

M1U2 Using Language

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Standard English And Dialects

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Lead in: Read & Guess

Tell ya a story'bout when I was just a pup.

Tell you a story about when I was just a kid.

**Houston,
Texas
accent**

Come on, fuggedaboutit.

Come on, forget about it!

**New York city
accent**

Pahk the cah in Hahvuhd yahd.

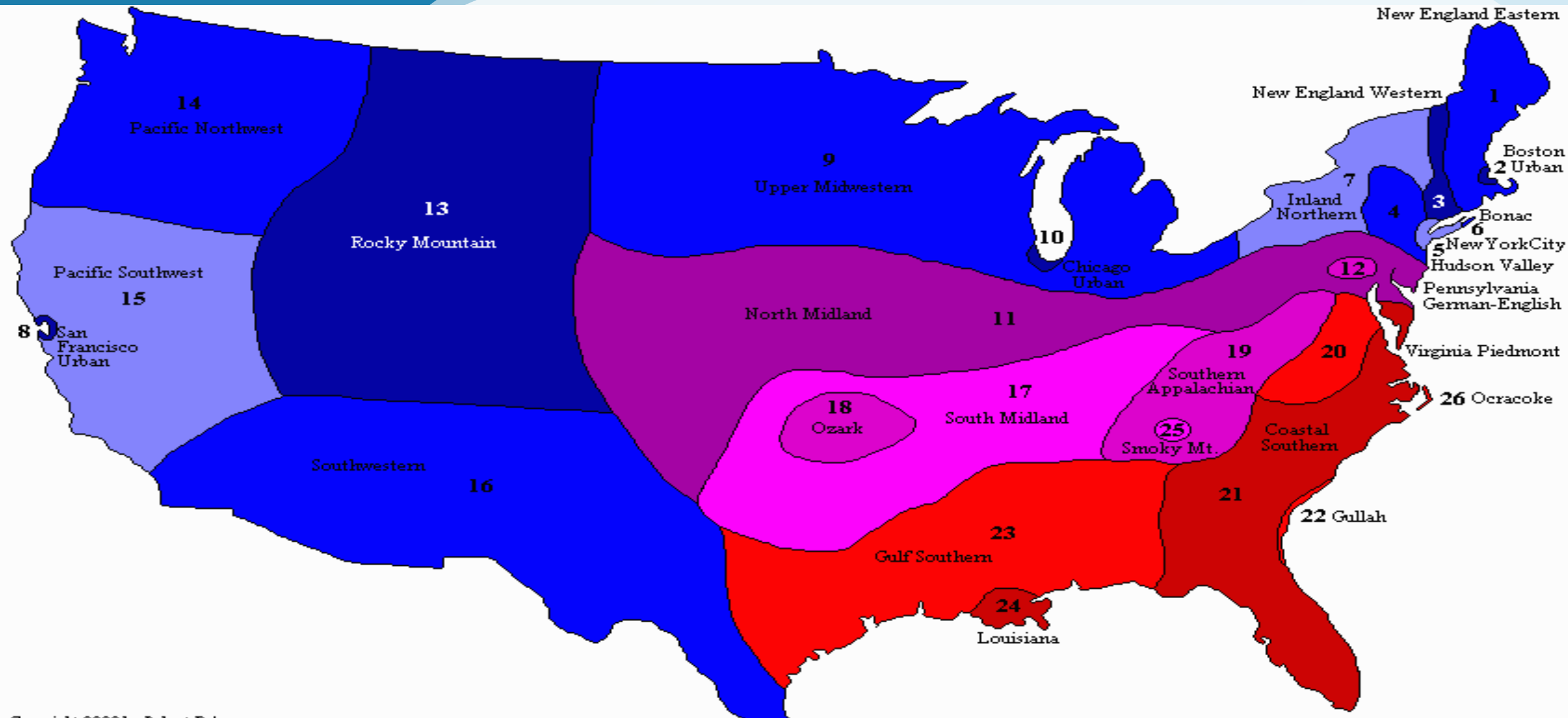
Park the car in the Harvard yard.

