

**Table 2 – Phonological and Language Features of Dialects/Languages Encountered in the U.S.**

	African-American English	Native-American English	Spanish	Vietnamese
<p>Phonological Features</p>	<p><b>Three major phonologic rules:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-the silencing or substitution of the medial or final consonant in a word.</li> <li>-the silencing of unstressed initial phonemes and unstressed initial syllables.</li> <li>-the silencing of the final consonant in a consonant cluster at the end of a word.</li> </ul> <p><b>Evidenced specifically in the following:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Voiceless th replaced with /t/ or /f/ in all positions (thought -tought, nothing - noftn, bath -bat).</li> <li>-Voiced th replaced with /d/ in initial position, and /d/ /v/, or /f/ in medial and final position (this -dis, bathing -bavn).</li> <li>-/r/ and /l/ deleted in medial and final position (poor-po; help -hep ), /r/ deleted in initial consonant blends (protect - p'orect).</li> <li>-Voiced stops devoiced or unreleased in medial and final position, with lengthened vowel preceding (bed -bet or be' with prolonged e).</li> <li>-/v/ sometimes replaced with /b/ in all positions (valentine -balentine, stove - stobe).</li> <li>-/m/ and /n/ deleted in final position with nasalization of preceding vowel.</li> <li>-ing replaced with /n/ in medial and final position (sing -sɪn; swinging -swɪnɪn).</li> <li>-/z/ omitted or replaced with /d/ before nasal sound (wasnt -wʌdn).</li> <li>-Short e vowel replaced with short i vowel before nasals (pen -piɪn).</li> <li>-Consonants /w/ and /d/ omitted in specific words in initial position (was -as, one -'ʌn, don't -'ɒn't).</li> <li>-Unstressed initial syllables dropped (about -bout, because - cause).</li> <li>-Final consonant omitted in final consonant clusters (nest- nes, slept -slep).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-American Indian languages can be divided into approximately 60 different language families.</li> <li>-Dialects retain the phonemic patterns, phonological rules, and stress patterns of the tribal language.</li> <li>-Dialects retain intonation patterns of the tribal language.</li> </ul>	<p>Characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Phonology is made up of 19 consonants and two semivowels.</li> <li>-Many Spanish consonants are unaspirated.</li> <li>-There are no equivalents to certain English consonants such as /θ/ and /ʃ/.</li> <li>-Only 6 consonants /n, r, l, s, z, d/ occur in final position.</li> <li>-Spanish clusters are fewer and less complex; common ones include consonant plus /l/ and consonant plus /r/.</li> <li>-/s/ cluster does not appear in initial word position, and final consonant clusters are rare.</li> </ul> <p><b>Differences evidenced in:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Voiceless /t/ replaced with /t/ or /s/ in all positions (thumb -turnb, mouth- mous).</li> <li>-Voiced /h/ replaced with /d/ or /z/ in all positions (they -dey).</li> <li>-/z/ replaced with /s/ in all positions.</li> <li>-/sh/ replaced with /ch/ or vice-versa in all positions (shoe -choe, chicken- snicken, watches - washes).</li> <li>-/v/ replaced with /b/ in all positions (very -bery).</li> <li>-j replaced with /j/ or vice-versa in initial position (Gello -yellow).</li> <li>-/r/ distorted in all positions, often resembling a trilled /r/ in initial position.</li> <li>-Final consonants often devoiced or omitted.</li> <li>-Omission or distortion of final consonant clusters.</li> <li>-Addition of schwa vowel before /s/ or omission of /s/ in initial consonant clusters (study- estudy, spoon -poon).</li> <li>-Short English vowels that don't occur in Spanish may be substituted with a long vowel equivalent (witch -weach).</li> </ul>	<p>Characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Alphabet consists of 23 consonants and 12 vowels, including vowel clusters, diphthongs, and triphthongs.</li> <li>-Final consonants limited to either voiceless stops or nasals and often unreleased.</li> <li>-No consonant clusters or blends exist in Vietnamese.</li> <li>-Predominantly a monosyllabic language; syllabic stress for contrastive purposes not used.</li> <li>-Tonal language consisting of six tones that convey meaning.</li> <li>-Three main dialects: Northern, Southern, and Central.</li> </ul> <p><b>Differences evidenced in:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Omission or distortion of final consonant sounds (most final consonants produced in English, including b, d, g, s, z, f, v, r, l, j, th, sh, ch).</li> <li>-Voiceless th replaced with /t/ or /s/ (thumb - turnb or sunb).</li> <li>-Voiced th replaced with /d/ or /z/.</li> <li>-sh and ch sounds replaced with /s/ (shoe or chew -sue).</li> <li>-/h/ and /k/ unaspirated in initial position.</li> <li>-Simplification of clusters and blends; may add a schwa vowel between consonants.</li> <li>-Speakers may attempt to use Vietnamese tonal system with English words or use a monotone; may struggle with English intonation patterns that define sentence types and convey communicative intent.</li> </ul>

