Language variation

VOCABULARY PRACTICE
PRE-INTERMEDIATE | A2-B1

Name: _____ Date: _____

1 Match each word with its meaning.

1 accent ____	**a** a way of pronouncing words linked to a place
2 dialect ____	**b** a regional form of language with its own words and grammar
3 slang ____	**c** very casual words used mainly in speech
4 formal ____	**d** serious and polite language, used in official situations
5 informal ____	**e** relaxed, everyday language
6 regional ____	**f** relating to a particular area
7 standard ____	**g** the most widely accepted, official form of a language
8 local ____	**h** belonging to a particular nearby area

2 Choose the correct word.

1 She has a strong regional accent / dialects.
2 They speak a local dialect / accent at home.
3 That word is slang / standard among teenagers.
4 Use formal / informal language in the email to your boss.
5 We spoke informal / informally with friends.
6 This is a regional / standard expression from the north.
7 English has a standard / local form taught in schools.
8 They visited a local / formal market.

3 Complete the descriptions with words from the box.

accent | dialect | formal | informal | local | regional | slang | standard

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Ana: She has a strong 1 _____ from the south, and speaks a
2 _____ with unique words her grandparents used.
Leo: He uses 3 _____ words with friends but writes
4 _____ letters at work.
Marta: She studied the 5 _____ form of the language at school, but
enjoys 6 _____ conversations with her cousins.
Guide: Visitors should try 7 _____ food and listen for
8 _____ differences between towns.

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4 Match each word with its opposite.

1 formal ____	**a** national/international
2 standard ____	**b** informal
3 local ____	**c** non-standard
4 regional ____	**d** foreign

5 Read the text. Write T (true) or F (false).

Two ways of speaking

Mia grew up speaking a regional dialect at home, full of local words and a strong accent. At school, she learned the standard form of the language and used formal language in essays. With friends, she often used slang and spoke informally. She believes both ways of speaking are valuable, each suited to a different situation.

1 Mia grew up speaking a dialect at home. T / F

2 She never learned standard language. T / F

3 She used formal language in essays. T / F

4 She never uses slang. T / F

5 She speaks informally with friends. T / F

6 She thinks only one way of speaking is valuable. T / F

6 Complete the sentences with the correct preposition (with, at, in, to).

1 She speaks formally _____ work.

2 He talks informally _____ his friends.

3 They listened _____ the local accent.

4 This word is specific _____ that region.

OVER TO YOU

Write a 70-90 word description comparing how you speak with friends versus how you speak in formal situations.

[ ] Use at least eight target words. [ ] Use present tenses accurately. [ ] Keep the description clear and natural.

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ANSWER KEY

1 Word meanings

1 a 2 b 3 c 4 d 5 e 6 f 7 g 8 h

2 Choose the correct word

1 accent 2 dialect 3 slang 4 formal 5 informally 6 regional 7 standard 8 local

3 Descriptions

1 accent 2 dialect 3 slang 4 formal 5 standard 6 informal 7 local 8 regional

4 Opposites

1 b 2 c 3 a 4 d

5 Reading

1 T
2 F - she learned standard language.
3 T
4 F - she uses slang with friends.
5 T
6 F - she thinks both are valuable.

6 Prepositions

1 at 2 with 3 to 4 to

Over to you

Answers will vary. Check clear organisation, accurate forms and natural wording.