

MEXICAN AMERICAN ENGLISH

Responding to the need for a comprehensive treatment of Mexican American English and its varied influences across multiple generations, this volume provides true insight into how language contact triggers language change, and illustrates previously under-recognized links to ethnolects of other migrant groups in different parts of the world. It demonstrates how the variety begins with Spanish interference features but evolves into a stable variety over time by filtering out some of the interference features and responding to forces such as exploitation of its speakers, education, and the need to develop solidarity. A large number of linguistic variables from a range of linguistic levels such as syntax, phonology, prosody, accent, dialect, and sociolinguistics are analyzed to provide a truly balanced picture of the divisions within the community.

Dr Erik R. Thomas is a professor in the Department of English at North Carolina State University. His work focuses on the intersection of sociolinguistics and phonetics, as well as the speech of minorities.

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Substrate Influence and the Birth of an Ethnolect

EDITED BY

ERIK R. THOMAS

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Contents

<i>List of Figures</i>	page xi
<i>List of Tables</i>	xiv
<i>List of Contributors</i>	xvi
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	xvii
1 Language Contact, Immigration, and Latino Englishes	1
<i>Erik R. Thomas</i>	
1.1 Latino Englishes	1
1.2 Models of Language Contact	3
1.3 New Dialect Formation	5
1.4 Acquisition of L2 Phonetics and Morphosyntax	9
1.5 Subordinate Immigrant Communities around the World	12
1.6 History of Latino English Scholarship	26
1.7 What's Missing from Earlier Research	35
2 The Context of North Town	40
<i>Belinda Treviño Schouten and Erik R. Thomas</i>	
2.1 The Study Community	40
2.2 Interviewing in North Town	57
3 Consonantal Variables Correlated with Ethnicity	61
<i>Erik R. Thomas and Janneke Van Hofwegen</i>	
3.1 Consonantal Variation in Latino Englishes	61
3.2 The (l) Variable	63
3.3 The (tʃ), (ʃ), and (dʒ) Variables	66
3.4 The (ð Stopping) and (ð Assimilation) Variables	73
3.5 The (r) Variable	81
3.6 Commonality vs. Diversity	90
4 Vowels in North Town	93
<i>Erik R. Thomas</i>	
4.1 Substrate Influence on Vowels	93
4.2 Historical Survey of Studies of Latino Vowels	94

4.3	Methods of the North Town Analysis	102
4.4	Representative Vowel Configurations	103
4.5	Generational Changes in North Town	107
4.6	Regression Analyses of Variables	111
4.7	PCA Analyses	116
4.8	Anomalous Speakers	121
4.9	General Patterning in North Town	122
5	Trends from Outside	125
	<i>Erik R. Thomas</i>	
5.1	Ethnolects Are Not Impervious	125
5.2	The ʊOʊT/BOʊT Vowel	126
5.3	The BOʊT/BOʊGHT Merger	128
5.4	The Variable (hw)	136
5.5	The Variable (ju)	139
5.6	Quotatives	142
5.7	A Sign of a Vibrant Dialect	147
6	Social Evaluation of Variables	149
	<i>Erik R. Thomas and Belinda T. Schouten</i>	
6.1	Determining Indexicality	149
6.2	Methods for the Speech Identification Experiment	152
6.3	Results	156
6.4	Discussion	166
6.5	Evaluation of the Experiment	169
7	Variable (ING)	171
	<i>Tyler S. Kendall and Erik R. Thomas</i>	
7.1	English Unstressed <i>ing</i>	171
7.2	Variable (ING), Ethnicity, and Other Social Factors in North Town	175
7.3	Internal and External Constraints on Variable (ING) in Mexican American English	183
7.4	A Closer Look at Variable (ING) as Used by Four Speakers	190
7.5	Conclusion	195
8	Coronal Stop Deletion in a Rural South Texas Community	198
	<i>Robert Bayley and Dan Villarreal</i>	
8.1	Introduction	198
8.2	CSD: Previous Research	199
8.3	Methods	202
8.3.1	Data Collection	202
8.3.2	Data Reduction and Coding	203
8.3.3	Analysis	203

