

TIME	AUTHOR & TITLE
8.30-9.00	<i>Registration and Opening</i>
9:00-9:30	Chryso Hadjidemetriou The use of the definite article in Cypriot Greek by Armenians: When ‘to spíti mu’ becomes ‘spíti mu’.
9:30-10:00	Juliane Klein <i>The new African language dictionaries in South Africa: a successful implementation of language policies or the victim of a half-hearted implementation?</i>
10:00-10:30	Véronique Lacoste <i>Phono-stylistic variation in Classroom Standard Jamaican English</i>
COFFEE BREAK 10.30- 10.45	
10.45-11.15	Elisavet Solomou Two varieties of Greek in contact: Cypriot Greek and Standard Greek
11:15-11.45	Hassan Batoul <i>Code switching strategies among Ajam men and women in Kuwait</i>
11.45-12.15	Konstantina Fotiou <i>Language and ethnic nationalism in Cyprus</i>
LUNCH BREAK 12.15-1pm	
1.00-1.30	Lefteris Kailoglou <i>The use of obscene words and phrases in the construction of different styles amongst three Communities of Practice in Athens</i>
1.30-2.00	Catharine Carfoot <i>Casting doubt on the apparent age hypothesis</i>
2:00-2:30	Nicholas Flynn <i>“Nottingham just go [prɔplɛ]” – happy Tensing and Laxing among Nottingham Adolescents</i>
COFFEE BREAK 2.30- 2.45	
2.45-3.15	Pamela Knight <i>Interaction in long-term illness consultations</i>
3.15-3.45	Katherine Bristowe <i>Topic Control in Doctor-Patient Interaction: A New Analytic Approach</i>
3.45-4pm	<i>Closing</i>
Social at Enam’s 5pm onwards	

The use of the definite article in Cypriot Greek by Armenians: When ‘to spíti mu’ becomes ‘spíti mu’.¹

Chryso Hadjidemetriou

This paper examines one of the linguistic consequences of the contact between Cypriot Greek (CG) and Armenian in the CG of Armenians. The analysis focuses on how the definite article in CG is used by Armenian speakers. The focus is on the absent definite article in noun phrases where the article is obligatory.

Sociolinguistic interviews with 32 speakers were conducted during long-term fieldwork in Cyprus; however, not all of the speakers interviewed exhibit the phenomenon in question. The speakers interviewed form two groups depending on whether they were born and raised in Cyprus or whether they arrived in Cyprus at a later stage in their lives. The speakers are divided into three groups based on the definite article patterns of usage:

1. Cypriot-born Armenians and Armenians who arrived to Cyprus as infants (CyAs) and who exhibit the absent definite article (14 out of 32)
2. Non-Cypriot-born Armenians (non-CyAs) who exhibit the Ø definite article (7 out of 32)
3. Cypriot-born Armenians who do not exhibit the Ø definite article (11 out of 32).

Results show that the CyAs exhibited a lower mean percentage of deviant definite article usage, 9%, while the non-CyAs exhibited a higher mean percentage, 26%. The absence of definite articles was categorised in the following types:

Type A Noun phrases in correct case but without a definite article:

eyínike Øsfayí tus armenéus
took place Ø-DEF ART genocide-FEM.NOM.SG [the Armenians]-MASC.GEN.PL
The genocide of the Armenians took place.

Type B Noun phrases in wrong case and without the definite article:

Øarmenían etrávisen tus
Ø-DEF ART Armenia-FEM.ACC.SG attracted them
Armenia attracted them

Type C Absence of the definite article when specifying a year:

i yonís mu írθan Ø xília epakófa íkosi
my parents came Ø-DEF ART 1921
My parents came in 1921

Type D Absence of the definite article with proper names:

sto spíti pu ítan Ø yaripián
in+the house that were Ø-DEF ART Gharipian-MASC.NOM.PL
The house where the Gharipian lived.

References

Hadjidemetriou, C. (forthcoming). *The consequences of language contact: Armenian and Maronite Arabic in contact with Cypriot-Greek*. Unpublished PhD Dissertation. University of Essex, United Kingdom.

