

Lecture 5

DISCOURSE FEATURES OF PHILIPPINE ENGLISH

Characteristics of spoken Philippine English (Gonzalez, 1985, p. 112)

...careful and casual spoken Philippine English do not differ significantly from each other, except in hesitation phenomena (*ah*), which are probably universal, and in segmental substitutions which more careful (edited and read) speech does not make, as well as in the manner of asking questions (*no?*). On the other hand, because the text is read, occurrences of spelling pronunciations seem to occur more often.

Three Styles of Philippine English

Formal style has complex sentences showing nominalization, relativization, and complementation; informal style uses short and simple sentences and ellipses; familiar style utilizes code-switching between a familiar style in Tagalog and a more formal style in English. He [Gonzalez] claimed that the typical Filipino writer is monostylistic in English, having fullest control over the classroom composition style. (Bautista, 2003, p. 4)

Two Studies on Newspaper Editorials

Dayag 1997: Philippine English newspaper editorials use more assertives (representatives) than declarations.

Dayag 2000: Philippine English newspaper editorials have long Background sections (perhaps a reflection of the indirectness of Filipinos). Problem and Solution moves were identified as obligatory.