

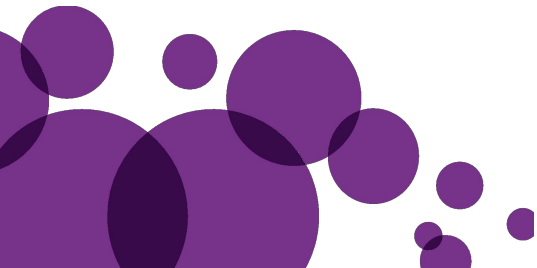
What Role Does Dialect and Accent
Play in the Workplace?

ENABLE



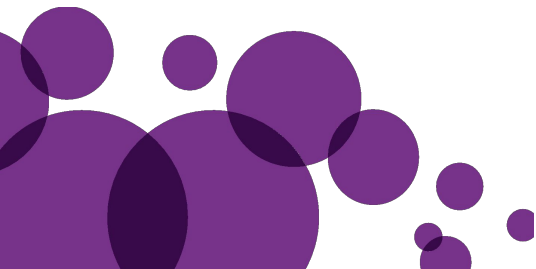
Welcome!

Your facilitator for today is



Warm Up Task

- Find the person who has either the term or definition that complements the one in your hand
- Everyone stand in a line and read out your terms and definitions



Aims of the Session

1. Identify what causes misunderstanding
2. Discuss myths and truth about accent
3. Consider advantages to having a mixture of accents and dialects in a workplace
4. Discuss top tips for ensuring people understand each other

- **What UK accents are there?**

- Watch the [video](#) on UK accents. As you watch, you may wish to make some notes

Which parts
did you agree
with?

Did anything
seem like it
could be
offensive or
wrong?

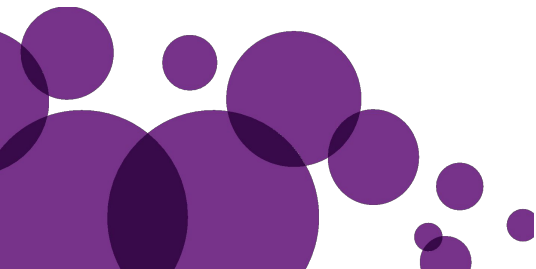
It can take just 30 milliseconds for listeners to identify a person's ethnic or cultural background as being different from their own

28% of British people feel they have
been discriminated against due to a
regional accent

80% of employers admit to making
discriminating decisions based on
regional accents

Accent Research

- Look at this [infographic](#)
- Do you feel that the media helps to accentuate stereotypes?



What do
you call
these?



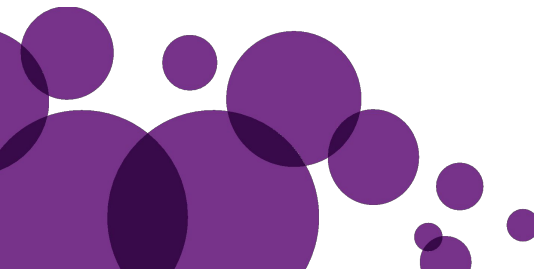
Roll
Bun
Cob
Barm
Barm cake
Bap
Muffin
Tea cake
Batch
Bread cake
Scuffler
Buttery
Rowie
Bridie
Morning roll
Vienna

Lardy cake

Oggie

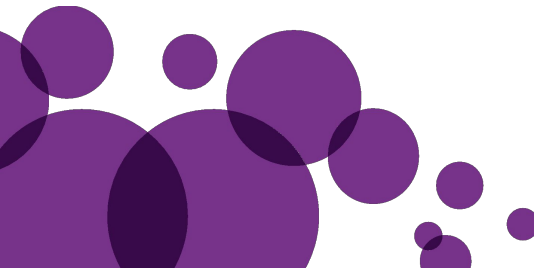
Dialect in the Workplace

- It's your job to make sure you are conveying information clearly to someone else.
- Be aware of using words that won't be understood by everyone around you.




Myths and Truths

- In small groups, sort your cards under the headings myths and truths
- Discuss your answers with the whole group




What About People Who Speak English as Their Second Language?

- They often worry that their accent won't be understood




Do you know
someone who
speaks English as
their second
language?



Do you find
it hard to
understand
them?

The top things that stop people from being understood clearly are the speed they speak at and their pronunciation of some words

A large orange speech bubble with a thin green outline, pointing downwards towards the bottom left.

What are the
advantages of having
a mix of different
accents and dialects in
a workplace?

- Create a spider diagram as a group with your ideas

TOP TIPS FOR COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THOSE WITH DIFFERENT ACCENTS

If you are speaking to someone new,
allow time for everyone to get used to
hearing the accents

Don't start with the most important thing you want to
say – warm up the conversation

Focus on fully pronouncing the vowel sounds in a word and not dropping the end of the word

Try speaking more slowly and see if that helps with understanding

Avoid dialect words that won't be
understood by everyone

If you're not sure – ask!

Don't be afraid to check if someone else understood you or to ask someone to repeat something

Did We Achieve Our Aims?

1. Identify what causes misunderstanding
2. Discuss myths and truth about accent
3. Consider advantages to having a mixture of accents and dialects in a workplace
4. Discuss top tips for ensuring people understand each other

A large, orange speech bubble with a thin green outline, pointing downwards and to the left. It contains the text "What's one thing you will take away from the session?".

What's one thing you
will take away from
the session?

Thank you!

