

ĐỀ CHÍNH THỨC

I. Matching

Match the word(s) with their phrases

- a. a way of saying words that shows what country, region, or social class someone comes from
- b. used when giving someone advice
- c. not very extreme, strong, or severe
- d. someone or something that is a good example of a particular quality
- e. someone who has learned a particular language from the time that they began to speak
- f. a news program.
- g. relating to or typical of a particular area of a country or the world
- h. the feeling of being very surprised by something bad that happens unexpectedly
- i. to seem good, bad, interesting, exciting, etc. based on what you have heard, read, or know
- j. the time that is available for something
- k. used for asking someone to explain what they have said
- l. to want something to happen although it is unlikely
- m. someone whose job is to speak on radio or TV programs

- n. in every way or every detail
- o. to be real or to appear in the real world
- p. the fact of being responsible for a bad or unpleasant situation
- q. used for emphasizing that what you are saying is true, especially when talking about yourself

- 1. **if I were you** phrase
- 2. **mild** adjective
- 3. **model** noun [countable]
- 4. **native speaker** noun [countable]
- 5. **newscast** noun [countable]
- 6. **regional** adjective [usually before noun]
- 7. **accent** noun [countable]
- 8. **broadcaster** noun [countable]
- 9. **exactly** adverb
- 10. **exist** verb [intransitive]
- 11. **fault** noun [countable/uncountable]
- 12. **honestly** adverb
- 13. **shock** noun [singular/uncountable]
- 14. **sound** verb [linking verb]
- 15. **time** noun [uncountable]
- 16. **what do you mean?** phrase
- 17. **wish** verb [transitive]

Your answers: 1. ____ 2. ____ 3. ____ 4. ____ 5. ____ 6. ____ 7. ____ 8. ____ 9. ____ 10. ____

11. ____ 12. ____ 13. ____ 14. ____ 15. ____ 16. ____ 17. ____

II. Fill in the blanks to complete the text. This is a conversation between an American and a Brazilian on the subject of different accents in spoken English.

Maria: Oh, Dave, I (1) __ **sh** I could speak like you.

Dave: Speak like me? What do you (2) **m** ____?

Maria: You know, the model American accent. I've lived in Los Angeles for six years now, and I still (3) **s** __ **n** __ Brazilian. I open my (4) __ **ut** __ and everyone knows I'm a foreigner.

Dave: So what?

Maria: Well, I want to talk like a (5) at speaker. It sounds nicer.

Dave: Does it? I think your accent's nice.

Maria: But —

Dave: No, (6) h tly. I like foreign accents. I find them interesting. And anyway, what's a "model American accent"? There are lots of different (7) r n l accents in the United States: (8) S, Upper Midwestern, Eastern ... not to mention specific states or even cities with their own accent: Hawaiian, Bostonian, etc. And what about the native English speakers from other (9) c s? British, South African, Australian accents — they all sound different. For me, when I listen to a (10) n -native speaker, it's just another accent.

Maria: OK, but I'd like to speak more like a broadcaster — like on the news.

Dave: But which broadcaster do you mean? You can hear all kinds of different regional accents on the TV and radio these days. Sure, the accents are usually (11) i d, but the newscasters don't all sound (12) e a y the same, do they? Maybe they did forty years ago, but not anymore.

Maria: Hmm. Maybe in another six years I'll lose my accent.

Dave: If I (13) w you, I'd forget about losing your accent. The important (14) t g is whether people can understand you or not, and I've always understood you (15) p c ly.

Maria: But not everyone does. Sometimes when I'm talking, I'm sure the other (16) p n isn't finding it easy to understand.

Dave: You know what that probably is, though? Some people (17) sp all their time with people who speak exactly the same way they do, so anything even (18) s tly different is a (19) h k. You shouldn't think of it as your (20) fa l.

III. CHECKING UNDERSTANDING

Decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F), or if the text doesn't say (D).

1. Maria wants to speak English more like an American.
2. Dave likes Maria's accent.
3. Dave says that all Americans speak with a similar accent.
4. Dave says that Australians and South Africans have the same accent.
5. Maria likes the way people from Hawaii speak English.
6. Dave wants to help Maria lose her Brazilian accent.
7. Dave says TV broadcasters do not usually have strong regional accents.

- ___ 8. When Dave first met Maria, he found it difficult to understand what she said.
- ___ 9. Maria believes that the people she speaks to sometimes find it difficult to understand her.
- ___ 10. Maria believes that, because of her accent, the people she speaks to often think she is American.

IV. READING COMPREHENSION: Answer the questions about the text.

1. How long has Maria lived in Los Angeles?
.....
2. What does Dave say there are many of in the United States?
.....
3. What is Dave's opinion about foreign accents?
.....
4. Dave gives eight examples of different accents among native speakers of English. What are they?
.....
5. What does Dave think is much more important than whether or not a foreigner has an accent?
.....
6. What change does Dave suggest there has been in the accents of TV broadcasters in the last forty years?
.....
7. When Maria says that sometimes people seem to find it difficult to understand her, what is Dave's explanation?
.....
8. Early in the conversation Maria talks about something that Dave, later in the conversation, seems to think doesn't exist. What is it?
.....

