

# The Grammar Of Urban African American Vernacular English

African American Vernacular English - Origins and Features African-American English The Uniqueness of African American Vernacular English African American Vernacular English The Development of African American English African American Vernacular English: A New Dialect of the English Language African American Vernacular English African American Vernacular English African American Vernacular English in Contemporary Music History of English in the Us and of African American Vernacular English in Particular African American Vernacular English African American Vernacular English African American Vernacular English African-American Vernacular English within American 'Gangsta Rap' Sociocultural and Historical Contexts of African American English African American Vernacular English Features of African American Vernacular English in Snoop Dogg's Rap Lyrics African American Vernacular English and its Use in "Their Eyes Were Watching God" by Zora Neale Hurston Education and Attitudes towards AA(V)E African American Vernacular English in Hip-Hop in the early 2000s and today. A (socio-)linguistic study Haider Madhloum Salikoko S. Mufwene Lea Lorena Jerns Ismail Durgut Walt Wolfram Patrick Tretina Desirée Kuthe Inga Walte A. Glatz Alissia Wiener Veronika Grabner Ismail Durgut Desirée Kuthe Jan Skordos Sonja L. Lanehart Janna Falkenstein Seda Evirgen Leonie Weißweiler Anke Werckmeister Oliver Kamm

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Lyrics African American Vernacular English and its Use in "Their Eyes Were Watching God" by Zora Neale Hurston Education and Attitudes towards AA(V)E African American Vernacular English in Hip-Hop in the early 2000s and today. A (socio-)linguistic study *Haider Madhloum Salikoko S. Mufwene Lea Lorena Jerns Ismail Durgut Walt Wolfram Patrick Tretina Desirée Kuthe Inga Walte A. Glatz Alissia Wiener Veronika Grabner Ismail Durgut Desirée Kuthe Jan Skordos Sonja L. Lanehart Janna Falkenstein Seda Evirgen Leonie Weißweiler Anke Werckmeister Oliver Kamm*

pre university paper from the year 2011 in the subject english pedagogy didactics literature studies antwerp local school course last year of high school language english abstract 1 introduction african american vernacular english aave is the variety formerly known as black english vernacular or vernacular black english among sociolinguists it is also called ebonics outside the academic community while some features of aave are apparently unique to this variety in its structure it also shows many similarities with other varieties including a number of standard and nonstandard english varieties spoken in the us aave has been the subject of several public debates the analysis of this variety has caused a lot of discussion among sociolinguists and also among the american people aave is a language that i hear every day through the music i hear and the internet i use this was the main reason that i chose to learn more about aave many people think aave is the same as standard american english but this is not true in this paper i will investigate whether aave is a dialect or a slang and also the origins of aave and the features of aave phonological grammatical and lexical features and the social and educational context of aave will be explained more in this paper through many research in the library of the university of antwerp and the library of the university of leuven but also through many research on the internet i was able to collect and investigate this subject with the great help of my teacher i was able to make this paper

this book covers both the linguistic features of african american english in particular the grammar phonology and lexicon and the sociological political and educational issues associated with it

seminar paper from the year 2014 in the subject english language and literature studies linguistics humboldt university of berlin language english abstract the language only the language it is the thing that black people love so much the saying of words holding them on the tongue experimenting with them playing with

them it's a love a passion its function is like a preacher's to make you stand up out of your seat make you lose yourself and ear yourself the worst of all possible things that could happen is to lose that language there are certain things i cannot say with out recourse to my language with these words toni morrison an american professor and novelist probably expressed exactly what many african american people felt and still feel in her statement she refers to the so called african american vernacular english abbreviated aave which is a variant of english spoken mostly by black people in the united states jokinen 2008 1 it is also known as african american english black english vernacular black vernacular eng lish black vernacular black english or ebonics it is important to point out that not all african americans inevitably speak this ethnolect and that there are also people with a non african american background who nonetheless may speak it cf patrick 2007 1 furthermore it is hard to define who actually speaks aave as some speakers may only use some features e g vocabulary or grammatical aspects of this variant cf jokinen 2008 1 aave is a variant of english that you can see and hear every day it is present in the internet and in many songs and that makes it so interesting to find out more about it and to get a better understanding of aave in this paper i will focus on different aspects i will start dealing with the question where does aave come from under point two and will continue with a brief overview of some basic grammatical features of aave in point three under point four i will present and discuss a concrete example of a text in which aave plays an important role namely in the short story the gilded six bits of zora neale hurston written in 1933 afterwards under point five i am going to talk about aave in rap and hiphop songs as there can be found a considerable number of this kind of music all around the world and under point 6 i will deal with the controversial question whether aave should be taught in schools or not finally in the conclusion of my paper i would like to let the uniqueness of aave and the importance of recognizing

