

1. Isoglosses are boundaries between different usages, pronunciations, syntactic structures or lexemes that do not always run parallel with the geographical borders. The bundles or bunches of isoglosses are the imaginary borders between linguistic varieties.
2. Not only linguistic but primarily social criteria must be used to decide what constitutes a language and what a dialect. Political, cultural and geographical factors are at play and ultimately might even be the deciding factors over the linguistic. Indeed the term variety is preferred by linguists because it avoids the dilemma of defining these concepts.
3. Dialect is also a term which is often applied to forms of language, particularly those spoken in more isolated parts of the world, which have no written form. And dialects are also regarded as some kind of (often erroneous) deviation from a norm – as aberrations of a correct or standard form of language, which is stigmatization, in fact.
4. Standard English is just as much a dialect as any other form of English. It does not make any kind of sense to suppose that any one dialect is in any way linguistically superior to any other.
5. A speech community is a group of people who do not necessarily share the same language or variety, but share a set of norms and rules for the use of language.
6. The characterization of language and dialect by means of mutual intelligibility is not entirely successful (for instance, Norwegian, Swedish and Danish are usually considered to be different languages and they are mutually intelligible).
7. The term creole is usually given to a pidgin which has become nativised, such as Hawaii Creole English, for example. A pidgin comes about in situations where speakers of different language backgrounds need to communicate.
8. Variety is a neutral term to apply to any particular kind of language which we wish to consider a single entity (for example, Yorkshire English or middle class Leeds English can be considered varieties).
9. The term accent should refer to the way in which a speaker pronounces, and therefore to a variety which is phonetically and/or phonologically different from other varieties. The term dialect should refer to varieties which are grammatically, and phonologically different from other varieties. On many an occasion these terms are mixed up, though.
10. Linguistic varieties are not found as discrete entities, but as dialect continua. Accordingly, transition zones are the areas where we can find features of two or more different linguistic varieties.
11. We talk about a recessive feature when we want to refer to a phonetic, phonological, syntactic or lexical characteristic (of a linguistic variant) that is disappearing. In contrast, progressive features are those that increase their diffusion rate within a linguistic variety or even within other neighbouring varieties.
12. Focal areas are those places (usually cities with a vivid cultural and socio-political life) the inhabitants of which are receptive to speakers' linguistic innovations. Thus, their speech communities adapt

innovations and consequently they are spread to the rest of territories where the same or a similar variety of speech is used.

13. Communication networks are the means by which linguistic innovations are transmitted within a speech community, but it can also be understood as the speech community itself (because in this case it refers to the combination of members of this speech community and also to the linguistic relationship they hold). Social networks are different sorts of communities of speech that depend on social organisation: family groups, peer groups, professional groups, etc.
14. Non-linguistic variables are those aspects that can have an influence on linguistic variables or variants, such as: class, age, gender, ethnic group, caste, profession. For instance, according to Labov, New Yorkers' pronunciation of /r/ relies on social class distinctions: upper classes, middle classes and lower classes pronounce it differently. Therefore, we can say that class is a non-linguistic variable and that the pronunciation of /r/ is a linguistic variable.
15. Multilingualism and bilingualism refer to the linguistic capacity (or interiorized grammars) of individuals that have more than one linguistic code. Multilingual and bilingual speakers have developed the proper linguistic knowledge and understanding of two or more linguistic varieties.
16. Diglossia refers to a situation in which two dialects or usually closely related languages are used by a single language community. Thus, it is the systematic use by a community of two or more different languages (or varieties or dialects of a language) in different situations. Accordingly, speech communities can be diglossic. Notice, however, that speakers can also be considered diglossic when they have two or more internal grammars (of different languages, dialects or varieties).
17. Code-switching is the ability bilingual or multilingual speakers have to use more than one linguistic code within the same conversation, making use of different grammars as they speak. Trilingual English-Catalan-Spanish speakers, for instance, would be able to start a sentence in English, *després parlar una estona en català*, y finalmente terminar la conversación en español. Code-switching is also possible among foreign language learners or non-native speakers.
18. Levelling and normativisation are two sides of the same coin. Levelling is the process undergone by linguistic varieties that go through normativisation. Levelling refers to the selection of grammatical and spelling features (the reduction of free variation) and normativisation to the choice of a series of features that become the norm. They are both linked to the process of language standardisation.
19. Societal functions of linguistic varieties depend on the use speakers make of each variety. Linguistic varieties can be used in religious contexts (remember the prayer we saw in class), in adverts or signs (and in this case speech would be a sort of headlines), in institutions (law courts, administration, and so on), etc.