<i>Contents</i>		ix
8.4	Results	204
8.4.1	Linguistic Constraints	204
8.4.2	Social Constraints	207
8.4.3	The Effect of Ethnicity	208
8.5	CSD in North Town and Other Latino Communities	212
8.6	Conclusion	214
9	Prosody	215
	<i>Erik R. Thomas and Tyler S. Kendall</i>	
9.1	Prosodic Variables	215
9.2	Intonation	216
9.3	Prosodic Rhythm	227
9.4	Speech Rate	234
9.5	Phrase-Final Lengthening	237
9.6	Diverse Variables, Diverse Patterns	241
10	Morphosyntactic Variation	243
	<i>Erin Callahan</i>	
10.1	Introduction: Morphosyntactic Variation in Latino English(es)	243
10.2	Communities and Speakers	245
10.3	Past Tense Unmarking	248
10.3.1	Introduction	248
10.3.2	Previous Studies on Past Tense Unmarking	249
10.3.3	Methodology and Coding Conventions: Unmarked Past Tense	251
10.3.4	Results: Past Tense Unmarking	252
10.4	Multiple Negation	258
10.4.1	Introduction and Past Descriptions of MN in Latino Communities	258
10.4.2	Methodology and Coding Conventions: Multiple Negation	261
10.4.3	Results: Multiple Negation	262
10.5	Conclusions	265
11	Latino English in New Destinations: Processes of Regionalization in Emerging Contact Varieties	268
	<i>Mary E. Kohn</i>	
11.1	Introduction	268
11.2	Regionalization of Latino Englishes	269
11.3	What Is a New Destination Community?	271
11.4	Field Sites and Motivation for Their Selection	273
11.5	Coronal Stop Deletion (CSD)	275
11.6	Realization of Representative Vowels in Each Community	280
11.7	Conclusions	290

12	Mexican American English and Dialect Genesis	294
	<i>Erik R. Thomas</i>	
12.1	What Is an Ethnolect?	294
12.2	A Model of Ethnolect Development	297
12.3	Prospects for Mexican American English	308
	<i>References</i>	312
	<i>Index</i>	350

Figures

2.1	The railroad tracks through the center of North Town	page 45
2.2	A street scene on the Mexicano side of North Town	45
2.3	The business district on the Anglo side of North Town	46
2.4	The Mexicano cemetery in North Town	47
2.5	Former ranch a private deer-hunting preserve	55
2.6	Ethnic makeups of North Town and North County, 2010	56
3.1	Spectrogram of <i>to learn</i>	64
3.2	Mean Lobanov-normalized F ₂ values	66
3.3	Spectrograms of <i>teachers</i>	68
3.4	Percentages of realization of (tʃ) as a fricative	69
3.5	Percentages of realization of (dʒ) as a fricative	71
3.6	Percentages of realization of (ʃ) as an affricate	73
3.7	Spectrogram showing /ð/ in <i>that</i>	75
3.8	Percentages of stopped /ð/ after a consonant	76
3.9	Percentages of stopped /ð/ after a pause	77
3.10	Percentages of stopped /ð/ after a vowel	78
3.11	Percentages of stopped tokens for word-medial /ð/	78
3.12	Spectrogram of assimilated and unassimilated /ð/	80
3.13	Percentages of assimilated tokens of /ð/	81
3.14	A spectrogram of syllabic /r/	84
3.15	Rates of <i>r</i> -lessness in syllable codas	87
3.16	Percentages of <i>r</i> -lessness in unstressed syllables	87
3.17	Ordering of positional constraints on (r)	89
3.18	Ordering of following element constraints (r)	89
4.1	Mean vowel values, Anglo male, born 1925	103
4.2	Mean vowel values, Mexican American female, born 1918	104
4.3	Mean vowel values, Mexican American male, born 1937	105
4.4	Mean vowel values, Mexican American female, born 1964	106
4.5	Mean vowel values, Mexican American female, born 1993	106
4.6	Generational trends for “lax” vowels	107

4.7	Generational trends for “tense” vowels	108
4.8	Generational trends for diphthongs	108
4.9	Generational trends for pre-/r/ vowels	109
4.10	Numbers of vocalic variables	116
4.11	Percentages of vocalic variables	117
4.12	Principal components 1 and 2 for the “lax” vowels	118
4.13	Principal components 1 and 2 for the “tense” vowels	118
4.14	Principal components 1 and 2 for the diphthongs	119
4.15	Principal components 1 and 2 for the pre-/r/ vowels	120
4.16	Mean vowel values, Mexican American female, Anglo influence	121
4.17	Mean vowel values, Anglo male, Mexican American influence	122
5.1	Mean normalized values of the BOOT and TOOT nuclei	127
5.2	3-point trajectories of BOT and BOUGHT, female, born 1920	130
5.3	Year of birth plotted against Bhattacharyya Affinity values	132
5.4	3-point trajectories of BOT and BOUGHT, female, born 1951	134
5.5	3-point trajectories of BOT and BOUGHT, female, born 1964	134
5.6	3-point trajectories of BOT and BOUGHT, female, born 1992	135
5.7	Year of birth plotted against /hw/	137
5.8	Year of birth plotted against post-coronal stop /ju/	141
5.9	Percentages of quotatives without a verb	145
6.1	BIT, BAIT, BAT, BAN, and BOUGHT variables	156
6.2	BOAT, BOOT, BITE, BIDE, and BOUT variables	162
6.3	Onset /l/ near front or back vowels, /ð/ stopping, and assimilation	164
6.4	/tʃ/, /f/, /hw/, and /ju/ variables	165
7.1	Configuration for the three main realizations of (ING)	176
7.2	(ING) realizations by ethnic group	177
7.3	(ING) realization by grammatical category and ethnicity	178
7.4	Conditional inference tree results for (ING)	179
7.5	(ING) realization by generation	183
7.6	Distribution of (ING) forms for Mexican American subjects	184
7.7	(ING) realizations as a function of Henderson graph slopes	193
7.8	(ING) realizations as a function of articulation rates	194
8.1a	CSD following /r/ (retained)	206
8.1b	CSD following /r/ (deleted)	206
8.2	Preceding segment by ethnicity	211
8.3	Following segment by ethnicity	211
8.4	Grammatical class by ethnicity (factor weights)	212