seminar paper from the year 2009 in the subject american studies linguistics grade 1 0 university of duisburg essen course language and interaction 6 entries in the bibliography language english abstract the majority of the us citizens of african ancestry speak a characteristic variety of english that has been referred to by several names it has variously been called non standard negro english negro dialect black english vernacular black english african american english african american vernacular english ebonics etc in this paper i will use the term african american vernacular english abbreviated aave because it is the term most current among linguists today the term vernacular refers to the everyday language spoken by a

speech community often a non standard variety no other variety inside the united states has been studied as much as aave during the last fourty years many works have been released concerning this topic this paper is an overview of aave it starts with the historical backgrounds of the variety by discussing the major theories concerning its origin the main part of this paper deals with aave s linguistic features in comparison to standard american english the features are subdivided into the sub chapters phonology grammar and vocabulary a summary forms the final chapter of this paper

this book focuses on one of the most persistent and controversial questions in modern sociolinguistics the past and present development of african american vernacular english aave

research paper undergraduate from the year 2012 in the subject american studies linguistics grade a university of new hampshire course english 550 graduate studies in english language language english abstract this scholarly research paper examines the substantial reasoning behind why african american vernacular english is a true dialect of the english language the aave controversy has been long debated by scholars and linguists alike the debate is centered on two substantial ideas of its definition and genesis the debate is split half of the spectrum believes aave is simply an apathetic form of speech while other concrete theories suggest that aave is a dialect of the english language that stems from the west african slave trade this research paper not only analyzes a number of scholarly theories to credit the idea that aave is a true dialect of the english language but it also calls on a number of other variants to supplement the facts provided

essay from the year 2007 in the subject american studies culture and applied geography grade 1 0 university of córdoba spain universidad de córdoba course sociolinguistics 8 entries in the bibliography language english abstract african american vernacular english or aave which is also variously labelled african american english black english black vernacular english or ebonics is the non standard variety of english spoken by many african americans at least to some extent and in some contexts the now very popular term ebonics is a portmanteau of the words ebony and phonics created in 1973 by a group of black scholars who disliked the term nonstandard negro english which was in use at that time the circumstances of the creation of the term which has gained considerable popularity during a huge debate in 1996 which will be discussed later already highlights one of the main features associated with aave the controversies which centre upon it

even according to mccrum et al within the black community for some it is an authentic means of self expression for black english speakers throughout america and the world for others who prefer the norms of standard english black english represents the disadvantaged past an obstacle to advancement something better unlearned denied or forgotten the first thorough sociolinguistic study of aave was carried out by william labov in 1968 it was funded by the us office of education which was interested in the relation between social dialects and the teaching of english the problems many black american children had to acquire thorough reading skills was in fact what first brought attention to aave still scholars can t seem to agree on what exactly aave is and where it comes from scholars on one end of the scale of opinions hold it to be very different from standard english even a distinct language those on the other end claim it to be a mere product of regional a

seminar paper from the year 2003 in the subject english language and literature studies linguistics grade 2 0 university of hannover 7 entries in the bibliography language english abstract english is the most spoken language in the world wherever you go you can express yourself via english but english is not the same anyplace you go british english and american english for instance differ a lot not only by means of pronunciation but also concerning vocabulary grammar etc moreover the language within each country differs and there exist many dialects one may say that african american vernacular english aave is a dialect others may say it is a separate language system in this paper i will try to show how aave works who speaks it and how it differs from standard english my focus lies on aave spoken in the united states significant research on black english in the united states is almost entirely a product of the 1960s dillard1972 6 and thus not that old nevertheless there exist different opinions concerning as well its the origin and the status it has so in this essay i am going to deal with black american english and its specific features and differences to standard english standard means here the achieved official recognition of a language the standard is spoken by the majority of speakers in the us the analysis includes an introduction to the grammar of aave and its specific vocabulary at the beginning a short survey will be given on who actually speaks aave at the end of the paper i will give some examples how aave actually works and is used by blacks tense mood and aspect cannot always be strictly separated and thus the explanations and examples of each category are sort of melted together moreover i will talk about the question whether aave should be looked at as if being a self governed language system or a dialect of standard

