

MEXICAN AMERICAN ENGLISH

Substrate Influence and the Birth of an Ethnolect

EDITED BY

ERIK R. THOMAS
North Carolina State University



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Contents

<i>List of Figures</i>	<i>page</i> xi
<i>List of Tables</i>	xiv
<i>List of Contributors</i>	xvi
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	xvii
1 Language Contact, Immigration, and Latino Englishes	I
<i>Erik R. Thomas</i>	
1.1 Latino Englishes	I
1.2 Models of Language Contact	3
1.3 New Dialect Formation	5
1.4 Acquisition of L ₂ Phonetics and Morphosyntax	9
1.5 Subordinate Immigrant Communities around the World	12
1.6 History of Latino English Scholarship	26
1.7 What's Missing from Earlier Research	35
2 The Context of North Town	40
<i>Belinda Treviño Schouten and Erik R. Thomas</i>	
2.1 The Study Community	40
2.2 Interviewing in North Town	57
3 Consonantal Variables Correlated with Ethnicity	61
<i>Erik R. Thomas and Janneke Van Hofwegen</i>	
3.1 Consonantal Variation in Latino Englishes	61
3.2 The (l) Variable	63
3.3 The (tʃ), (ʃ), and (dʒ) Variables	66
3.4 The (ð Stopping) and (ð Assimilation) Variables	73
3.5 The (r) Variable	81
3.6 Commonality vs. Diversity	90
4 Vowels in North Town	93
<i>Erik R. Thomas</i>	
4.1 Substrate Influence on Vowels	93
4.2 Historical Survey of Studies of Latino Vowels	94

4.3 Methods of the North Town Analysis	102
4.4 Representative Vowel Configurations	103
4.5 Generational Changes in North Town	107
4.6 Regression Analyses of Variables	111
4.7 PCA Analyses	116
4.8 Anomalous Speakers	121
4.9 General Patterning in North Town	122
5 Trends from Outside	125
<i>Erik R. Thomas</i>	
5.1 Ethnolects Are Not Impervious	125
5.2 The TOOT/BOOT Vowel	126
5.3 The BOT/BOUGHT Merger	128
5.4 The Variable (hw)	136
5.5 The Variable (ju)	139
5.6 Quotatives	142
5.7 A Sign of a Vibrant Dialect	147
6 Social Evaluation of Variables	149
<i>Erik R. Thomas and Belinda T. Schouten</i>	
6.1 Determining Indexicality	149
6.2 Methods for the Speech Identification Experiment	152
6.3 Results	156
6.4 Discussion	166
6.5 Evaluation of the Experiment	169
7 Variable (ING)	171
<i>Tyler S. Kendall and Erik R. Thomas</i>	
7.1 English Unstressed <i>ing</i>	171
7.2 Variable (ING), Ethnicity, and Other Social Factors in North Town	175
7.3 Internal and External Constraints on Variable (ING) in Mexican American English	183
7.4 A Closer Look at Variable (ING) as Used by Four Speakers	190
7.5 Conclusion	195
8 Coronal Stop Deletion in a Rural South Texas Community	198
<i>Robert Bayley and Dan Villarreal</i>	
8.1 Introduction	198
8.2 CSD: Previous Research	199
8.3 Methods	202
8.3.1 Data Collection	202
8.3.2 Data Reduction and Coding	203
8.3.3 Analysis	203

8.4 Results	204
8.4.1 Linguistic Constraints	204
8.4.2 Social Constraints	207
8.4.3 The Effect of Ethnicity	208
8.5 CSD in North Town and Other Latino Communities	212
8.6 Conclusion	214
9 Prosody	215
<i>Erik R. Thomas and Tyler S. Kendall</i>	
9.1 Prosodic Variables	215
9.2 Intonation	216
9.3 Prosodic Rhythm	227
9.4 Speech Rate	234
9.5 Phrase-Final Lengthening	237
9.6 Diverse Variables, Diverse Patterns	241
10 Morphosyntactic Variation	243
<i>Erin Callahan</i>	
10.1 Introduction: Morphosyntactic Variation in Latino English(es)	243
10.2 Communities and Speakers	245
10.3 Past Tense Unmarking	248
10.3.1 Introduction	248
10.3.2 Previous Studies on Past Tense Unmarking	249
10.3.3 Methodology and Coding Conventions: Unmarked Past Tense	251
10.3.4 Results: Past Tense Unmarking	252
10.4 Multiple Negation	258
10.4.1 Introduction and Past Descriptions of MN in Latino Communities	258
10.4.2 Methodology and Coding Conventions: Multiple Negation	261
10.4.3 Results: Multiple Negation	262
10.5 Conclusions	265
11 Latino English in New Destinations: Processes of Regionalization in Emerging Contact Varieties	268
<i>Mary E. Kohn</i>	
11.1 Introduction	268
11.2 Regionalization of Latino Englishes	269
11.3 What Is a New Destination Community?	271
11.4 Field Sites and Motivation for Their Selection	273
11.5 Coronal Stop Deletion (CSD)	275
11.6 Realization of Representative Vowels in Each Community	280
11.7 Conclusions	290

12	Mexican American English and Dialect Genesis <i>Erik R. Thomas</i>	294
12.1	What Is an Ethnolect?	294
12.2	A Model of Ethnolect Development	297
12.3	Prospects for Mexican American English	308
	<i>References</i>	312
	<i>Index</i>	350