

Recognising accents

Task 1: Complete the table.

<p>1. _____ (RP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • standard accent: _____ • <i>year, car, start, work</i> • _____ ≠ _____, _____ <p style="text-align: center;"><i>I can't dance on my hands.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>city, better</i> → [] 	<p>2. _____ (GA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • standard accent: _____ • <i>year, car, start, work</i> • _____ = _____, _____ <p style="text-align: center;"><i>I can't dance on my hands.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>city, better</i> → []
<p>3. _____</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>push crush</i> <p>e.g., _____, _____, _____, _____</p>	<p>4. _____</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • _____ • _____ = _____ • _____ = _____ • _____ = _____
<p>5. _____</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • working class accent – London • H-dropping: _____, _____, _____ • [eɪ] → [aɪ] (éj → áj) <p>e.g., _____, _____</p>	<p>6. _____ (NZE)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [ɪ] → [] e.g., <i>thing</i> → th[]ng, <i>dinner</i> → d[]nner • [e] → [] e.g., <i>left</i> → l[]ft, <i>mess</i> → m[]ss

Task 2: Listen to six people speaking with different native-speaker accents and try to determine which accent you hear with the help of the table above. The transcripts are provided to help you.

Speaker 1: _____

Well, here's a story for you: Sarah Perry was a veterinary nurse who had been working daily at an old zoo in a deserted district of the territory, so she was very happy to start a new job at a superb private practice in North Square near the Duke Street Tower.

Speaker 2: _____

Quite often a bus driver, when he has got his day off, he so much liked buses, that instead of driving the thing, he would get on the bus and go and sit at the top on the front seat alongside the driver and have a natter with him: that was a busman's holiday. ... We used to have one, housed opposite in the corner house. Whereas most of these houses down here, well not most of them, several of them, the people had their own carriages.

Speaker 3: _____

Even so, on her first morning, she felt stressed. She ate a bowl of porridge, checked herself in the mirror and washed her face in a hurry. Then she put on a plain yellow dress and a fleece jacket, picked up her kit and headed for work.

Speaker 4: _____

When she got there, there was a woman with a goose waiting for her. The woman gave Sarah an official letter from the vet. The letter implied that the animal could be suffering from a rare form of foot and mouth disease, which was surprising, because normally you would only expect to see it in a dog or a goat.

Speaker 5: _____

First she tried gently stroking the goose's lower back with her palm, then singing a tune to her. Finally, she administered ether. Her efforts were not futile. In no time, the goose began to tire, so Sarah was able to hold onto Comma and give her a relaxing bath.

Speaker 6: _____

That area was much nearer for her and more to her liking. Even so, on her first morning, she felt stressed. She ate a bowl of porridge, checked herself in the mirror and washed her face in a hurry. Then she put on a plain yellow dress and a fleece jacket, picked up her kit and headed for work.

Before long, that itchy goose began to strut around the office like a lunatic, which made an unsanitary mess.