii
<i>List of tables</i>	xiii
<i>Preface</i>	xvii
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xviii
<i>List of abbreviations</i>	xx
1 Historical background: the shaping of a New English	1
1.1 Introduction	1
1.2 ‘New’ Englishes	1
1.3 Indian immigration and indenture	6
1.4 English in the period of indenture (1860–1911)	11
1.5 English in the post-indenture period	27
2 Variation in SAIE: a first glimpse	34
2.1 The gathering of data	34
2.2 The polylectal continuum	43
2.3 Characteristics of the basilect	45
2.4 Style-shifting between lects	58
2.5 Pre-basilectal speakers	65
3 Syntactic variation: the relative clause	71
3.1 Introduction	71
3.2 Relative clauses in English dialects	71
3.3 Types of relative clauses in SAIE	72
3.4 Proportions of relative-clause types	81
3.5 The social profile for relative clauses in SAIE	82
3.6 Relative clauses by functional patterns	91
3.7 Some acquisitional perspectives	94
3.8 Comparison between lectal groups and R-groups	96

Cambridge University Press

0521415144 - English in Language Shift: The History, Structure and Sociolinguistics of South African Indian English

Rajend Mesthrie

Table of Contents

[More information](#)x **Contents**

3.9 Phylogenetic parallels	97
3.10 Conclusion	100
4 Word-order principles	101
4.1 Introduction	101
4.2 Parataxis	101
4.3 OV influences in a VO dialect	105
4.4 Topicalisation	110
4.5 Conclusion	127
5 Non-syntactic variation	128
5.1 Introduction	128
5.2 Morphology	128
5.3 Phonetic variation	136
5.4 Socio-lexical variation	141
5.5 SAIE and other varieties of South African English	149
6 Perspectives from second-language acquisition	152
6.1 Introduction	152
6.2 The view from language acquisition	152
6.3 Transfer in SAIE	154
6.4 Universals of SLA: negation	160
6.5 Parameter setting in SLA	167
6.6 Strategies of second-language learning	174
7 Perspectives from pidgin and creole studies	183
7.1 Pidginisation, creolisation, second-language acquisition	183
7.2 Pidginisation in the pre-basilect	186
7.3 The basilect as creoloid	191
7.4 A comparison with creole grammars	205
7.5 Analogies with decreolisation	210
7.6 Undeveloped themes, conclusions, prognoses	218
Appendix A Comparison between SAIE sample and census data for Indians in Natal	222
Appendix B Types of relative clauses used by individual speakers	224
Appendix C Rank orders for relative clauses, topics and morphology	229

Cambridge University Press

0521415144 - English in Language Shift: The History, Structure and Sociolinguistics of
South African Indian English

Rajend Mesthrie

Table of Contents

[More information](#)**Contents**

xi

<i>Notes</i>	233
<i>Sources and references</i>	237
<i>Index</i>	248