

Sociolinguistics lessons 2nd – 30rd April

Key:

4. Language and Situational Variables

4.1. Language and medium

52 /1

Exercise 1.
Which of the following are likely to occur in written text?

S ['les,teɪk'lʊk] – ['letəs,teɪkə'lʊk], ['lets,teɪkə'lʊk]
W [fə'rɪnstəns] – ['frɪnstns] S
S [aɪv], [a(ə)v] – [aɪhəv], [aɪəv] W
W ['letmi], ['lepmi] – ['lemi] S
S [te(m)'mɪnəts] – [ten'mɪnɪts] W
W [ɪz'ʃɔ:t] – [ɪz'ʃɔ:t] S
S [nə'ʃtʃækə] – [nə:s'tʃækə:] W
S ['jæsəntə] – ['jæsəmtə] W

53/2

Exercise 2.
There exist differences between the frequency of use of certain lexemes in spoken and written language. Look up the following words in the LDCE and say whether they are more frequent in spoken language or written language.

absolutely, actually, alone, anyway, attend, bad, bet, buy, dear, enter, error,
mistake, exactly, examine, forget, funny, good, indicate, permit, prepare, quite,
receive, remain, return, right, something, sort, suppose, talk, telephone, think,
trouble, what

53 / 3 – optional

53 / 4 – optional

54/5

Realized in sounds – S

It normally takes place in real time – S
 It usually employs standard language means – w
 It has no generally recognizable sentence-delimiting marks – s
 It is a context-dependent shared activity – s
 Realized in letters – w
 The feedback is immediate – s
 It is interactive – s
 Little revising and editing – s
 It is relatively independent of context – w
 Syntactically and lexically simple – s
 It often employs non-standard language means – s
 The feedback is delayed or none – w
 It often exhibits dysfluency and error – s
 Syntactically and lexically complex – w
 It usually describes states and objects – w
 It represents a series of processes and actions – s
 Extensive revising and editing – w
 It is a graphic record of past, present, or future events – w
 Sentence is the fundamental structural unit – w
 Its interactivity is limited – w
 It is (ideally) free of dysfluency and error – w
 It is flowing, choreographic, oriented towards events (doing, happening, sensing, saying, being), process like, intricate, with meanings related serially – s
 It is dense, structured, crystalline, oriented towards things (entities, objectified processes), product like, tight, with meanings related as components – w

4.2. Language and Field

55/1 – optional

55/2 – optional

56/3

- a) auction
- b) pouring a drink, party
- c) in a pub
- d) theatre
- e) sports / athletics
- f) pub
- g) graphical art, fine arts
- h) theatre
- i) weather forecast
- j) ice hockey
- k) police documentation
- l) sports
- m) weather
- n) horse racing
- o) fine arts

4.3. Language and Genre

57/1 – optional

58/2 – optional

59/3 – work on your own

59/4 – work on your own

4.4 Language and Style

60/1

1. informal

2. very formal

3. neutral

4. very informal

5. formal

61/2

Formal	Neutral	Informal
Abdomen	Stomach	Belly
To cast	Throw	Chuck
Avaricious	Greedy	Hoggish
To brook	Tolerate	To stomach
Steed	Horse	Nag
To regurgitate	Vomit	Puke
Censorious	Critical	Fussy
To cavil	Complain	To bellyache
Fatigued	Tired	Beat
To de cease	Die	Kick the bucket
A female	A woman	A bird
Obtuse	Not clever	Dumb
A dipsomaniac	Alcoholic	A drunk
To depart	Leave	Scram
Law-enforcement officer	Policeman	cop

61/3

a) 2

b) 4

c) 5

d) 8

e) 6

f) 1

g) 3

h) 7

62/4 – do on your own

62/5 – optional

63/6

- 1) take after
- 2) took apart
- 3) take you in
- 4) getting at
- 5) put away
- 6) getting me down
- 7) put up with
- 8) put off
- 9) put the rent up
- 10) put us up