english spoken in the united states

bachelor thesis from the year 2011 in the subject english language and literature studies linguistics grade 2 0 justus liebig university giessen language english abstract this thesis investigates the use of african american vernacular english in contemporary music aave is an ethnic variety spoken by many though not all african americans living in the united states this dialect does not have one name only but is also called negro dialect nonstandard negro english black english black street speech black vernacular english black vernacular english or african american english i would like to add that some terms are historical it is crucial to know that researchers call it differently because to a large degree it depends on the time he she conducted research on this topic today the dialect is either called african american vernacular english or african american english the words contemporary music in the title refer to hip hop this music genre was chosen to be investigated because out of the music genres african americans are involved in it is the one that generates most of the sales and is the most popular one the rappers which are going to be analyzed in this thesis use many of the features of the african american vernacular given the huge number of aave features only one of them will be analyzed the copula verb to be which in the following will only be called the copula according to wolfram the copula is one of the most often described structures of aave 2008 517 for this reason the copula might be an interesting feature to look at when researchers examined aave in the past they did not necessarily take music as a source of data but rather spoken language one has to know that language in music is a different genre of language use which differs from the usual use of the language music can be considered an artistic expression but not real speech nevertheless as music has always been and presumably will always be a big part in african american culture it should be possible to recognize features of aave and use music as a reliable source in the analysis conducted in this thesis the use of the copula will be examined by having a look at the lyrics of three famous rappers from the us tupac jay z and 50 cent even though the three of them can be assigned to gangsta rap they all differ from each other they all started their careers in different decades come from different cities and have a different style of rapping what they have in common is that they are african american rappers from a lower class who grew up in poverty and have become successful musicians

seminar paper from the year 2008 in the subject english applied geography grade 1

7 university of duisburg essen geisteswissenschaften course english in north america language english abstract from the very start i was very interested in african american vernacular english aave in this work i also wanted to include a bit of history i consider that history is an important influence on the present not only regarding language but everything history shows us the roots of things and a person who knows history avoids doing the same mistake again in case of aave the language is indeed connected to the history of the african americans to the history of slavery and so to the history of the united states of america for me it is also important to give a wide range on the knowledge about aave a frame of history starting with the broad picture about the settlement and the rest of the history of the us then i will look on the history of the african americans and the origin of their language finally a description of aave and its features follows the question this essay deals with was mostly inspired by the controversial views about the origin of aave namely the creole based and the dialect theory those might be only theories about the origin of aave but assuming one of those theories is correct defines a certain point of view on aave is aave only a dialect derived from a pidgin which developed somewhere in the caribbean or on in west africa or is aave a dialect which developed in the same manner and at the same time like all the other american dialects is it correct to compare aave to standard english listing the mistakes this variety makes or should it rather be compared to other varieties

my diploma thesis deals with the topic of african american vernacular english which is a variety or a dialect of english spoken in the united states of america that has caused a lot of controversy over the years especially because of the connection between the times of slavery and this particular variation of the english language the thesis starts off with a brief explanation of different denominations aave has received up until now from the most derogatory ones to the ones that are more politically correct and therefore used currently then it continues with various hypotheses about the origin of aave namely the dialectologist hypothesis the creole hypothesis the neo anglicist hypothesis and the substrate hypothesis after explaining the hypotheses and giving various proof that support each one of them the thesis continues with the discussion about the current social status of aave and also explains how it has changed over the years a big part of the current opinion on aave was also formed by the ebonics controversy and the way it was resolved the next thing explained are some linguistic features of aave that illustrate how different aave actually is from standard english also included in this part are the intonation and discourse strategies that only aave speakers use and are foreign to

standard english speakers the second part of the thesis deals with people's views on different languages or dialects that is to say the division of dialects to high and low class and the consequential social stratification of speakers of different dialects firstly it is explained and exemplified how african americans perceive aave and whether they stand behind it or rather abandon it for the standard and socially accepted variety of english secondly the opinions of the caucasian american population are presented and contrasted with the african american ones finally the thesis concludes with the question whether aave deserves to be called a language or is it just a dialect or even worse a bad version of english various definitions and opinions are presented and contrasted so that in the end a conclusion can be made

seminar paper from the year 2009 in the subject american studies linguistics grade 10 university of duisburg essen course language and interaction language english abstract the majority of the us citizens of african ancestry speak a characteristic variety of english that has been referred to by several names it has variously been called non standard negro english negro dialect black english vernacular black english african american english african american vernacular english ebonics etc in this paper i will use the term african american vernacular english abbreviated aave because it is the term most current among linguists today the term vernacular refers to the everyday language spoken by a speech community often a non standard variety no other variety inside the united states has been studied as much as aave during the last fourty years many works have been released concerning this topic this paper is an overview of aave it starts with the historical backgrounds of the variety by discussing the major theories concerning its origin the main part of this paper deals with aave's linguistic features in comparison to standard american english the features are subdivided into the sub chapters phonology grammar and vocabulary a summary forms the final chapter of this paper

essay from the year 2007 in the subject american studies culture and applied geography grade 10 university of córdoba spain universidad de córdoba course sociolinguistics language english abstract african american vernacular english or aave which is also variously labelled african american english black english black vernacular english or ebonics is the non standard variety of english spoken by many african americans at least to some extent and in some contexts the now very popular term ebonics is a portmanteau of the words ebony and phonics created in 1973 by a group of black scholars who disliked the term nonstandard negro english which was in use at that time the circumstances of the creation of the term which

has gained considerable popularity during a huge debate in 1996 which will be discussed later already highlights one of the main features associated with aave the controversies which centre upon it even according to mccrum et al within the black community for some it is an authentic means of self expression for black english speakers throughout america and the world for others who prefer the norms of standard english black english represents the disadvantaged past an obstacle to advancement something better unlearned denied or forgotten the first thorough sociolinguistic study of aave was carried out by william labov in 1968 it was funded by the us office of education which was interested in the relation between social dialects and the teaching of english the problems many black american children had to acquire thorough reading skills was in fact what first brought attention to aave still scholars can t seem to agree on what exactly aave is and where it comes from scholars on one end of the scale of opinions hold it to be very different from standard english even a distinct language those on the other end claim it to be a mere product of regional and socio economical differences between blacks and whites these two aspects will be the main points of interest in this paper after a rough linguistic description of the dialect i m going to turn to its possible history before finally concluding with a short outline of the main sociolinguistic aspects surrounding aave including the educational problems it presents which have after all been the catalyst for linguistic interest in the dialect

seminar paper from the year 2009 in the subject american studies linguistics grade 2 7 university of münster anglistik amerikanistik course proseminar american english language english abstract this abstract shall give another piece of the puzzle to what is considered to be african american vernacular english with scientific aid of well known concepts by linguists such as green in particular but also wolfram schilling estes mufwene and poplack we want to focus on specific grammatical features of aave and to what extend these can be recovered in the hip hop subgenre of american west coast gangsta rap a small but significant text corpus of four representative songs added to the appendix in the shape of lyrics cover the source for a quantitative and qualitative evaluation the given text shall give a short overview about the origin and different theories on aave first and will further on primarily adapt the characteristic linguistic features 1 green and wolfram schilling estes worked out and apply them to our little song text corpus

this volume based on presentations at a 1998 state of the art conference at the university of georgia critically examines african american english aae socially

culturally historically and educationally it explores the relationship between aae and other varieties of english namely southern white vernaculars gullah and caribbean english creoles language use in the african american community e g hip hop women s language and directness and application of our knowledge about aae to issues in education e g improving overall academic success to its credit since most books avoid the issue the volume also seeks to define the term aae and challenge researchers to address the complexity of defining a language and its speakers the volume collectively tries to help readers better understand language use in the african american community and how that understanding benefits all who value language variation and the knowledge such study brings to our society

seminar paper from the year 2006 in the subject american studies linguistics grade 1 3 free university of berlin englische philologie language english abstract the subject of this paper is the variety african american vernacular english aave formerly known as black english vernacular among linguists and often called ebonics in the media i will use the term aave throughout this paper aave is a variant of english that shows some unique features no other variant of english shares aside there is a huge amount of commonalities between aave and standard english se and english vernaculars most of the commonalities aave shares with non standard variants of the south of the united states but even caribbean languages resemble aave a fact that has led to discussions about the origins of aave and its status there are two theories in competition the dialectal hypothesis and the creole hypothesis the discussion is not only linguistically interesting but also of political importance this will be discussed in the first two chapters of this paper it is very difficult to say how many people speak aave there may be speakers who use aave pronunciation and vocabulary but none of the grammatical features others may use other distinctive aspects of the variant linguists generally use the term aave for those variants that show certain distinctive grammatical features like copula deletion losing of third person singular s or double negation since these grammatical features occur variably that means in alternation with features of standard english it remains difficult to say how many people speak aave this variability shows the complex social attitudes that surround aave among other things that is why it has attracted the attention of many sociolinguists and has been the main focus of several public discussions ten years ago a resolution passed by the oakland school board hit the headlines in comparison to their white contemporaries black children come off badly in school as a result the members of the school board claimed that aave should be officially recognized as the

