# English Department Key Stage 5 Knowledge Organiser – Accents and Dialects (Diversity) Paper 2

class communities'. This led to a change in people's social networks. Also argues that it is incorrect that all aspects

• Penelope Eckhert (2000): studied two social groups in American high schools. The Jocks were middle class, the

Burnouts were working class. Burnouts used more obscenities, spoke ungrammatically and exaggerate urban

### **AO1 linguistic terminology** AO2: Critical concepts and issues • William Labov - Martha's Vineyard (1963): a small group of fishermen began to subconsciously exaggerate a Accent: accommodation (upward / tendency already existing in their speech in order to establish themselves as an independent social group with downward) superior status to the despised summer visitors. A number of other islanders regarded this group as one which convergence epitomised old virtues and desirable values, and subconsciously imitated the way its members talked. Eventually divergence this way of talking gradually became the norm for those living on the island. code switchina Dialect: Milroy (1978): Open and Closed Network Members of a speech community are connected to each other in social identity networks which may be relatively 'closed' or 'open'. A person whose personal contacts all known to each other inclusive/exclusive belong to a closed network. An individual whose contacts tend not to know each other belong to an open homogeneous heterogeneous network. Closed networks are said to be of high density: open networks are said to be of low density. Relatively overt prestige dense networks, it is claimed, function as norm-enforcement mechanisms. In the case of language, this means that slang a closely-knit group will have the capacity to enforce linguistic norms. perception/ • Howard Giles: communication accommodation theory (CAT): focus on the patterns of convergence and representation divergence of communication behaviors, particularly as they relate to people's goals for social approval, stereotype communication efficiency, and identity" "Convergence" refers to strategies through which individuals adapt to sociolect each other's communicative behaviors to reduce these social differences. Meanwhile, "divergence" refers to the field-specific lexis instances in which individuals accentuate the speech and non-verbal differences between themselves and their mode interlocutors. phonology linguistic • Vivian de Klerk (2005): Young people have the freedom to challenge the norms; they 'seek' to establish new appropriacy identities; the patterns of speech previously modelled on the speech of adults are 'slowly eroded by the patterns code mixing of speech' by their peer group. diversity Trudgill (1974) Working class language: Peter Trudgill considered the use of the velar nasal (-ng sound in sing) /n/. class Trudgill found that most working class people altered the velar nasal to an alveolar /n/. sociolect • Gary Ives (2014) – Bradford Asian English: investigated the growing use of code-switching. The Bradford boys idiolect discussed that they mixed Punjabi and English. It depended on who they were taslking to.Punjabi was often used community when swearing – one student referred to this as a 'secret language'. regional national • Gary Ives (2014) – Bradford Asian English: investigated the growing use of code-switching. The Bradford boys ethnicity discussed that they mixed Punjabi and English. It depended on who they were tasking to Punjabi was often used register when swearing – one student referred to this as a 'secret language'. colloquialism Milroy (2002) Dialect Levelling: increased social mobility leads to localised networks and complex sets of socially descriptivist structured linguistic norms. prescriptivist Kerswill (2001) Dialect Levelling: Reduction in rural employment lead to the breaking down of 'tight knit workingovert prestige

covert prestige

convergence

divergence

of dialect are being 'levelled'.

pronunciations.

## **AO1 Terminology**

The particular way of pronouncina a language, usually relating to region or social class.

A variety of language that is distinguished by features of phonology, grammar and vocabulary.

## **Received Proununciation:**

Also known as the Queen's English, BBC English, Oxford English etc., RP is recognised as the Standard form of English. It is not regionally specific but is used in schools and was traditionally the only accent allowed for BBC newsreaders.

## **Estuary Enalish:**

Defined by Rosewarne (1984) who said it is a type of accent identified as spreading outwards of London and containing features of both RP and London speech. It's a mixture of working class and middle class Londoners that use it.

## Multicultural London English:

MLE started in central London areas such as Hackney but now appears in other multi-ethnic areas in Birmingham, Bristol and Manchester. There are phonological, grammatical and discourse characteristics of MLE, such as vocabulary like "bare", using tag questions like "innit".