**Boston urban
accent**

Map of American Dialects

1. What is standard English? Does it exist? Why?
2. What is dialect?
3. Why are there so many dialects in America?

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Read for Information

1. What is standard English? Does it exist? Why?
2. What is dialect?
3. Why are there so many dialects in America?

1. What is standard English? Is it spoken in Britain, the US, Canada, Australia, India and New Zealand? Believe it or not, there is no such thing as standard English. Many people believe the English spoken on TV and the radio is standard English. This is because in the early days of radio, those who reported the news were expected to speak excellent English. However, on TV and the radio you will hear differences in the way people speak.

2. When people use words and expressions different from “standard language”, it is called a dialect. American English has many dialects, especially the midwestern, southern, African American and Spanish dialects. Even in some parts of the USA, two people from neighboring towns speak a little differently. American English has so many dialects because people have come from all over the world.

3. Geography also plays a part in making dialects. Some people who live in the mountains of the eastern US speak with an older kind of English dialect. When Americans moved from one place to another, they brought their dialect with them.

Signal word: “also” implies that one reason of American dialects has been mentioned in the former paragraph. So what’s the first reason?

USA is a large country in which many different dialects are spoken. Although many Americans move a lot, they still recognize and understand each other’s dialects.

Read for Key Points

1. What is topic sentence of each paragraph?
2. What are the major supporting details ?or how does the author support the topic sentence?

- **Tip 1: Topic sentence usually lies in the first, last sentence or after questions.**

- **Tip 2: Topic sentence usually appears after some signal words such as however, but, actually, also, etc.**

- **Tip3: Major supporting details often occur frequently in the passage and focus on the topic.**

Read for Key Points

1. What is topic sentence of each paragraph?
2. What are the major supporting details? Or how does the author support the topic sentence?

- 1. What is standard English? Is it spoken in the US, Canada, Australia, India? **Topic sentence**
By explaining the **Believe it or not, there is no such thing as** expectation of people. **Major supporting details:**
English spoken on TV and the radio. **those who reported the news were expected to speak excellent English.** This is because in the early days of radio, **those who reported the news were expected to speak excellent English.** However, on TV and the radio you will hear **differences in the way people speak.**

Tip3: Major supporting details often occur frequently and focus on the topic.

Tip 1: Topic sentence usually lies in the sentence after questions.

Read for Key Points

1. What is topic sentence of each paragraph?
2. What are the major supporting details? Or how does the author support the topic sentence?

2. When people use words and express language, it is called a dialect. American especially the **midwestern, southern, African American, and British** dialects. Even in some parts of the USA, two people from neighbouring towns speak a little differently. **American English has so many dialects because people have come from all over the world.**

Major supporting details: By listing examples in both different regions and the same block.

Topic sentence

Tip 1: Topic sentence usually lies in the first or last sentence.

Tip 3: Major supporting details often focus on the topic.

Read for Key Points

Topic sentence

1. What is topic sentence of each paragraph?
2. What are the major supporting details? Or how does the author support the topic sentence?

- 3. **Geography also plays a part in making dialects.** ¹ Some people who live in the mountains of the eastern USA speak with an older kind of English dialect. When ² American moved from one place to another, they took their dialects with them. So People from the mountains in the southeastern USA speak with almost the same dialect as people in the northwestern USA. The USA is a large country in which many different dialects are spoken. Although many Americans move a lot, they still **recognize?** and **understand** each other's dialects.

Identify or know sth

By listing examples in the mountains of the eastern USA .

Unlike Chinese dialects, American dialects vary but can be understood.

We can infer the meaning of new words by reading between the lines.

Read for Structure

Para 1

no standard English

phenomenon

Para 2

American dialects vary because people come from all over the world.

Reason 1

Para 3

Geography also plays a part in making American dialects.

Reason 2

Discussion

How many dialects in Zhejiang Province? And why are there so many dialects?



Write a Summary

What is a summary?

A summary is a brief statement that gives **only the main points** of something, **not the details**.

