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Preface

Volume 8 is the second in the electronic series of *Strathy Undergraduate Working Papers on Canadian English*. We are happy that Kevin Heffernan, who edited volume 7, prodded us to carry on with the series in this widely accessible format. (Volumes 1-6 are available in paper from the address below.)

This volume contains essays produced by Queen’s University students in the Linguistics 202* class of the fall of 2009. Some of their papers examine questions of language and Canadian identity directly. For example, how is Canadian identity reflected in the Canadian editions of Harry Potter? How is Canadian identity celebrated, molded and exploited by Tim Hortons, the donut chain that has contributed “double double” and “timbit” to the Canadian English lexicon? And do native and non-native speakers of English in Canada show the same preferences with respect to linguistic variants that have been historically associated with Canadian English? Other papers compare English in Canada to other English dialects. How does the drinking-and-dating lexicon of university-age Canadian English speakers compare with that of their counterparts in the UK? Still others investigate pragmatic and syntactic topics in the context of Canadian English. For example, can differences in “social power” reliably predict apology strategies? And what adverbial intensifiers are young Canadians choosing?

We hope that you will enjoy these studies of Canadian English and that they will inspire your own reflections on language.

J. McAlpine

For more information on the publications of the Strathy Language Unit, visit http://post.queensu.ca/~strathy or write to the address below:

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