¹ to spíti mu: [the house]-NEU.NOM.SG mine-1.GEN.SG =my house
Ø spíti mu: Ø house-NEU.NOM.SG mine-1.GEN.SG =my house

Juliane Klein, MA

Affiliation: PhD student, Universität Leipzig, Afrikanistik, Bereich Sprachen und Literatur

The new African language dictionaries in South Africa: a successful implementation of language policies or the victim of a half-hearted implementation?

South Africa is a multilingual country with eleven official languages, of which nine are African languages. In South Africa, multilingualism and language development are not only enshrined in the constitution but also in the National Lexicography Units bill of 1996. Direct results of the implementation of those policies were the foundation of the Pan South African Language Board, the National Lexicographic Units (one for each official language), the National Language Bodies (one for each official language as well as one for the Khoisan languages and one for Sign language) and the National Language Service of the Department of Arts and Culture. All of the above mentioned institutions have dictionary and or terminology compilation among their responsibilities. A different implementation approach was chosen by the commercial publishers, who have also started to compile and sell dictionaries for the African languages. In this presentation, the two different implementation strategies and their major differences and similarities will be discussed. Important features are the different products themselves, i.e. who compiles which kind of dictionary, and how are they compiled (content, quality). Another very important aspect of implementation is the distribution of the actual dictionaries, i.e. where can ordinary people buy them?

Véronique Lacoste

Areas of interest: variationist sociolinguistics, cognitive approaches to phonology, second language learning, applied sociolinguistics

Phono-stylistic variation in Classroom Standard Jamaican English

This paper investigates phonetic variation of 7-year-old children's speech in the context of learning Standard Jamaican English (SJE) in three rural primary schools. I employ variationist, quantitative methods (Young & Bayley 1996; Bayley 2004) to measure their production of a salient classroom speech template - acoustic exaggeration of the stress correlates in word-final position, e.g. education realised as [ˌɛdʒu'ke:'ʃɛ:n]. Vowel lengthening and increased levels of pitch and loudness have been reported to be characteristic of Child-Directed Speech (Kuhl et al. 1997; Beckford Wassink et al. 2007), and are found primarily in mother speech. While the teachers have recourse to acoustic exaggeration to model SJE whole-word pronunciations, they also produce decreased levels of the stress correlates, e.g. (decreased) vowel reduction.

This paper examines how the children process their teachers' acoustic information of stress, looking primarily at patterns of variation of word-final vowel lengthening (> 0.20 sec) vs. vowel reduction (< 0.10 sec), and how variability of levels of pitch and loudness affects vowel duration. The study also examines the relationship between the children's classroom stress pattern and their level of attention to speech (Romaine 1984, 2003; Tarone 1982) in different stylistic environments, e.g. an oral drill exercise vs. reading a story.

The teaching of SJE speech patterns is part of the Language Arts programme called Phonics (Ministry of Education and Culture 1999, 2001; Joint Board of Teacher Education 2001). It is designed to enhance the learning of whole-word pronunciations, so that children are exposed to lexical and phonetic shapes of words simultaneously. The teachers utilize a modelling-replication framework to make the patterns salient to their students. Such a teaching device is primarily based on imitative strategies where children learn the phonetic shape of word-forms by automatising and absorbing. Some speech patterns, though, are not restricted to the oral drill exercise and are only passively modelled by the teachers. The children's internalisation process in this case is not as focused as for the orally drilled items. Some speech sounds are not drilled at all.

Results of the stylistic analysis show that children's variation in attention to speech underlies variation in use. For instance, they show a higher likelihood of lengthening word final vowels in an Oral drill context, while they lengthen the vowels to a much lesser extent in passively targeted items, where their focus on phonetic detail is minimised due to the passive nature of that input. Children are more likely to ignore reduced vowels than extremely lengthened vowels, as the latter are prominent as a drilling product and more easily perceptible to their ears. The way children replicate such patterns is based on their ability to distinguish their teachers' phonetic application of whole-word drilling.

Two varieties of Greek in contact: Cypriot Greek and Standard Greek

Standard Greek (SG) and Cypriot Greek (CG) are two varieties of Greek which are not mutually intelligible. They have significant differences at all levels (phonological, lexical, syntactical, and intonation). However, Cypriot Greek speakers may accommodate to SG when interacting with speakers of the Standard variety because this variety is partly used at schools in Cyprus, and because the media broadcast Greek programming largely.

