

On-going Debates about English in Asia:

- Instrument of cultural imperialism and neo-colonialism (e.g. Tsuda, 1997)

Vs.

representative of many different cultural values and worldviews.

- Senior Minister Lee Kwan Yew of _____ is a modern day example of a fluent English user who has used English for building a nation with Asian values.

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Answers:

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Problem of Mutual Intelligibility

- As in the United States, pronunciation, grammar, and discourse in Asia ranges from pidgin to an international standard, but understanding the different varieties of English is ___ more of a problem than it is in other parts of the world. ___ necessary for every user of English to be intelligible, at all times, to every other user of English. There is no reason to expect to understand ___ dialectal variation of English used for ___ purpose all over the world. Today with millions of people in Asia using many different varieties of English, it is inevitable that this lack of complete understanding will continue.

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Answers:

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Differences in Discourse Patterns

- **Greeting**: "Have you eaten?" (China) or "Where are you going?" (Thailand).
- **Form of address**: *Last* name plus title is typical in Korea (e.g. Mr. Park) but title plus *Given* name in Thailand (e.g. Ms. Mayuri) and Title plus full name in Myanmar (e.g. Mr. Thi Ha)
- **Showing politeness** is important in every culture but it is done differently in different varieties of Asian English.
- "That will be difficult." Nodding the head and saying "Yes".