《牛津高阶英汉双解词典》

List the Key Points

Para.	Key points
1	Believe it or not, there is no such thing as standard English...those who reported the news were expected to speak excellent English...differences in the way people speak
2	American English has so many dialects because people have come from all over the world... neighbouring towns speak a little differently...midwestern, southern, African American and Spanish dialects
3	Geography also plays a part in making dialects...the mountains of the eastern US...American moved...took their dialects...southeastern dialects are the same with that in the northwestern part...recognize each other

How to restate?

1. change the sentence structure (句型转换)

2. use synonyms (同义词的运用)

3. summarize examples (概括)

4. sometimes change the voice (主被动语态转换)

5. combine sentences (合并句子)

Examples of Restating the Key Points

<p>Key point 1</p>	<p>Believe it or not, there is no such thing as standard English...those who reported the news were expected to speak excellent English...differences in the way people speak...</p>
<p>restate</p>	<p><i>Synonyms:</i> Believe it or not— to tell the truth, Actually <i>Change the sentence structure:</i> There is no such things as—— sth doesn't exist <i>Voice:</i> were expected to speak——were expected to be spoken <i>Combine sentence:</i> Actually, standard English, expected to be spoken by news reporters doesn't exist because of their different dialects.</p>

Pair work: Try to restate the other two key points!

1. change the sentence structure (句型转换)

Believe it or not, standard English, expected to be standard English spoken by news reporters doesn't exist because of their different dialects. People speak

2. use synonyms (同义词的运用)

American English has so many dialects because people have come from all over the world... neighbouring towns speak a little differently...midwestern, southern, African American and Spanish dialects

3. summarize examples (概括)

4. sometimes change the voice (主被动语态转换)

Geography also plays a part in making dialects...the mountains of the eastern US...American moved...took their dialects...southeastern dialects are the same with that in the northwestern part...recognize each other

5. combine sentences (合并句子)

Examples of Restating the Key Points

Key point 2	American English has so many dialects because people have come from all over the world... neighbouring towns speak a little differently...midwestern, southern, African American and Spanish dialects
restate	<p><i>Change the sentence structure:</i> American English has so many dialects because people have come from all over the world</p> <p>————→ American dialects vary due to immigration.</p> <p><i>summarize examples:</i> neighbouring towns speak a little differently...midwestern, southern, African American and Spanish dialects</p> <p>————→ different regions and even the same block</p> <p><i>Combine:</i> American dialects vary in different regions and even the same block due to immigration.</p>

Examples of Restating the Key Points

Key point 3	Geography also plays a part in making dialects...the mountains of the eastern US...American moved...took their dialects...southeastern dialects are the same with that in the northwestern part...recognize each other
restate	<p><i>Synonyms:</i> play a part in making dialects → contribute to the diversity of dialects</p> <p><i>summarize examples:</i> dialects...the mountains of the eastern US...American moved...took their dialects...southeastern dialects are the same with that in the northwestern part...recognize each other → Despite Americans' love for travelling, they could understand each other because they took their dialects.</p>
<i>Combine:</i>	Geography also contribute to the diversity of dialects. Despite Americans' love for travelling, they could understand each other because they took along their dialects.

After writing:

**Use proper
conjunctions(连接词)
to polish your
passage.**

使用合适的连接词

- **表转折:** but, however, though, although
- **表并列、递进:** as well as, in addition to, not only...but also, besides, what's more, furthermore,...
- **表对比:** meanwhile, on the other hand, on the contrary, contrast ,...
- **表列举:** firstly/secondly/finally/...
- **表原因:** because (of) ,due to, on account of,...; for...
- **表举例:** for example/instance, such as, and so on
- **Ending:** therefore, consequently, In short, in conclusion, in a word...

A Sample

Actually, standard English, expected to be spoken by news reporters doesn't exist because of their different dialects. American dialects vary in different regions and even the same block due to immigration. **Besides**, geography also contribute to the diversity of dialects. Despite Americans' love for travelling, they could understand each other because they took along their dialects. (56words)

Conclusion of A Good Summary



be brief



be thorough



restate/own words



be objective

Assignment

Polish your own summary