Two sets of data were collected by the means of audio recordings in order to examine the linguistic behavior of Cypriot Greeks when interacting with speakers of SG in mundane situations. In the first set of data, the majority of the speakers were CGs, whereas in the second set of data there is a private conversation between a CG and a SG speaker. All CG speakers had a detailed knowledge of SG, which presupposed that they could highly accommodate to SG.

The study addresses the following questions:

1. Is there any difference in the linguistic behavior of CGs when they talk to Greeks within groups where the majority of them are CGs, and when they have a one-to-one conversation with a Greek? If any, why?
2. How does accommodation to SG occur in the first data set? Are there any differences compared to the second data set?

The analysis of the conversations reveals that there is a great difference between the linguistic behaviour of CGs when they talk to Greeks within groups where the majority are CGs, and when there is a one-to-one conversation. The degree of accommodation to SG and the levels of accommodation were found not to be the same in the two situations examined.

Code switching strategies among Ajam men and women in Kuwait

The Middle East is a ripe area for sociolinguistic investigation. The tremendous social changes that have taken place over the years makes it an ideal area to research language practices. Kuwait is a valuable site of investigation because of the continual social, political, cultural, and economical metamorphosis due to the discovery of oil. The focus of this study is to look into the specific factors and processes that may contribute to language shift among a minority ethnic group. For this purpose extensive ethnographic investigation was conducted on the minority Ajam and their language Eimi in Kuwait. The focus of this study is on the effect of these changes on the participation and role of men and women in society. The traditional role of women has been that of home carer with little participation in the local economy. Men were the main bread winners and participated in the larger economy. Therefore, the social network of men and women were fundamentally different. However, some traditional gender roles have broken down and women have crossed the boundary lines to enact new functions which has had consequences on linguistic practices. The most important breakthrough for the empowerment of women in Kuwait has been the local economy and the political arena as well as compulsory education for all citizens. There was a distinct need for the revision of linguistic practices in order to accommodate these changes. Results showed that Arabic has become the dominant language among Ajam. Although there is no significant difference between men and women in their knowledge of Eimi there are differences in their code-switching strategies. Men and women use Eimi to enact solidarity bonds in different social domains.

Batoul Hassan
Enam Al-Wer
Language Loss

Language and ethnic nationalism in Cyprus

Konstantina Fotiou

This talk examines the link between language and ethnic nationalism in the Greek Cypriot context. The data used in this article is from 119 questionnaires and 17 interviews which I conducted in the capital of Cyprus Nicosia, in May 2008.

Greek Cypriots belong to the Greek *ethnos* (*ethnos* being a Greek term which is broader than the English ‘ethnic’, and covers the meaning of both ‘ethnic group’ and ‘nation’ as they are currently used in English), but at the same time are citizens of Cyprus, a state different than Greece.

Language is so interlinked with ethnic nationalism that “Greeks are those whose mother tongue is Greek” (Trudgill, 2000: 245). I refer to this interrelationship as the “ideology of ethnicity” and I explore the ways speakers employ this ideology to deal with the facts that:

- In Cyprus people speak Cypriot Greek (henceforth CG) which is historically a variety of Greek descended from the *Hellenistic koiné*.
- CG is significantly different from Standard Modern Greek (henceforth SMG) and other Greek varieties spoken in Greece. Mainland Greeks claim that CG is unintelligible to them; without prior long-term exposure to CG or accommodation in the speech of the CG speakers, mainland Greeks claim not to understand what is being said.

A paradox is produced by the CG speakers in my data. SMG enjoys most of the times more status than CG— one of the reasons for that is that SMG is regarded as the Greek language per se and CG as just one dialect of it. At the same time, when Greek Cypriots want to justify their Greekness they “use” CG – since it is their mother tongue – as their conduit to Greek ethnic nationalism, by finding ways to elevate it, give it value and justify its Greekness. In this context, CG is as Greek and as valued as SMG is, because according to the ideology of ethnicity, if Greek Cypriots are ethnically Greek, it cannot be otherwise.

All in all, in this talk I explore the implications that the ideology of ethnicity has for CG, especially in relation to the feelings and attitudes of its speakers and the consequences of this ideology for the CG variety. In the end, I suggest a way to help the speakers of CG realize that CG has to be valued at all times as much as any other Greek variety and that speaking one Greek variety instead of another does not make a speaker more or less Greek than any other Greek.

