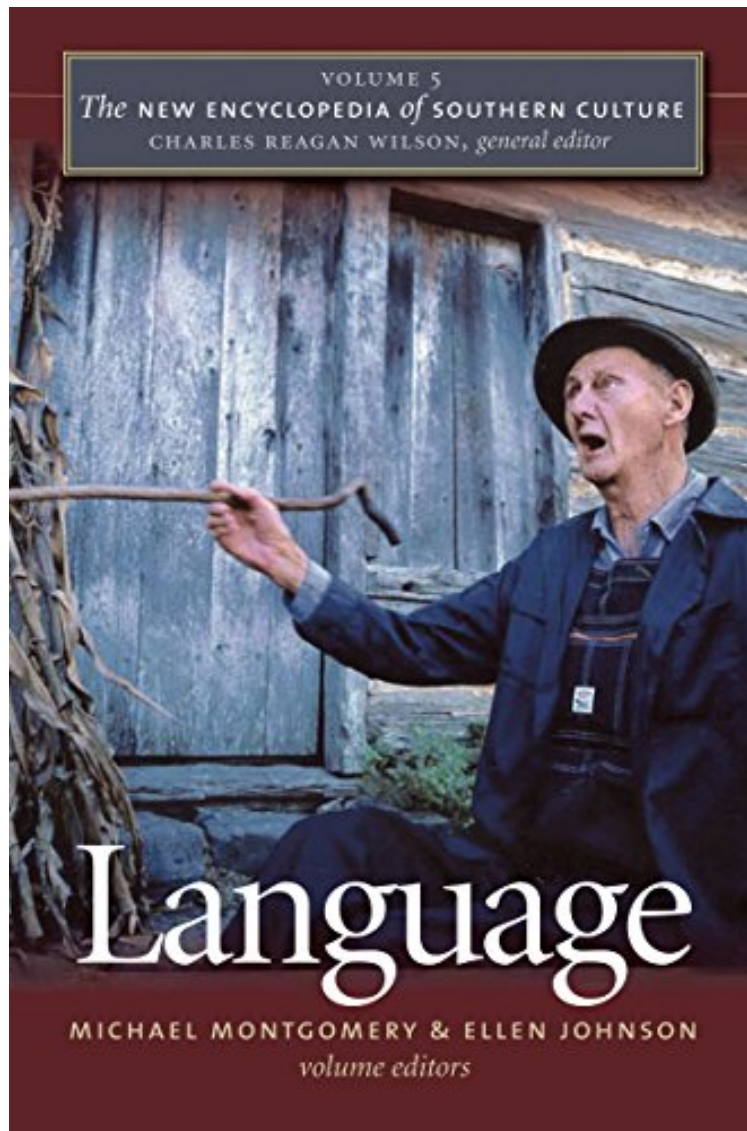


The New Encyclopedia of Southern Culture: Volume 5: Language

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From Brand: The University of North Carolina Press : The New Encyclopedia of Southern Culture: Volume 5: Language before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The New Encyclopedia of Southern Culture: Volume 5: Language:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. This writer focused only on a particular community rather than ...By ALambThis writer focused only on a particular community rather than the South as a whole. There is so many cultural differences it was overlooked; most of the focus was on the Southern African American communities when that's just

the iceberg tip, he didn't look at all of the other immigrants, Cajuns transplanted "Yankees". 4 of 17 people found the following review helpful. Not what I expected....By J. Wilmoth This Vol. 5 on Language is okay; it really is not what I expected. I have not finished it yet so it may improve. I think I wanted to know more about the specific regional expressions of the various southern states and so far, that has not panned out for me.

The fifth volume of *The New Encyclopedia of Southern Culture* explores language and dialect in the South, including English and its numerous regional variants, Native American languages, and other non-English languages spoken over time by the region's immigrant communities. Among the more than sixty entries are eleven on indigenous languages and major essays on French, Spanish, and German. Each of these provides both historical and contemporary perspectives, identifying the language's location, number of speakers, vitality, and sample distinctive features. The book acknowledges the role of immigration in spreading features of Southern English to other regions and countries and in bringing linguistic influences from Europe and Africa to Southern English. The fascinating patchwork of English dialects is also fully presented, from African American English, Gullah, and Cajun English to the English spoken in Appalachia, the Ozarks, the Outer Banks, the Chesapeake Bay Islands, Charleston, and elsewhere. Topical entries discuss ongoing changes in the pronunciation, vocabulary, and grammar of English in the increasingly mobile South, as well as naming patterns, storytelling, preaching styles, and politeness, all of which deal with ways language is woven into southern culture.

From Booklist *The Encyclopedia of Southern Culture* was published as a single volume in 1989, but the new edition is being issued as a series of individual topical volumes in order to "extend the reach of the reference work to wider audiences." This fifth installment contains major essays on French, German, and Spanish along with entries on various indigenous languages and dialects (Natchez language, New Orleans English, Outer Banks English). Also here are entries on topics such as personal names and place-names, preaching styles, and pronunciation. Includes tables and black-and-white illustrations and maps. Quinn, Mary Ellen Thorough and far-reaching, yet ultimately accessible. . . . Contains an incredible amount of cultural, historical, and social information pulled together into a comprehensive overview of language use in the American South.--North Carolina Historical A good starting point to researching the languages and dialects found in the South.--American Reference Books Annual Tackles the complex and diverse field of Southern language and dialects. . . . A very readable and enjoyable survey.--Larry McGehee, *Southern Seen* An excellent book that describes languages in the South, even those not commonly known to exist or to have existed; for example, descriptions of indigenous languages that do not belong to identified Native American Language families. . . . A complex picture of many different southerners speaking a variety of languages and dialects.--*The Journal of Mississippi History* A must-have for any educated Southerner. . . . You'll come away with a whole new perspective on your roots.--DEEPEffectively debunks simplistic and erroneously homogenizing notions. . . . The editors did not shy away from potentially problematic issues. . . . A handy and useful reference on this important issue of language in the South.--Louisiana History This volume offers a comprehensive treatment of the origins and varieties of the myriad languages of the South. I now finally understand why as a native Floridian I say 'red bug' while my colleagues from North Carolina say 'chigger.' An intriguing account of why southerners speak the way they do.--Anne Rowe, Florida State University Some entries straighten out longstanding confusion about how southerners use the language; others illuminate fascinating new topics; all are scholarly and authoritative, yet completely accessible. The introductory essay alone is worth the price.--John Shelton Reed, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill