**Varieties of Present-Day English**

Bailey, Richard W. and Jay L. Robinson

New York: Macmillan

1973

**Preface**

Variety in English is the subject of the readings contained in this book; among questions addressed in separate essays are these: What has caused this variety? Why does variety persist in spite of standardizing forces in society? How widely do national, local, and social varieties of English differ from one another? How should variety be confronted by the teacher of language use who must formulate teaching strategies and make daily decisions on how to implement them?

For answers to such questions, we have turned mainly to the work of sociolinguists-scholars who have turned from too narrow a concern with abstract theorizing about language structure to a close examination of real talk by real talkers, to an attempt to show how language structure is related to the purposes for which talk is used, to the social settings in which talk occurs, to the dynamics of people using language to interact with other people. It is no accident that linguists have begun to concern themselves with language as a pattern of human activity closely related to other patterns of activity. Other scientists, natural, physical, and social—all impelled in part by challenges to human survival in a threatened world—have become impatient with the consideration of things in isolation, preferring instead ecological studies, those that view phenomena as interrelated, mutually dependent systems of cause and effect. And if need has called forth ecological studies by natural scientists hurrying to cleanse man’s air and water before he poisons himself, or to find new sources of food before he starves, so a similar necessity and urgency impel the work of sociolinguists, the ecologists of language. Language is a powerful mechanism to bind and to divide. In a world made small, Babel is as frightening an image as Plague and Famine; in a nation torn by class and racial division, by serious conflicts over national values and aims, linguistic differences may be symptoms and causes of fatal disease. Talk may be cheap, as the old adage says: but to misunderstand how it is used, how it varies in the mouths of human beings, and what that variety signifies about attitudes and loyalties may be very costly indeed.
There are several factors that make us to learn English Language to go through in the current time. First of all, as I already mention, it has International Standard, that’s why everyone needs to learn English in order to get in touch on International Level. If we see Educational field, we will find much of the syllabus is written in English. Children are taught and encouraged to learn English on starting levels. And accordingly, as they promote to the next levels they study almost all the subjects in English. We see the Internet and find more than 90% of websites written and created in English...