	<i>List of Figures</i>	xiii
9.1	An illustration of peak delay measurement	221
9.2	Year of birth against mean peak delay of pre-nuclear pitch accents	222
9.3	Percentages of the four boundary tones by ethnicity/sex	224
9.4	Percentages of the four boundary tones by generation	224
9.5	Percentages of the four boundary tones by educational attainment	225
9.6	Median nPVI scores	231
9.7	Median nPVI scores for North Town subjects, with final feet before utterance - internal. Intonational phrase and intermediate phrase breaks excluded	231
9.8	Articulation rates for North Town subjects	236
10.1	Percent unmarking by generation	253
10.2	Percent unmarking by LOR	253
10.3	Past tense aspectual marking in English and Spanish	255
10.4	GoldVarb results for unmarking	257
10.5	Percent multiple negation	264
11.1	CSD realization by community and ethnicity	278
11.2	Mean vowel values, African American female, from Durham	281
11.3	Mean vowel values, European American female, from Hickory	281
11.4	Mean vowel values, Latino male, from Durham	282
11.5	Mean vowel values, Latina female, from Hickory	282
11.6	Individual BOAT token nuclei by ethnicity and community	284
11.7	Boxplots for participant VL length by community and ethnicity	287
11.8	Boxplots for Latino speaker VL values	288

Tables

2.1 Demographic features of subjects in the North Town analyses	<i>page</i> 58
3.1 Linear regression results for relative lightness of (l)	65
3.2 Logistic regression results for fricative realization of (tʃ)	70
3.3 Logistic regression results for fricative realization of (dʒ)	72
3.4 Logistic regression results for fricative realization of (ʃ)	74
3.5 Logistic regression results for (ð stopping)	79
3.6 Logistic regression results for (ð assimilation)	82
3.7 (r) realization by context and ethnicity	86
3.8 Logistic regression results for (r)	88
4.1 Studies of Latino English vowels before 1980	95
4.2 Studies of Latino English vowels, 1980–99	97
4.3 Studies of Latino English vowels, 2000–15	99
4.4 Correlations of vocalic variables	113
4.5 P-values for vocalic variables	120
5.1 Best-model logistic regression results for absence of [h]	138
5.2 Best-model logistic regression results for presence of [j]	142
5.3 Best-model logistic regression results for quotative <i>go</i>	146
5.4 Best-model logistic regression results for quotative <i>be like</i>	146
6.1 Variables included in the speech identification experiment	153
6.2 Akaike Information Criterion (AIC) values	158
7.1 Logistic regression results for [-ɪŋ] vs [-ɪn] or [-in]	181
7.2 Logistic regression results for [-ɪn] vs [-ɪŋ] or [-in]	182
7.3 Mixed-effect logistic regression statistical models for (ING)	186
7.4 Demographics and (ING) usage	191
8.1 Speaker demographic characteristics	202
8.2 Coronal stop deletion: Linguistic constraints	205
8.3 Coronal stop deletion: Social constraints	207
8.4 Coronal stop deletion: Latino speakers	209
8.5 Coronal stop deletion: Anglo speakers	210

List of Tables

xv

8.6	Coronal stop deletion: Varbrul weights	213
9.1	Peak delay of pre-nuclear pitch accents	222
9.2	Logistic regression results for incidence of L-L%	226
9.3	Logistic regression results for incidence of L-H%	226
9.4	Logistic regression results for incidence of H-L%	227
9.5	Logistic regression results for incidence of H-H%	228
9.6	Linear regression results for prosodic rhythm	233
9.7	Linear regression results for articulation rate	238
9.8	Linear regression results for final lengthening ratio	240
9.9	Percentage of IPs with 1, 2, and 3 σ length final feet	240
10.1	North Town, Texas, speakers used for past tense analysis	246
10.2	GoldVarb results for unmarking	255
11.1	Coronal stop deletion by city and ethnicity	277

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