

## Recognising accents – Key

### Task 1: Complete the table.

<p>1. <u>Received Pronunciation (RP)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• standard accent: England (BBC English)</li> <li>• <i>year</i>, <i>car</i>, <i>start</i>, <i>work</i></li> <li>• <i>hand</i> ≠ <i>can't</i>, <i>dance</i> → <i>I can't dance on my hands</i>.</li> <li>• <i>city</i>, <i>better</i> → [t]</li> </ul>	<p>2. <u>General American (GA)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• standard accent: US</li> <li>• <i>year</i>, <i>car</i>, <i>start</i>, <i>work</i></li> <li>• <i>hand</i> = <i>can't</i>, <i>dance</i> → <i>I can't dance on my hands</i>.</li> <li>• <i>city</i>, <i>better</i> → [d]</li> </ul>
<p>3. <u>North of England</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>push</i> = <i>crush</i> e.g., <i>much</i>, <i>money</i>, <i>blood</i>, <i>flood</i></li> </ul>	<p>4. <u>Scottish English</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hungarian “r”</li> <li>• <i>bid</i> = <i>bird</i></li> <li>• <i>gem</i> = <i>germ</i></li> <li>• <i>bun</i> = <i>burn</i></li> </ul>
<p>5. <u>Cockney</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• working class accent – London</li> <li>• H-dropping: <i>house</i>, <i>head</i>, <i>horse</i></li> <li>• [eɪ] → [aɪ] (éj → áj)</li> <li>• e.g., <i>face</i>, <i>bay</i></li> </ul>	<p>6. <u>New Zealand English (NZE)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• [ɪ] → [ə] e.g., <i>thing</i> → th[ə]ng, <i>dinner</i> → d[ə]nner</li> <li>• [e] → [i] e.g., <i>left</i> → l[i]ft, <i>mess</i> → m[i]ss</li> </ul>

### 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.

(The key words from which the accent can be identified are in boldface and italicised.)

#### Speaker 1: Scottish English – <https://www.dialectsarchive.com/scotland-19> (from 00:13)

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: Cockney – <https://www.bl.uk/collection-items/cockney-dialect-mr-kent-horse-drawn-public-transport?fbclid=IwAR2CYj8oSZ4W6qryzV3lyvIVQY9eN7eRlqe0AcQFp4oVVZtWojgmWajcepc> (from 04:01 and 04:26)

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: New Zealand English – <https://www.dialectsarchive.com/new-zealand-15> (from 00:39)

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: General American – <https://www.dialectsarchive.com/general-american-11> (from 00:51)

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:** Received Pronunciation – <https://www.dialectsarchive.com/received-pronunciation-1> (from 01:23)

*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:** North of England – <https://www.dialectsarchive.com/england-60> (from 00:35 and 01:30)

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.