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Language prescriptivism : attitudes to usage vs. actual language use in American English

Kostadinova, V.

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This thesis explores the influence of prescriptivism on language use in American English. It does so by studying the relationship between language advice literature, patterns of language use, and speakers' attitudes. The thesis shows that the genre of usage guides, routinely associated with prescriptivism, is undergoing change to reflect processes of change in progress in American English. Furthermore, prescriptivism and language use are shown to mutually influence each other.

Viktorija Kostadinova

LANGUAGE PRESCRIPTIVISM

ATTITUDES TO USAGE VS. ACTUAL LANGUAGE USE IN AMERICAN ENGLISH

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