



*Phonological Features of
Chinese Varieties of English*

Part II

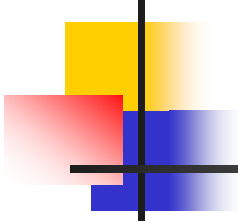
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VOWEL CHART FOR AVERAGE SPEAKER OF CHINESE ENGLISH

















	FRONT	CENTRAL	BACK
HIGH	i		u
MID	ɛ	ɜ	ɔ
LOW		a	



Comparison of the vowel systems of Singapore (SE), Hong Kong (HKE), Chinese (CE) and Japanese (JE) English

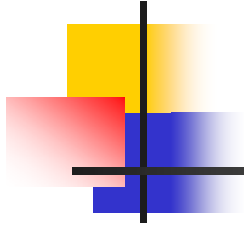
	<u>SE/CE</u>	<u>HKE</u>	<u>JE</u>
/i/	bit, beat	bit, beat	bit, beat
/ɛ/	bet, bat	bet, bat	bet
/u/	full, fool	full, fool	full, fool
/ɔ/	cot, caught	cot, caught	cot, caught
/ɜ/	bird	bird	bird, cart
/a/	cut, cart	cart (/ʌ/ cut)	cut, bat

DIPHTHONGS

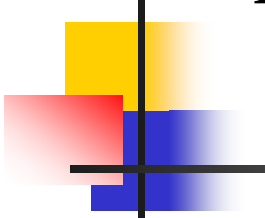
/eɪ/	<i>ray</i>	B		C	
/aɪ/	<i>wine</i>	B		C	
/aʊ/	<i>cow</i>	B		C	
/oʊ/	<i>toe</i>	B		C	
/ɔɪ/	<i>toy</i>	B		C	
/ɪə/	<i>beer</i>	B		C	
/ɛə/	<i>hair</i>	B		C	
/ʊə/	<i>sure</i>	B		C	

[B = Beijing speaker, C = Cantonese speaker]

SOME DIPHTHONG SIMPLIFICATIONS IN CHINESE VARIETIES OF ENGLISH (%)

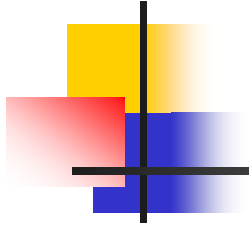


SOME DIPHTHONG SIMPLIFICATIONS IN CHINESE VARIETIES OF ENGLISH (%)



	BJ	TJ	NE	SW	CAN
ou > ʊ	63	38		25	
au > ʊ	50	50	44	25	
aʊn > əŋ/aŋ	63	25		76	
aɪn > ɛn/ʌn	50	25	56	50	30
	WU	MIN	KJ	GAN	XNG
ou > ʊ				22	40
au > ʊ	25	22	38	22	38
aʊn > əŋ/aŋ	38	56	25	33	25
aɪn > ɛn/ʌn		44	63		

CONSONANTS



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Voiced fricatives

/v/ → [w] e.g. *vine* 

/ð/ → [d] *this*

/z/ → [dz] *zip*  *zoo* 

/ʒ/ → [dʒ] *pleasure*  [r] *usual* 

(cf. [ʃ] *pressure* )



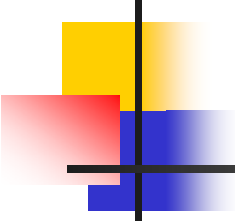
OTHER CONSONANTS

/θ/ → [s] *thing*  *thousand* 

/r/ → [z] *ray*  *road* 
[l]  

/h/ → [x] *hair* 

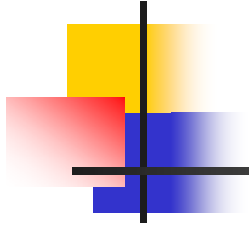
PHONETIC REALISATION OF CONSONANTS (%)



	BJ	TJ	NE	SW	CAN
θ > s	38	76	67	69	30/f20
z > dz	69	82	89	38	40
ʒ > r (usual)	88	100	78	25	30
> dʒ/j	25			j25	30
v > w	25	25	28		40
r > l					50

	WU	MIN	KJ	GAN	XNG
θ > s	63	62	51	67	76
z > dz	20	60	38	90	69
ʒ > r (usual)					38
> dʒ/j	j25	60	50/j38	67	38
v > w		22	38	22	25
r > l		44	29	40	

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1) There is clear evidence of regional variation within Mainland Chinese English.

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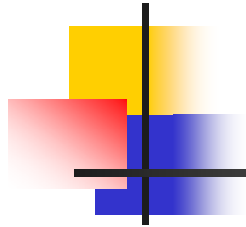
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- certain types of diphthong simplification
- a simplified consonant system, esp. with respect to voicing contrasts
- general lack of voiced fricatives
- preponderance of certain possibly unique forms (e.g. [s] for /θ/ together with [d] for /ð/)



3) Therefore, it is justifiable to speak of
‘Mainland Chinese English’ as a broad
variety