

Language and Ethnic Group

1. How does ethnic-group differentiation lead to linguistic differentiation?
2. How does linguistic differentiation lead to ethnic-group differentiation in Ghana and in Canada?
3. What does the break up of Yugoslavia show about the relation between language and ethnic group?
4. What is the substratum effect that leads Yiddish immigrants to say dog as [doəg]?
5. Why is African American Vernacular English (AAVE) so striking?
6. Why was AAVE considered inferior?
7. Why is the term AAVE better than the term Black English?
8. How did geographic differences lead to ethnic differences in the case of AAVE?
9. What is the origin of the expression OK?
10. What implication does linguistic divergence hold for racial divisions in the US?
11. Features of AAVE:
 - i. 3rd sing. omission - he go, it come
 - ii. present tense copula omission - She ___ real nice, They ___ out there.
 - iii. Habitual Be - He usually be around, Sometimes she be fighting.
 - iv. completive aspect - I done talked.
 - v. remote aspect - I been talked.
 - vi. auxiliary omission - We was eatin' – an' we drinkin', too.
 - vii. question inversion - I asked Mary where did she go.
 - viii. existential it - It's a boy in my class name Joey.
 - ix. negativized auxiliary preposition - Doesn't nobody know what it's a God.