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### Speech Communities

What makes a speech community? How do they evolve? How are speech communities identified? Speech communities are central to our understanding of how language and interactions occur in societies around the world and in this book readers will find an overview of the main concepts and critical arguments surrounding how language and communication styles distinguish and identify groups.

Speech communities are not organized around linguistic facts but around people who want to share their opinions and identities; the language we use constructs, represents, and embodies meaningful participation in society. This book focuses on a range of speech communities, including those that have developed from an increasingly technological world in which migration and global interactions are common. Essential reading for graduate students and researchers in linguistic anthropology, sociolinguistics, and applied linguistics.

MARCYLIENA H. MORGAN is Professor of African and African American Studies at Harvard University.

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## KEY TOPICS IN LINGUISTIC ANTHROPOLOGY

'Key Topics in Linguistic Anthropology' focuses on the main topics of study and research in linguistic anthropology today. It consists of accessible yet challenging accounts of the most important concepts, phenomena and questions to consider when examining the relationship between language and culture. Some topics have been the subject of study for many years, and are re-examined in the light of new developments in the field; others are issues of growing importance that have not so far been given a sustained treatment. Written by leading experts, and designed to bridge the gap between textbooks and primary literature, the books in the series can either be used on courses and seminars, or as succinct one-stop guides to a particular topic for individual students and researchers.

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## Transcription Conventions

CAPITAL LETTERS indicate some form of emphasis which may be signaled by changes in pitch or amplitude.

**BOLD CAPITAL LETTERS** indicate loud-talking.

*Italics* indicate a change in the quality of speech.

- . A period indicates a stopping fall in tone, not necessarily the end of a sentence.
- , A comma indicates a continuing intonation, not necessarily between clauses of sentences.
- : Colons indicate that the sound just before the colon has been lengthened.
- ? A question mark indicates a rising inflection, not necessarily a question.
- ! An exclamation point indicates an animated tone, not necessarily an exclamation.
- A single dash can indicate a (1) short untimed pause, (2) halting, abrupt cutoff, or, when multiple dashes hyphenate the syllables of a word or connect strings of words, the stream of talk so marked has (3) a stammering quality.
- [ All overlapping utterances, including those which start simultaneously are marked with a single left bracket.
- ] The point where overlap stops is marked with a single right bracket.
- = When there is no interval between adjacent utterances, the second being latched immediately to the first, the utterances are linked together with equal signs. They are also used to link different parts of a single speaker's utterance when those parts constitute a continuous flow of speech that has been carried over to another line to accommodate an intervening interruption.
- (.) A period within parenthesis indicates a one second pause.
- () When intervals in the stream of talk occur, they are timed in tenths of a second and inserted within parentheses either within an utterance or between.
- (( )) Double parentheses in italics provide description of quality of talk and activity related to talk.