



Multilingual Corpus of
Annotated Spoken Texts

English

— metadata sheet —

June 2016

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cite this document as:

Schiborr, Nils N. 2016.
Multi-CAST English metadata sheet.
In Haig, Geoffrey & Schnell, Stefan (eds.),
Multi-CAST (Multilingual Corpus of Annotated Spoken Texts).
(handle) (date accessed.)

file v1.0



Language Archive
Cologne

Citing the corpus

The Multi-CAST English corpus should be cited as follows:

Schiborr, Nils N. 2016. English.
 In Haig, Geoffrey & Schnell, Stefan (eds.),
Multi-CAST (Multilingual Corpus of Annotated Spoken Texts).
 (<https://lac.uni-koeln.de/en/multicast-english/>)
 (date accessed.)

Language data

language	English (ISO 639-3: eng)
affiliation	Indo-European, Germanic, West
area spoken	United Kingdom
varieties recorded	South East England
text type	autobiographical narratives

Corpus data

file name	speaker	date rec'd	text type	length h:mm:ss	clause units
<i>english_kent01</i>	EN01	1975	autobiogr.	27:28	622
<i>english_kent02a</i>	EN01	1975	autobiogr.	30:00	764
<i>english_kent02b</i>	EN01	1975	autobiogr.	32:41	859
<i>totals for the English corpus</i>				1:30:09	2,245

Table 1. List of files in the English corpus.

speaker	gender	age	date born	date rec'd	clause units	texts
EN01	male	85	1890	1975	2,245	<i>english_kent01</i> , <i>english_kent02</i>

Table 2. List of English corpus speakers.

Background to the recordings

The Multi-CAST English corpus contains oral history interviews with speakers from various parts of Great Britain. The recordings were made available as part of the *Freiburg English Dialects Corpus* (FRED, 2005).¹ FRED has been compiled under supervision of Bernd Kortmann and Lieselotte Anderwald at the Chair of English Language and Linguistics, Department of English, University of Freiburg. The texts used in Multi-CAST are licensed under the *Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International Public Licence*.² A detailed description of FRED is available in Hernández (2006).

english_kent01, english_kent02

Two recording sessions with the same speaker, held roughly one week apart. The recordings were made in 1975 by Michael Winstanley in the speaker's home in Faversham, County of Kent, as part of an oral history project (see Winstanley 1978 for the resulting monograph).

The speaker (EN01), a male born in 1890 near the town of Ashford, has lived in rural Kent all his life and speaks a distinctly Kentish dialect with noticeable phonological, morphological, and lexical dialect features. Recalling episodes from the speaker's youth, the interview revolves mostly around such topics as turn-of-the-century farm life, horse dealing, the numerous businesses of the speaker's father, horses, various townfolk, and horses.

Although Winstanley occasionally attempts to direct the course of the interview, the speaker mostly follows his own train of thought, which results in long stretches of largely uninterrupted monologue. Often short of breath, he speaks in a slow but lively manner.

The *kent01* and *kent02* texts correspond to the file *KEN_002* in FRED.

References

- English Dialects Research Group. 2005. *Freiburg English Dialect Corpus* (FRED). (<http://www2.anglistik.uni-freiburg.de/institut/lkortmann/FRED/>) (accessed 2016-02-03.)
- Hernández, Nuria. 2006. *User's guide to FRED: Freiburg Corpus of English Dialects*. (<https://www.freidok.uni-freiburg.de/data/2489>) (accessed 2015-12-20.)
- Winstanley, Michael. 1978. *Life in Kent: At the turn of the century*. Folkestone: Dawson.

¹<http://www2.anglistik.uni-freiburg.de/institut/lkortmann/FRED/>

²<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/>

Corpus changelog

date	changes	affected texts
2015-05	added 3 corpus files	<i>english_*</i> <i>kent01,</i> <i>kent02a-b</i>