

English Interview

Interview designed by Suyuan Liu

With reference to the interview questions used for the SpiCE corpus (<https://spice-corpus.readthedocs.io/en/latest/>)

These interview questions are a rough guide to what is covered in each of the English interviews. Content was driven by what each participant was interested in talking about. Note that while many of these questions are designed to get participants talking about themselves, participants were instructed to refer to people and places in general terms (i.e., just say “my Aunt” rather than a name).

- I. English learning:
 - A. When did you start learning English? How did you learn?
 - B. When did you move to an English-speaking country?
 1. How long has it been?
 2. Was it for school? For family reasons?
 3. Did you need to take any language exam?
 - a) How did you find the exams? What was the most difficult part (writing, reading, listening or speaking)
- II. English environment:
 - A. Do you feel comfortable / have you grown used to an English-speaking environment?
 - B. Was there any culture shock you experienced?
 - C. Do you have English-speaking friends? What language do you find yourself speaking most often with your friends?
 1. Do you think it's important to fit into the English-speaking environment?
 - D. How was your learning experience here?
 1. Do you find it hard to understand the lectures? Any challenges? (e.g. participating in group work, giving presentations, etc.)
- III. English accent:
 - A. Do you think you speak Standard English? Do you think you have an accent?
 - B. What do you think of the different accents of English (American English, Canadian English, British English, etc)
 1. What are some features of these accents?
 2. If you could choose to speak with one accent, what would it be? Why?
 - C. Who do you think speaks the most standard English?
 - D. When you were learning English, did your teacher have an accent?
 1. Have you ever tried to “improve” your accent? How did that go?
- IV. Attitudes:
 - A. Do you think it's important to speak “standard”? Why?
 - B. What do you think about your accent?
- V. Voice quality:
 - A. Do you think your voice sounds different when speaking English versus when speaking Mandarin?
 1. Can you describe the differences?
 - B. Do you think people's voices change when they speak different languages?

1. Do you have a person in mind as an example? How did their voice change?