	African-American English	Native-American English	Spanish	Vietnamese
<p>Grammatical /Lexical Features</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Nonobligatory regular past tense -ed (I walk to school yesterday).</li> <li>-Irregular past tense not always inflected (I see last week).</li> <li>-Nonobligatory regular and irregular present tense third person -s (she eat, he do).</li> <li>-Less frequent and nonobligatory use of <i>will</i> (I be going to drive, I gonna drive, I be home soon).</li> <li>-<i>Been</i> used for action in distant past (He been gone).</li> <li>-Nonobligatory copula and auxiliary be verbs when contractible (She sick).</li> <li>-Habitual state of verbs marked with uninflected <i>be</i> (She be workin').</li> <li>-Use of <i>be</i> as main verb for is, are, or am (I be here, he be busy).</li> <li>-Use of double modals (We might could go).</li> <li>-Neutralization of subject-verb agreement (They was there).</li> <li>-Nonobligatory possessive -'s where word order expresses possession (the boy hat).</li> <li>-Nonobligatory plural -s with numerical quantifier (ten dollar, fifty cent).</li> <li>-Use of indefinite <i>a</i> instead of <i>an</i> when appropriate (a apple).</li> <li>-Pronominal apposition where pronoun immediately follows noun (Mama she mad).</li> <li>-Nonobligatory relative pronouns (He the one did it-omission of <i>who</i>).</li> <li>-Reflexive pronouns regularized (hisself, thetself).</li> <li>-Demonstrative <i>them</i> or <i>them there</i> substituted for <i>these</i>, <i>those</i>.</li> <li>-Use of double/triple negatives permitted.</li> <li>-<i>Ain't</i> used as negative marker.</li> <li>-Same form for direct and indirect questions (Where it is?).</li> <li>-Use of <i>do</i> for conditional <i>if</i> (I ask did she go).</li> <li>-Endings -er and -est can be added to most adjectives (worsar, baddest).</li> <li>-<i>More</i> and <i>most</i> combined with superlative and comparative markers (most baddest).</li> <li>-Lexicon contains many differing vocabulary words and expressions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Dialects carry over syntactical forms and morphological rules from the tribal language.</li> <li>-Constructions found in other nonstandard forms of English can also be found in Native American dialects (<i>ain't</i>, uninflected forms of be, etc.).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Nonobligatory regular past tense -ed (I talk to him yesterday).</li> <li>-Nonobligatory regular present tense third person singular -s (he eat).</li> <li>-Use of <i>go</i> to instead of <i>am going to</i> (I go to dance).</li> <li>-Occasional use of <i>have</i> instead of copula <i>be</i> form (I have ten years).</li> <li>-Nonobligatory <i>do</i> insertion in questions (You like apples?).</li> <li>-No noun-verb inversion in questions; intonation used to depict question (Felipe is leaving?).</li> <li>-Post noun modifier used in place of possessive -'s (the pencil of my sister).</li> <li>-Possessive pronoun not used with body parts (I cut the finger).</li> <li>-Nonobligatory plural -s (Girl are singing).</li> <li>-Subject pronouns omitted when subject identified in previous sentence (Mother is sad. Is sick).</li> <li>-Articles often omitted (Go to store).</li> <li>-Use of <i>no</i> before verb (She no eat candy).</li> <li>-<i>No</i> used for <i>don't</i> in negative imperatives (No throw food).</li> <li>-Less frequent use of comparative -er (more pretty).</li> <li>-Word order errors such as adjectives following nouns (house white).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Data not specific to Vietnamese only. The following is data typical of Asian English: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-<i>Be</i> verbs may be omitted or improperly inflected (I going).</li> <li>-Auxiliary <i>be</i> and <i>do</i> omitted or uninflected (He not going).</li> <li>-Past -ed may be omitted (He want), over generalized (He eated), or doubly marked (He didn't saw).</li> <li>-Past participle may be unmarked (I have eat), over generalized (He has wanted), or <i>have</i> auxiliary may be omitted or uninflected (He been there, He have one).</li> <li>-Noun-verb agreement may be in error (She have).</li> <li>-Plurals may be omitted with quantifiers (two shoe) or over-generalized (four sheeps).</li> <li>-Subject-object pronoun confusion (Her here).</li> <li>-Errors of possessive marking (him book).</li> <li>-Demonstrative pronoun confusion (those horse).</li> <li>-Errors on comparatives (gooder).</li> <li>-Use of double negatives.</li> <li>-Simplified negative marker (He no want).</li> <li>-No reversal of auxiliary verb in questions (You are going?).</li> <li>-Auxiliary omitted in questions (You like baseball?).</li> <li>-Omission or misuse of prepositions (She is at room).</li> <li>-Omission of conjunctions (You I leave now).</li> <li>-Omission or overuse of articles (Go to store, go to the home).</li> <li>-Word order errors including adjectives following nouns (shoe red), possessives following nouns (hat mine), subject-verb-object order (He gave out them).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Sources: Adapted from Bartle, D.E. (1998). *Communication disorders in multicultural populations* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). Boston: Butterworth-Heinemann; Hwa-Froelich, D., Hodson, B.W., & Edward, H.T. (2002, August). Characteristics of Vietnamese phonology. *American Journal of Speech-Language Pathology*, 11, 264-473; Paul R. (1995). *Language disorders from infancy through adolescence: Assessment & intervention*. St. Louis, MO: Mosby-Year Book, Inc.; Shipley, K.G., & McAfee, J.G. (1998). *Assessment in speech-language pathology: A resource manual* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.) San Diego: Singular Publishing, Inc.