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The use of obscene words and phrases in the construction of different styles amongst three Communities of Practice in Athens.

Lefteris Kailoglou

Abstract: My research examines three Communities of Practice (Eckert 2000) in Athens and the way they construct their group identities combining linguistic and socio-cultural means in a bricolage way (as defined by Hebdige 1979). The three groups adopt different lifestyles: one is a mainstream group (Trendy Group), the second is exactly the opposite and adopts a non-mainstream lifestyle reflecting their extreme anti-mainstream attitude (Cavemen) and the third one chooses an alternative lifestyle which tries to be neither mainstream nor extreme per se (The Parea). The groups' identities are not merely constructed through a demonstration of socio-cultural elements but through linguistic means as well. One of these means is the different use of obscene words amongst the three groups. This paper presents the results from an analysis of each group's obscene words in a comparative way and shows that the difference between the three groups includes using different words and in different rates. However, the most interesting findings are: (i) there seems to be a co-relation between the meaning of the obscene word and the grammatical case it is assigned; (ii) there may be a co-relation between the meaning of the obscene word and the use of the vocative particle *re*.

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Keywords: style, communities of practice, bad language, subculture, identity.

Catharine Carfoot

Fourth Year PhD

Dr David Britain and Dr Wyn Johnson

Sociophonology

Casting doubt on the apparent age hypothesis

New Zealand English is a well-studied variety of English, with evidence for its development including written records from its inception (Ellis (1889), Turner (1967)), and also recordings dating from the 1940s (Gordon, Hay, Maclagan, Sudbury, Trudgill (2004), Langstrof (2006)). Analysis of recordings made in the early 1990s (Carfoot, forthcoming) of speakers ranging in age from 19 to 85, held at Victoria University, Wellington suggests however that the full picture is not yet known, at least with respect to the TRAP, DRESS and KIT vowels.

Analysis of the Wellington recordings, with respect to these vowels looks initially like an illustration of the progress of a vowel change, with centralization of the KIT vowel being somewhat ahead of the raising of the TRAP and DRESS vowels. The women in the sample are more 'advanced' than the men, and there appears to be evidence of a steady change over time, especially given that the speakers are grouped into 5-year age bands, apart from the speakers over the age of 60, where ten-year age bands apply.

These findings are nevertheless at odds with most other evidence of the way these vowels have developed in NZE (Trudgill, Gordon and Lewis (1998), Woods (1997), Watson, Maclagan and Harrington (2000)). Recordings made in the 1940s by the New Zealand National Broadcasting Service show an absence of a centralized KIT vowel, whereas close realizations of the TRAP and DRESS vowel are variably present in at least some speakers. Later recordings from sources other than those analysed by the author suggest that TRAP and DRESS become more reliably close, and that the DRESS vowel in particular has risen; centralization of the KIT vowel occurred somewhat later.

According to these other findings, even the older speakers in the recordings analysed by the author should have relatively close TRAP and DRESS vowels, and centralized KIT should appear somewhat later, or at least to a lesser extent.

The question then becomes how to explain the disparity between these sets of results - have the oldest speakers in the Wellington recordings changed the realization of their vowels as they aged, or is it that the speakers sampled in that corpus differ in some significant way from those analysed in other studies?

**“Nottingham just go [pɒplɛ]” –
happy Tensing and Laxing among Nottingham Adolescents**

Nicholas Flynn

This paper examines the differing realisations of the *happy* vowel in the speech of Nottingham adolescents.

The *happy* vowel has traditionally been reported as patterning with the KIT lexical set, with phonetic realisation [ɪ] (e.g. Wells 1982). Descriptions of the Nottingham accent have indicated that the *happy* vowel in this area may be even more open than KIT approaching the / ε / of DRESS (Trudgill 1999 ; Wells 1982). However, accounts of *happy* have also noted a growing trend for the use of a closer, fronter vowel [i:], equating to the FLEECE lexical set (Trudgill 1999 ; Wells 1982). This tendency, known as ‘*happy*-tensing’, has been documented as spreading rapidly northwards from southern origins (Hughes et al 2005 ; Trudgill 1999), and has already been observed in Midlands areas (Beal 2008 ; Docherty & Foulkes 1999 ; Hughes et al 2005). Studies of *happy* have found non-tensed variants to occur in higher frequencies in the speech of lower socioeconomic groups (Beal 2008 ; Docherty & Foulkes 1999 ; Stoddart et al 1999 ; Watts 2006).