predominantly primary language of african american students

seminar paper from the year 2016 in the subject english language and literature studies linguistics grade 10 course varieties of english new englishes language english abstract first of all this term paper will give some general information about the variety african american vernacular english itself its origins and who the speakers of aave are furthermore it will give an overview of some features of aave and finally the analysis of two of the features on different rap songs from the famous rapper snoop dogg the first feature that i will be looking at is zero copula and the second feature is the omission of the third person singular s in the present tense in this term paper i will investigate the occurrence of these two features in snoop dogg s lyrics from his first album doggystyle and his latest album bush and if they decreased or increased with time since music plays such a huge part in african american culture it should be possible to see these features of aave in the lyrics the analysis will contain 16 rap songs from snoop dogg s first album doggystyle from 1993 and 10 rap songs from his latest album bush from 2015 english is a language with many varieties and also one of the most spoken languages in the world the varieties of english are results of colonial expansion and may differ from each other in terms of pronunciation vocabulary and grammar african american vernacular english aave is the variety that people associate with as the language used by the black community the additional term vernacular refers to the speech style in everyday communication and differentiates black african american vernacular english speakers from black speakers of standard english especially in rap and hip hop music the number of black performers is very high since it was introduced as a new music genre the style of language that is used in hip hop lyrics is highly influenced by the african americans aave is a variant of english that you can hear every day on the radio or television for example and that also makes it so interesting to analyze its use features and origin

pre university paper from the year 2014 in the subject english language and literature studies linguistics grade 15 language english abstract african american english aave was first brought to the attention of linguists when in the 1960s the government realised that african american aa children from urban ghettos were worse in school than white pupils to counteract this it financed compensation programmes in which aa children should be taught standard english se by means of structural drills and techniques adopted from foreign language learning when this approach failed linguists suggested that aa children only spoke a different dialect

than white children and that consequently it would be necessary to teach them se as an additional dialect however this approach also failed because the failure of aa children in school seems to be a result of a cultural and social divide between aa and white american society of which separate dialects of english are only a symptom it will therefore be the aims of this paper to prove this belief wrong and prove that aave is indeed a rule governed language to investigate its origins and its use in zora neale hurston s most famous novel their eyeswerewatching god

seminar paper from the year 2007 in the subject american studies linguistics grade 2 0 free university of berlin language english abstract the united states have witness a problem concerning educating african american students in elementary schools and high schools one suggestion was that made in order to learn standard english se better is african american vernacular english aave ought to be taught at schools to highlight the differences between the two dialects in order for the children to master their studies and to succeed not only at school but also later at college the problem is that many teachers but also parents have negative attitudes toward teaching aave at school because they think that this is bad english and does not help to facilitate their lives but i argue in order to get positive attitudes toward aave one has to understand the complexity of that dialect which furthermore needs to be translated to the teachers training programs to help children acquire se and master their lives

seminar paper from the year 2022 in the subject english language and literature studies linguistics grade 3 0 university of würzburg neuphilologisches institut course hauptseminar linguistics of theoretical orientation language and music language english abstract for this paper song lyrics will be examined more closely for typical features of african american vernacular english based on the analysis of the findings any differences and similarities in the use and frequency of african american vernacular in the rap lyrics will be clarified and thus possible developments in the use of african american vernacular english in hip hop identified if necessary these will also be used to draw possible conclusions about american society in the second chapter of this thesis the theoretical background relevant to the understanding of the topic will be discussed an overview of the music genre of hip hop the variety of african american vernacular english and the selected artists is given after that the methodology of this thesis will be explained which will be used for the investigation of the research question this is followed by a comprehensive presentation of the results with a subsequent discussion and commentary on the

findings linguists are constantly noticing a constant change in languages and their varieties thus in the end it is to be expected that the characteristics of african american vernacular english have also changed in the rappers texts of different ages and can be determined with the help of this mini study since african american slang is still a stylistic device even in the works of white rappers no significant changes are to be expected in terms of the total frequency of general language elements from the african american vernacular english

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