



**WHAT IS  
THE MEANING  
OF THE TERM  
sociolect**

◎ ***“social dialect”*** or ***“sociolect”*** is a variety of speech associated with a particular social class or occupational group within a society

◎ ***“sociolect”*** is the alignment of a set of language structures with the social position of a group in a status hierarchy

# Charleston, South Carolina

the absence of **[r]** in  
words such  
as bear and court



aristocratic, high-status  
groups

# New York City

the absence of **[r]** in  
words such  
as bear and court



working-class,  
low-status groups

◎ **Sociolect** refers to unique linguistic markers that show a person's place within a certain social group, and concomitantly the place that social group takes within the larger society

# African American Vernacular English (AAVE)

- ◎ **dat day** – that day
- ◎ **dis house** – this house
- ◎ **'We comin'** – We're coming
- ◎ **No way no girl can't wear no platform shoes to no amusement park** - There is no way that any girl can wear platform shoes to an amusement park
- ◎ **It ain't no food here** -There is no food here
- ◎ **It don't all be her fault** - It isn't always her fault
- ◎ **They be fightin** - They are always fighting,
- ◎ **He come tellin me some story** - He told me a lie
- ◎ **They come comin in here like they own de place** - They came in here like they owned the place.
- ◎ **I like to die(d)** - I almost died
- ◎ **He like to hit his head on that branch** – He almost hit his head on that branch.

**Cryptophasia** is a phenomenon of a language developed by twins (identical or fraternal) that only the two children could understand.



**LOLspeak** (where LOL is an acronym for *laugh out loud*) is a variety of English that can be described as the human interpretation of how cats might speak English if they could.

**Ceiling Cat blessinz apwn yu, srsly.**

Ceiling Cat blessings apawn you, seriously.

**Dat wood bee awsoem, srsly dued!**

That would be awesome, seriously dude!

**Nao, it'z almost like a sekund lanjuaje**

Now, it's almost like a second language

**lolspeak iz difehcualt too lern, an yu noe itt.**

lolspeak is difficult to learn, and you know it.



**THANK  
YOU  
FOR  
YOUR  
ATTENTION**