

# Contents

<i>Figures and tables</i>	viii
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	ix
<i>Map of locations mentioned in this book</i>	x
<i>Abbreviations</i>	xi
1 Introduction	1
1.1 English dialects in the twenty-first century	1
1.2 The ‘death of dialects’ in the nineteenth century	2
1.3 English dialects and dialectology in the twentieth century	4
1.4 Dialects old and new	6
1.5 Outline	7
Exercises	7
2 Accent variation in England	10
2.1 Typology of English regional accents	10
2.2 Trudgill’s modern dialect features	13
2.2.1 <i>But</i> and <i>path</i> : the North–South divide	13
2.2.2 Rhoticity	15
2.2.3 ‘Velar nasal plus’	17
2.2.4 ‘Yod-dropping’	17
2.2.5 ‘ <i>happY</i> tensing’	18
2.2.6 Monophthongal versus diphthongal <i>made</i>	19
2.2.7 /l/-vocalisation	20
2.2.8 ‘H Dropping’	21
2.3 Summary: Trudgill’s ‘modern’ dialect features and beyond	21
Exercises	23
Further reading	24
3 Dialect variation in England: morphology and syntax	25
3.1 Introduction: the study of regional grammar	25
3.2 Regional, non-standard or sub-standard?	29

3.3	Variation in the verb phrase	30
3.3.1	Past tense paradigms	30
3.3.2	Present tense verb endings	32
3.3.3	Forms of <i>be</i>	32
3.3.4	Variation in the progressive	34
3.3.5	Contraction of negatives	34
3.3.6	Patterns of negation in interrogatives and tags	36
3.3.7	Periphrastic <i>do</i>	37
3.3.8	Modal verbs	37
3.3.9	Complementation	38
3.4	Regional variation in the noun phrase	39
3.4.1	Noun morphology	39
3.4.2	Second person pronouns	39
3.4.3	Pronoun exchange	42
3.4.4	'Gendered' pronouns	43
3.4.5	Relative markers	43
3.4.6	Demonstrative pronouns	47
3.4.7	The definite article	48
3.5	Summary	49
	Exercises	50
	Further reading	50
4	Dialect variation in England: lexis	53
4.1	Introduction	53
4.2	Patterns of lexical variation	54
4.2.1	Words of Scandinavian origin	54
4.2.2	Words of French origin	55
4.2.3	Words of Dutch and Low German origin	58
4.2.4	Words of Celtic origin	60
4.2.5	Words of Romani/Angloromani origin	61
4.3	Retention in English dialects	62
4.4	Variation and change in regional lexis	63
4.4.1	Retention and loss of dialect words	63
4.4.2	Variation and innovation in regional lexis	66
4.5	Summary	70
	Exercises	71
	Further reading	71
5	Levelling and diffusion	73
5.1	Introduction	73
5.2	Levelling	74
5.3	Diffusion	78

5.3.1	Patterns of diffusion	78
5.3.2	The diffusion of consonantal variants	79
5.4	Resistance and divergence	82
5.4.1	Resistance and phonological structure	82
5.4.2	Divergence	83
	Exercises	85
	Further reading	85
6	Variation and identity	87
6.1	Introduction	87
6.2	Identity in early sociolinguistic studies	88
6.3	Theorising language and identity	92
6.3.1	The Labovian paradigm	92
6.3.2	The language-ideological approach	94
6.4	Language and identity in England: case studies	95
6.4.1	Middlesbrough: a place with no identity?	95
6.4.2	Corby: a Scottish–English contact community	99
6.4.3	Sunderland: quantifying local identity	101
6.5	Conclusion	102
	Exercises	103
	Further reading	107
	<i>References</i>	108
	<i>Index</i>	118