63/7 – do on your own

64/8 – optional

64/9

Female names	Male names
Agatha – Aggie	Alan – Al
Alexandra – Alex	Alexander – Alex
Angela – Angie	Alfred – Alf
Barbara – Barbie	Anthony – tony
Christina – Tina	Benjamin – Ben
Cynthia – Cindy	Charles – Charlie
Elizabeth – Liz	Clifford – Cliff
Jennifer – Beth	Edward – Ed
Jessica – Jess	Eugene – Gene
Katherine – Kathy	Frederick – Fred
Margaret – Madge	Geoffrey – Jeff
Nicola – Nicky	Henry – Hal
Patricia – Pat	Jacob – Jake
Rebecca – Becky	Peter – Pete
Rosemary – Rosie	Richard – Dick
Susan – Sue	Theodore – Theo
Victoria - Vicky	William - Bill

4.5 – Language and Role Relationship

65/1 – do on your own

66/2 – optional

66/3 – do on your own

66/4 – optional

66/5 – optional

67/6 – optional

4.6 – language and Setting

68/1 – do on your own

68/2 – do on your own

5. Language and Geography

70/1

Standard Slovak	Western Slovakia	Central Slovakia	Eastern Slovakia
dážď /da:ʃc/	/de:ʃʃ/ /djestʃ/	/da:ʃc/ /da:ʃ/ /dzistʃ/	/diʃc/ /diʃʃ/
dakovať /'jakɔvac/	/'dakovat/	/jakovac/ /'jakuvac/	/dzekovat/ /'dzekovats/
dievka /'jiewka/	/jiewka/ /'dzi:ʃka/ /'dzie:wka/	/jiewka/ /'jiefka/ /'jiɔwka/	/dzefka/ /'dziʃka/
hľadať /'hɫadac/	/'hɫedac/ /'hɫedat/	/'ɫɫadac/ /'hɫedaci/ /'ɫɫadac/	/'ɫɫedac/ /'ɫɫedats/
chlieb /xɫiep/	/xɫe:p/ /xɫeba/ /xɫi:p/	/xɫiep/ /'xɫeba/ /'xɫeba/	/xɫeba/ /'hɫeba/ /xɫip

70/2

INDIVIDUAL LEXICAL ITEMS

Cooker	stove
Breadbin	breadbox
Queue	line
Lift	elevator
Porridge	oat meal
Lorry truck	
Nought	zero
Candyfloss	cotton candy
Barman	bartender
Hairgrip	baby pin
Braces	suspenders
Vest	undershirt

Post-mortem	autopsy
Nappy	diaper
Duvet	comforter
to moonlight	to double-dip
Torch	flashlight
Bellboy	bellhop
Mudguard	fender
Newsreader	anchor

COLLOCATIONS

Agony column	advice column
Block of flats	apartment building
To fill in (a form)	to fill out
Garden chair	lawn chair
Bar chart	bar graph
Different from	different than
Building society	saving and loan association
At the weekend	on the weekend
Blood group	blood type
Fire service / fire brigade	fire department
Estate car	station wagon
Baking tray	cookie sheet
Skipping rope	jump rope

IDIOMS

Be right up sb's street	right up sb's alley
Sth takes the biscuit	sth takes the cake
Scent blood	smell blood
Near to the bone	close to the bone
Hum and haw	hem and how
Come a cropper	lay an egg
Don't give up the day job	don't quit from day job
Joe Bloggs	Joe Schmoe
On your bike!	Beat it!
Pen pusher	pencil pusher
Take the weight off your feet	take a load off

72/3 – optional

72/4 – do on your own

73/5 – optional

74/1

- 1) referential, metalinguistic
- 2) phatic, emotive
- 3) referential
- 4) Conative
- 5) phatic

- 6) referential, metalinguistic
- 7) poetic
- 8) phatic, emotive, conative
- 9) referential, conative
- 10) emotive
- 11) phatic

75/2. -optional

75/3 – optional

76/4

- 1) indirect
- 2) direct
- 3) indirect / direct
- 4) indirect / direct
- 5) indirect
- 6) indirect / direct

76/5 – do on your own