Dublin English
Evolution and Change

Raymond Hickey
Amsterdam/Philadelphia
John Benjamins
2005. x, 270 pp. (incl. CD-Rom)
Hardbound. 90 272 4895 8 / USD 144.00; 90 272 4895 8 / EUR 120.00
Available from August 2005

The present book describes the English language in all its facets as spoken in present-day Dublin, the capital of the Republic of Ireland. It covers the entire range of its history since the first arrival of English there several hundred years ago. Apart from the evolution of English in the capital, the book also concentrates on the significant changes which have been taking place in the speech of Dublin in the past 15 years or so. The rapid change of Dublin English is seen as a correlate to the many social and economic developments which have occurred in recent years. The type of linguistic change in Dublin is driven by dissociation (the mirror-image of accommodation) and will be of particular interest to scholars working within the language variation and change framework as it will to those more generally concerned with varieties of English and their specific profiles vis à vis more standard forms of English.

“Dublin English. Evolution and Change is a unique study of a significant urban variety of English which is undergoing major change. It offers a compelling and persuasive analysis, backed up by real talk from hundreds of Dubliners, which will be of special interest to sociolinguists everywhere.”

— Prof. J. K. Chambers, University of Toronto


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