

Year 4 English Worksheet

Standard Australian English and Social Dialects

Curriculum link: AC9E4L01

Student name: _____

Date: _____

Instructions

Read each question carefully. Answer in full sentences where you can.

Part A: Understanding the idea

1. What is **Standard Australian English**?

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2. True or False: Standard Australian English is the only way people speak in Australia.

Explain your answer.

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What is Standard & Non-Standard English?

UNDERSTANDING THE BASICS

1 Standard and Non-Standard English are dialects and varieties of English.

2 They have their own words, expressions and grammar which can be different from each other.

TWO MAIN TYPES

3 Standard English is about a standardised grammar that is used in things like the workplace, at school, official government documents etc (formal)

4 Non-Standard English = American dialects, Jamaican, Cockney, Scottish, Australian, Scouse, Geordie, East Midlands, etc. (informal)

Different – but equally valuable. Every variety of English has a voice and a place.

3. What is a **social dialect**?

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4. Why might different groups of people speak in different ways?

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5. True or False: Different dialects can still be correct and meaningful.

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Linguistic Difference	
Standard	Non-Standard
• I did it	• I done it
• Come quickly!	• Come quick!
• ... the books that I bought	• ... the book what I bought
• ... those books ...	• ... them books ...
• I didn't break it.	• I never broke it.
• I didn't break anything	• I didn't break nothing.
• We started first, didn't we?	• We started first, isn't it?

Part B: Language in Australia

6. Standard Australian English first came from which country?

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7. Name one group of languages that has influenced Australian English.

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8. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages have contributed words to Australian English.

Write one example if you know one.

9. Migrants from many countries have helped shape the way English is spoken in Australia.

Why do you think this happened?



10. Circle the best answer:

Australian English has been influenced by:

- only English from England
- many other languages
- no other languages

Part C: Thinking about dialects

11. Why is it important to respect the way other people speak?

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12. Can two people speak differently and still understand each other? Explain.

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13. Write one reason a person might use Standard Australian English in some situations.

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14. Write one reason a person might speak differently at home, with friends, or in their community.

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15. Give five examples of how to greet someone using different dialects.

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Languages vs. Dialects • ————— What Is The Difference? ————— •		
Aspect	Language	Dialect
 Definition	Standardized system with rules, grammar, and vocabulary.	Variation of a language with regional or social differences.
 Scope	Broader, can encompass multiple dialects.	Narrower, limited to specific regions or groups.
 Standardization	Often standardized with official status.	Less formal, may lack standardization.
 Examples	English, French, Spanish.	Cockney (English), Chilean Spanish, Egyptian Arabic.



Part D: Words from Other Languages

16. Australian English includes many international loanwords, which are sometimes adapted to local usage. Match these words to the corresponding country the English word was loaned from:

Karate, tsunami, cargo, cafeteria, yoghurt, pizza opera, bagel, marmalade, wok, pasta



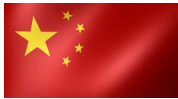
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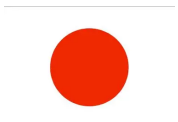
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17. Many words used in Australian English come from Aboriginal languages. Some common examples include **kangaroo**, **koala**, **boomerang**, **billabong**, **coolabah**, and **yakka**.

Match the word to its meaning

Word	Meaning
kangaroo	
billabong	
boomerang	
yakka	

Use these meanings:

- hard work
- a curved throwing tool
- a waterhole or branch of a river
- a well-known Australian animal

Fill in the gaps

Use these words to complete the sentences:

kangaroo, billabong, boomerang, yakka, koala

- We saw a _____ sleeping in a gum tree.
- The toy came back after Liam threw the _____.
- Dad said moving house was hard _____.
- A _____ is a kind of waterhole in the Australian landscape.
- The _____ jumped across the grass at the wildlife park.