I present data from adolescent speakers from two socioeconomically-differing areas of Nottingham collected via sociolinguistic interviews. I show that female WC speakers, display use of a hyper-lax variant, heard to be more open than KIT. Through instrumental measurement of formant frequencies, I demonstrate that such variants can be as open as (and in some cases, even more open than) speakers’ respective DRESS vowels, supporting descriptions in the literature of the local Nottingham accent.

In addition, results indicate the existence of *happy*-tensing in the locality, with speakers from the MC area the highest users. I consider gender and social class differences in variant usage, noting that in the MC area where *happy*-tensing is well-established, male and female variant distribution is more similar than in the WC area.

Pamela Knight

University of Essex (PhD student)

ppknig@essex.ac.uk

SLX14 2009- abstract

Interaction in long-term illness consultations

Studies suggesting interactional asymmetries between doctors and patients (Beckman & Frankel 1984, Marvel et al 1999, West 1984) are typically doctor-centred; relate to traditional consultation styles using the biomedical approach, in acute visit clinics; construe patients as passive; and under-represent long-term illness clinics where patient passivity is less predominant (Heritage and Maynard 2006).

Historical changes in doctoring and health-care delivery have influenced doctor~patient consultations towards yet-undescribed interactional patterns:

(1) Doctors are encouraged to practice the biopsychosocial model (Engel (1977), emphasising patients as holistic beings.

(2) New approaches to long-term illness management including, Expert Patient Programmes, acknowledge patients' expertise in everyday illness management, encouraging active patient participation (DoH, 2001).

This paper examines interaction in type-2 diabetic clinics. Transcript 1 explores a patient's deployment of interactional resources to establish his *rights to knowledge* (Raymond & Heritage 2006): ownership of the experience of managing his illness rests on evoking an identity of expert patient (DoH 2001). Transcript 2 sees both participants co-construct a patient-as-consumer identity resulting in an unexpectedly egalitarian consultation. Both transcripts reveal alternative configurations of interruption, topic change, and assessment.

In contemporary long-term illness clinics, patients employ varying interactional resources to construct and orient to identities such as consumer or expert, resulting in unexpected interactional patterns of sequential organisation and turn-taking

Assuming differential knowledge between doctors and patients does not clearly explicate interactional asymmetries. Rather, understanding such interactional asymmetries requires investigation of a wider range of consultation types, with a focus on how co-participants orient to changing identities within interactions (Schegloff 1991: 50).

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Title: Topic Control in Doctor-Patient Interaction: A New Analytic Approach

Control of topics is held almost entirely by doctors in doctor-patient interaction (Todd 1993). Patients rarely introduce topics (Fisher and Groce 1990), unless the doctor offers them the floor (Fairclough 1999). Doctors self select again shortly after offering the floor, in order to regain control (Usherwood 1999). Doctors often exhibit precipitous topic changes, without seeking agreement from patients, leaving patients with unresolved concerns (Ainsworth-Vaughn 1992, Tannen 1994). It has been suggested that these rapid topic changes function to keep the consultation 'on track', or to avoid difficult questions (Bell 2001).

Many studies have identified prematurely terminated patient-initiated topics, leading to potentially unresolved concerns. This paper argues that we cannot write off topics as prematurely closed, without considering the remainder of the consultation. Many seemingly terminated topics are revisited later in the consultation, often without further prompting by patients.

This paper suggests four potential outcomes for Patient Topic Control Measures:

1. **Immediate Success:** topic is discussed fully/resolved immediately.
2. **Delayed Unprompted Success:** topic is returned to later in consultation, without further prompting by patient, and discussed fully/resolved.
3. **Delayed Prompted Success:** topic is returned to later in consultation, with further prompting by patient, and discussed fully/resolved.
4. **Ultimate Failure:** topic is not discussed fully/resolved.

This paper discusses this framework for analysis using recent data, illustrating its relevance in the analysis of doctor patient interaction and medical communication training. In addition, it discusses the effect of the presence of multiple doctors in the consultation, as well as the effect of timing (point at which topic is raised), on the likely success of a patient initiated topic.

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