

# ACCENTuate THE POSITIVE

Perception of Accent and  
Authority among Classroom  
instructors at Queen's University

## LET'S MOVE FORWARD!

While some believed it was the  
responsibility of the speaker to  
change their accent...

...accent is not a switch that can be  
turned on and off



OTHER PARTICIPANTS  
UNDERSTOOD ACCENT  
AS A STRENGTH OF THE  
QUEEN'S COMMUNITY

## WHAT CAN WE DO?

Listening is a fundamental part of communicating  
with others

## LISTENERS

Stay Positive: Approach interactions with accented people as an opportunity.



Gain Exposure: It helps to increase familiarity, comfort and understanding.



Make Time: Allow sufficient time for conversations to minimize frustration.



Be Patient: An open mind puts both listeners and speakers at ease.



Ask for clarification.



## EDUCATORS

“Educate our students, especially undergraduate, during orientation week. They need to recognize that laughing at one's accent or underestimate one's credibility due to accent is inappropriate.”

Survey Participant

“Queen's should ensure a greater diversity of instructors and foster a culture of celebration of this richness.”

Survey Participant



Queen's  
UNIVERSITY

DIVERSITY ENRICHES OUR COMMUNITY

INCLUSION STRENGTHENS OUR CAMPUS

GLOBAL CITIZEN ● GLOBAL ENGLISH ● GLOBAL ACCENT

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