

Some Starting Points for Sociolinguistics

Please note, a sociolinguistics section will appear on the MA Linguistics, the PhD Linguistics, and the MA TESOL exams.

The following list of readings, many of which you have read before, is a set of recommended sources to help you prepare for the MA-Ling Comprehensive Examination/PhD-Ling Diagnostic Exam. You should not feel that you need to read all of the texts on the list, as many of the texts contain similar information from different perspectives. The questions on the exam will not necessarily be drawn from one specific text listed below. View this list as a starting point as you actively select which texts are most appropriate for you in increasing your background in sociolinguistics. (Certainly, other texts that you have read for your classes or for your research may be helpful in preparing as well.)

Brown, S. and Attardo, S. (2000). Understanding Language structure, interaction, and variation: an Introduction to Applied linguistics and sociolinguistics for nonspecialists. 2nd ed. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.

Coulmas, F. (1997). Handbook of sociolinguistics. Cambridge, Mass.: Blackwell Publishers.

Coulmas, F. (2005). Sociolinguistics: the study of speakers' choices. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Coupland N., Sarangi, S, and Candlin, C.N. (2001). Sociolinguistics and social theory. New York: Longman.

Fasold, R. (1990). The Sociolinguistics of language. Oxford, UK: Blackwell.

Fasold, R. (2004). The Sociolinguistics of society. vol. 1: Language in Society 5, Introduction to Sociolinguistics. New York: Blackwell.

Hudson, R.A. (1996). Sociolinguistics. New York: Cambridge Univ. Press.

Johnstone, B. (2002). Discourse analysis. Oxford: Blackwell.

Labov, W. (1972). The social stratification of (r) in New York City department stores. Sociolinguistic Patterns, 43-69. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press.

Labov, W. (1992). Principles of linguistic change: vol. 1 Internal factors; vol. 2. Social factors; vol. 3. Cognitive factors. Cambridge, MA: Blackwell.

McKay, Hornberger, Long and Richards (eds.) (1996). Sociolinguistics and language teaching. CUP.

McKay, S.L., and Wong, S. C. (eds.). (1988) Language diversity: Problem or resource. Rowley, MA: Newbury House.

Paulston, and Tucker (eds.) (2003). Sociolinguistics: The Essential Readings. Blackwell.

Romaine, S. (2001). Language in society: An introduction to sociolinguistics. Oxford: Oxford UP.

Schiffirin, D. (1994). Approaches to discourse. Oxford: Blackwell.

Stockwell, P. (2002). Sociolinguistics: A resource book for students. Routledge.

Talbot, M. M. (1998). Language and gender: An introduction. Cambridge: Polity Press.

Trudgill, P. (2001). Sociolinguistics: An introduction to language and society. New York: Penguin.

Trudgill, P. 2003. A glossary of sociolinguistics. New York: Oxford University Press.

Wardhaugh, R. 2002. An introduction to sociolinguistics. 4th edition. Cambridge: Blackwell. (5th edition: 2006).

Wolfson N, and Judd E. (eds.) 1983. Sociolinguistics and language acquisition. Newbury House Publishing.