

***Strathy Undergraduate Working Papers
on
Canadian English***

The electronic series

Volume 8, 2010

***Strathy Language Unit
Queen's University
Kingston, Ontario***

Edited by J. McAlpine



STRATHY UNDERGRADUATE WORKING PAPERS
ON
CANADIAN ENGLISH

Volume 8, 2010

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|---|----|
| Preface..... | ii |
| <i>Eh-Vada Kedavra: Finding a Canadian Harry Potter</i> | 1 |
| Natalie Colaiacovo and Kristen Lemay | |
| “I’ll have a double-double, please”: The Role of Tim Hortons in the Making of the Canadian Identity | 12 |
| Jessica Barry and Yasmin Manji | |
| Canadian English in the Global Village | 18 |
| Younga Lee and Hui-Yi Yen | |
| “Sorry . . . I’m Canadian”: An Analysis of When Canadians Use the Word “Sorry” | 31 |
| Carrie Barr and Jackie Gillberry | |
| Smashed, Smitten, and Shaking Your Groove Thang: Synonyms for Social Situations | 40 |
| Michael Burns and Katherine Wright | |
| When Very Intense is Not Really So Intense | 52 |
| Pei Fang Chong and Nadifa Shekh Nahji | |
| Lexical, Pronunciation, and Spelling Preferences among Native and Non-Native Speakers of English in Canada | 64 |
| Danuta Pomorska-Wloka | |
| Just say, “Um. . . I’m sorry. I really don’t have time!” The Effects of Power Differentials on Refusals | 76 |
| Róisín Hartnett and Daniel Fiedler | |

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:

Strathy Language Unit
Mackintosh-Corry Hall F406
Queen's University
Kingston ON K7L 3N6
Canada