V. WRITING: How many different accents can you distinguish among the world's native speakers of English? Do you have a favorite among those accents, and if so, why do you like it? Can you think of any famous people who speak English with an accent you find particularly attractive/ unattractive/ strange?

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THE END

HƯỚNG DẪN CHẤM VÀ ĐÁP ÁN HSG ANH 9 (10.2010)

I. Matching (17ms)

1. **accent** noun [countable]
a way of saying words that shows what country, region, or social class someone comes from
2. **broadcaster** noun [countable]
someone whose job is to speak on radio or TV programs
3. **exactly** adverb
in every way or every detail
4. **exist** verb [intransitive]
to be real or to appear in the real world
5. **fault** noun [countable/uncountable]
the fact of being responsible for a bad or unpleasant situation
6. **honestly** adverb
used for emphasizing that what you are saying is true, especially when talking about yourself
7. **if I were you** phrase
used when giving someone advice
8. **mild** adjective
not very extreme, strong, or severe
9. **model** noun [countable]
someone or something that is a good example of a particular quality
10. **native speaker** noun [countable]

someone who has learned a particular language from the time that they began to speak

11. **newscast** noun [countable]
a news program. Someone who reads the news during a newscast is a *newscaster*.
12. **regional** adjective [usually before noun]
relating to or typical of a particular area of a country or the world
13. **shock** noun [singular/uncountable]
the feeling of being very surprised by something bad that happens unexpectedly
14. **sound** verb [linking verb]
to seem good, bad, interesting, exciting, etc. based on what you have heard, read, or know
15. **time** noun [uncountable]
the time that is available for something
16. **what do you mean?** phrase
used for asking someone to explain what they have said
17. **wish** verb [transitive]
to want something to happen although it is unlikely

- II. (20ms) 1. wish 2. mean 3. sound 4. mouth 5. native 6. honestly 7. regional
8. Southern 9. countries 10. non 11. mild 12. exactly 13. were 14. thing 15. perfectly 16. person 17. spend 18. slightly 19. shock 20. fault

Maria:	Oh, Dave, I wish I could speak like you.
Dave:	Speak like me? What do you mean?
Maria:	You know, the model American accent. I've lived in Los Angeles for six years now, and I still sound Brazilian. I open my mouth and everyone knows I'm a foreigner.
Dave:	So what?
Maria:	Well, I want to talk like a native speaker. It sounds nicer.
Dave:	Does it? I think your accent's nice.
Maria:	But —
Dave:	No, honestly. I like foreign accents. I find them interesting. And anyway, what's a "model American accent"? There are lots of different regional accents in the United States: Southern, Upper Midwestern, Eastern ... not to mention specific states or even cities with their own accent: Hawaiian, Bostonian, etc. And what about the native English speakers from other countries? British, South African, Australian accents — they all sound different. For me, when I listen to a non-native speaker, it's just another accent.

Maria:	OK, but I'd like to speak more like a broadcaster – like on the news.
Dave:	But which broadcaster do you mean? You can hear all kinds of different regional accents on the TV and radio these days. Sure, the accents are usually mild, but the newscasters don't all sound exactly the same, do they? Maybe they did forty years ago, but not anymore.
Maria:	Hmm. Maybe in another six years I'll lose my accent.
Dave:	If I were you, I'd forget about losing your accent. The important thing is whether people can understand you or not, and I've always understood you perfectly.
Maria:	But not everyone does. Sometimes when I'm talking, I'm sure the other person isn't finding it easy to understand.
Dave:	You know what that probably is, though? Some people spend all their time with people who speak exactly the same way they do, so anything even slightly different is a shock. You shouldn't think of it as your fault.

III.

(20ms) 1. T 2. T 3. F 4. F 5. D 6. F 7. T 8. F 9. T 10. F

IV. (16ms)

1. Six years.
2. Regional accents.
3. He likes them, because he finds them interesting.
4. Southern, Upper Midwestern, Eastern, Hawaiian, Bostonian, British, South African, Australian.
5. Whether or not people can understand them when they speak.
6. He seems to suggest that forty years ago, most broadcasters had the same, standard American accent, with not even mild regional accents, but says this isn't true anymore, as now they have lots of different regional accents.
7. His explanation is that the people in question probably spend all their time with others who speak exactly the way they do, so a different accent, such as Maria's, would be a shock.
8. The "model American accent." Dave appears to believe that as long as it can be understood, no accent should be regarded as worse than any other.

V. (27ms)

How many different accents can you distinguish among the world's native speakers of English? Do you have a favorite among those accents, and if so, why do you like it? Can you think of any famous people who speak English with an accent you find particularly attractive/ unattractive/ strange?

OPTIONAL, PERSONAL WRITING.

Task Performance: 20 ms

Language Content: 27ms