

Map 7.2 From Sea to See

Contrary to common perceptions that regional dialects are slowly disappearing into a homogenized stew, the dialects of North America are actually a dynamic mosaic of still-evolving pronunciation patterns, separated by unusually sharp boundaries.

Regional Dialects

The map illustrates dialect boundaries and pronunciation changes over the last century in their most extreme form. Texas accents are considered variants of southern American English. Texas accents include not only vocabulary but also pronunciation, cadence, and syntax and support a strong local identity perhaps weakened by pop culture and newcomers from other states, particularly California.

