**Worksheet – Survey on Language**

You will get full credit for filling out this survey, no matter the answers. In fact, your instructors will not be reviewing your answers. So take just a few minutes to fill in your responses and don’t worry over your answers being “right” or “wrong.” The goal is to gather some of your honest (“gut”) responses to these questions at the start of the semester. Then, at the end of the semester, we’ll take the survey again and compare answers.

Please rate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements. If you strongly agree, place an “x” in the far left column. If you strongly disagree, place an “x” in the far right column. Or, choose someplace in the middle.

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| **QUESTION** **Strongly Disagree**   **Strongly Agree** |
| 1. If someone said, “I didn’t steal no car,” most speakers of English would interpret that to mean that the person *did* steal a car.
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| 1. Minority dialects of English often contain grammatical errors.
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| 1. New words and expressions are acceptable in English once they have an entry in a respected dictionary.
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| 1. The general decay of the English language is evident in music, movies, the Internet, etc.
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| 1. Some people are too lazy to speak standard English
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| 1. All dialects have rules governing them.
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| 1. There are good reasons for using forms of English that are not standard English.
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| 1. All of the world’s languages are capable of expressing any concept.
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| 1. African American English is less grammatically complex than standard English.
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| 1. I enjoy hearing different accents of English.
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| 1. People with rural of Southern accents are relatively uneducated.
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| 1. Given enough time, a person should be expected to perfect a second language.
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| 1. Dialects are sloppy forms of English.
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| 1. One of the main goals of the American educational system should be the elimination of forms of English that are not standard English.
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| 1. The English language has been changing since its beginnings.
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| 1. It bothers me when I listen to someone who speaks English differently than I do.
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| 1. People who have a “Hispanic accent” are still learning English.
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| 1. All speakers of English speak a dialect of English.
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| 1. I speak standard American English.
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| 1. Dialects don’t have patterns.
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| 1. Different languages should remain separate.
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| 1. My different language uses are welcome in the classroom.
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| 1. I use language effectively
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| 1. I have many strengths as a speaker.
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| 1. I have many strengths as a writer.
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