

TRS501 – Linguistics – Dialect

1. Which of the following best defines a dialect, according to the text?

- A. A separate language with distinct grammar and vocabulary.
- B. A variety of a language spoken in a specific region or by a particular group.
- C. A form of speech that is mutually unintelligible with other forms.
- D. A language spoken by the upper-class or the educated.

2. The concept of mutual intelligibility refers to:

- A. The formal recognition of a speech variety by a governing body.
- B. The historical and political separation between two countries.
- C. The degree of understanding between speakers of different speech varieties.
- D. The complexity and patterns within a dialect's grammar.

3. According to sociolinguist Max Weinreich, what often determines whether a speech variety is classified as a "language" rather than a "dialect"?

- A. The degree of mutual intelligibility with neighboring varieties.
- B. The presence of social factors like race, education, and age.
- C. The existence of political factors, such as "an army and a navy."
- D. The judgment of linguists on its correctness and regularity.

4. The text provides Swedish and Norwegian as an example to illustrate that:

- A. They are dialects of a larger Scandinavian language.
- B. They are mutually unintelligible due to historical differences.
- C. Political and historical factors can override linguistic factors in classification.
- D. They contain very different words, grammar, and pronunciations.

5. Regional dialects are primarily described as evolving due to:

- A. Social divisions like race and gender.
- B. Political intervention and government policy.
- C. Geographic or sociocultural factors.
- D. Being taught in British public schools.

6. Which of the following is an example of a regional dialect given in the text?

- A. Upper-class English taught in British public schools.
- B. The distinction between Czech and Slovak.
- C. The American English dialects of eastern and western New England.
- D. The speaking standard required of BBC announcers.

7. Social dialects (or sociolects) are often determined by factors such as:

- A. Geographic location and climate.
- B. An individual's race, education, gender, and age.
- C. Mutual intelligibility and linguistic regularity.
- D. Official government classification as a language.

8. The dialect nicknamed "Queen's English" or "BBC English" is a well-known example of a:

- A. Regional dialect.
- B. Mutually intelligible language pair.
- C. Social dialect (sociolect).
- D. Foreign language.

9. The text states that the distinction between social and regional divisions in dialects is often:

- A. Clearly defined and absolute.
- B. Determined solely by race.
- C. Blurry or indistinct.
- D. Non-existent, as all dialects are regional.

10. Regarding "correctness" in speech, the text suggests that a dialect's perceived correctness tends to stem from:

- A. Linguistic rules and universal patterns of complexity.
- B. The social status of its speakers.
- C. The official recognition by linguists.
- D. Its level of mutual intelligibility with the standard language.