

Looking into Language: English & Media Centre Online Conference

Session One

How sociolinguistics can change your life: class, language, power and creativity.

Emma Moore is Professor of Sociolinguistics at the University of Sheffield. Her research explores how individuals and communities use language to construct social styles and identities.

What were some of the main ideas in this lecture?	What interested you the most / was your biggest 'take-away' from this presentation?
What would you like to follow up on or learn more about?	

Session Two

Language and Identity: who we are and what we do with language.

Lauren Hall-Lew is a Reader in Linguistics and English Language at the University of Edinburgh. She is a sociolinguist specialising in the study of phonetic (speech) variation and its relationship to social identity.

What were some of the main ideas in this lecture?	What interested you the most / was your biggest 'take-away' from this presentation?
What would you like to follow up on or learn more about?	

Session Three

Language in the News: why language matters and how it hits the headlines.

Rob Drummond is a Reader in Sociolinguistics at Manchester Metropolitan University. He primarily works on variation in spoken language and its relationship with identity. He works on the Manchester Voices project – an exploration of accents, dialects and identities in Greater Manchester - and the Accentism Project.

What were some of the main ideas in this lecture?	What interested you the most / was your biggest 'take-away' from this presentation?
What would you like to follow up on or learn more about?	

Session Four

Forensic Language Investigation: how language study is used to solve crime, uncover identities and open doors to interesting lines of enquiry.

Dr Helen Newsome is a postdoctoral researcher in the Centre for Forensic Text Analysis (FTA) in the Aston Institute for Forensic Linguistics (AIFL). Her project investigates linguistic performances of power and persuasion in online criminal interactions. She also has interests in royal identity and power in Tudor correspondence.

What were some of the main ideas in this lecture?	What interested you the most / was your biggest 'take-away' from this presentation?
What would you like to follow up on or learn more about?	

Suggested links for further exploration

Cutting edge case studies, teaching materials and language investigation materials

- **York University English Language Toolkit:** <https://englishlanguagetoolkit.york.ac.uk/>
- **Teach Real English!** (Queen Mary, University of London): <https://www.teachrealenglish.org/teaching-units/>

English language in society

- **The Accentism Project:** <https://accentism.org/>
- **The Conversation:** current media articles on issues relating to language in the real world
<https://theconversation.com/uk/arts>
- **Language, a feminist guide:** insightful blog by socio-linguist Oxford University Professor Deborah Cameron
<https://debuk.wordpress.com/>