

Title:

Bedworth, Warwickshire

Shelfmark:

C1190/01/02

Recording date:

09.03.2005

Speakers:

Anita, b. 1988; female; sixth-form student (father b. India, bus driver; mother b. Derby, driving instructor)
 Shergill, Kieran, b. 1987; female; sixth-form student (father b. India, works at Dunlop; mother b. India, machinist)
 Nykita, b. 1988; female; sixth-form student (mother b. Coventry)

The interviewees are sixth-form students at Nicholas Chamberlaine School in Bedworth.

ELICITED LEXIS

- see English Dialect Dictionary (1898-1905)
- △ see New Partridge Dictionary of Slang and Unconventional English (2006)
- ◇ see Green's Dictionary of Slang (2010)
- ◆ see Urban Dictionary (online)
- △ no previous source (with this sense) identified

pleased	<i>happy</i> (“ <i>I’m well happy</i> ”); <i>pleased</i> ; <i>OK</i> ; <i>glad</i>
tired	<i>sleepy</i> ; <i>knackered</i> ; <i>shattered</i> ; <i>exhausted</i> ; <i>tired</i> ; “ <i>can’t be bothered</i> ” [△] (“ <i>slang</i> ”)
unwell	<i>poorly</i> ; <i>ill</i> ; <i>under the weather</i> (heard used); <i>unwell</i> (not used)
hot	<i>boiling</i> ; <i>roasting</i> ; <i>well hot</i> (also used to mean ‘attractive’)
cold	<i>freezing</i> ; <i>chilly</i> (used occasionally, “ <i>chilling</i> ” also means ‘relaxing’)
annoyed	<i>pissed off</i> (“ <i>don’t piss me off</i> ”); <i>peed off</i> ; <i>pissed</i> (“ <i>are you pissed at me?</i> ”); <i>mad</i> ; <i>crazy</i> ; <i>rago</i> [◆] ; “ <i>you’re on cocaine/crack</i> ” ^{△1} ; <i>next level</i> [◆] (“ <i>you’re talking next level</i> ”, “ <i>you crackhead, you’re next level</i> ”, of being angry)
throw	<i>chuck</i> (“ <i>chuck me that</i> ”); <i>throw</i>
play truant	<i>wagging</i> (“ <i>oh you’re a right wagger, you are</i> ”) <i>skive</i> ; <i>skiving</i> ; <i>truanting</i>
sleep	<i>sleep</i> ; <i>nod off</i> ; <i>nap</i> ; <i>a wink</i> (disputed, “ <i>I’m having twenty-one winks or something</i> ”, heard used); “ <i>I’m gonna go sleep</i> ”; “ <i>I’m going to bed</i> ”; <i>crash</i> , <i>doze</i> (of short sleep)
play a game	<i>play</i>
hit hard	<i>whack</i> (“ <i>I’m gonna whack you</i> ”); <i>punch it</i> ; <i>smack it</i> ; <i>batter it</i>

¹ *New Partridge Dictionary of Slang and Unconventional English* (2006) records ‘on crack’ in sense of ‘out of your mind’ but not in this sense.

clothes	<i>clothes; rags</i> (heard, considered “common”, not used); <i>glad rags</i> (used by older speakers)
trousers	<i>bottoms; trousers</i> (formal, “I like combats or jeans or three-quarter-lengths”); <i>jeans</i>
child’s shoe	<i>pumps</i> (used when younger); <i>trainers</i> (used now); <i>plimsolls</i> (used by aunt, “posh”)
mother	<i>mum; mom; mummy</i> (used in past, used now when wanting something); <i>ma</i>
gmother	<i>gran; nani, bibi</i> ² (Punjabi for paternal grandmother)
m partner	<i>boyfriend; my man</i> (heard, not used); <i>my boo</i> (learnt from Usher ³ song, not used)
friend	(not discussed)
gfather	<i>nana, baba</i> ² (Punjabi for paternal grandfather)
forgot name	<i>whatsit; thingamajiggy</i> ⁴ (used frequently); <i>what’s-his-name</i> (“you know, you know the name what’s-his-name”); <i>thingy; him over there</i> ⁴ ; <i>thingamajig</i>
kit of tools	<i>tool-box</i>
trendy	<i>chav; wannabe; tramp</i>
f partner	<i>shorty</i> ⁴ (heard used by males, thought to be used in America for ‘wife’); <i>my missus, my bitch, my girl, my gal, a bit on the side</i> ⁴ (used by males)
baby	<i>child; baby</i> (“cute”); <i>babe; babby</i> ⁴ (heard used locally by older speakers, disliked, “common”)
also supplied	<i>kaka</i> ² (“Indian”, also means ‘dolly’)
rain heavily	<i>chuck it down; chucking it; shitting it down</i> ⁴ ; <i>chuck it; chucking it down</i>
toilet	<i>toilet; bathroom; ladies; bog</i> (“I’m going to the bog”); “going toilet”, “need a wee”, “I need a number one or a number two” ⁴ (of going to toilet); “I’m going to powder my nose” (heard used by older speakers, polite), <i>powder room, “I need to go to the restroom”</i> (used in America), <i>the ladies</i> (of going to toilet in restaurant); “I’m gonna go and lighten/brighten myself up” (used euphemistically to mean ‘go and check make-up’)
walkway	<i>alley; alley-way</i>
long seat	<i>settee; sofa</i>
run water	<i>stream; ?lake</i>
main room	<i>living room; main room</i>
rain lightly	<i>spit</i> (“it’s spitting”); <i>raining; drizzle</i>
rich	<i>loaded; rich</i> (“well rich”)
left-handed	<i>left-handed; spaz</i> ⁴ (heard used of left-handed people as term of abuse)
unattractive	<i>ugly; minging</i> (used frequently in recent past); <i>ew</i> (“snobby”, used frequently on internet); <i>minger; rank</i> (disliked)
lack money	<i>skint</i> (used frequently of short-term lack of money, disliked); <i>tramp</i> ⁴ , <i>trampy</i> ⁴ (of long-term lack of money); “haven’t got no money”; “I ain’t got no money”; “I haven’t got any money”
drunk	<i>alky; pissed</i> (used frequently); <i>mashed</i> (also means “high on drugs”); <i>mashed up; piss-head</i>
pregnant	<i>pregnant; having a baby; up the duff</i> (heard frequently locally, disliked, “disgusting”)
attractive	<i>beautiful; pretty; fit</i> (“oh he’s well fit” used by females of males, not initially understood by mother); <i>phat; boom</i> ⁴ ; <i>heavy</i> ⁴ (used by males); <i>handsome</i> (used by older speakers); <i>good-looking, “he looks really nice/well nice”</i> (of males)
insane	<i>mad; crazy; hyper; loopy</i>
moody	<i>stroppey; on PMT</i> ⁴ (commonly used of females); <i>mardy; moody; pissed off</i>

² Transliteration of lexical items based on *Digital Dictionaries of South Asia* (<http://dsal.uchicago.edu/dictionaries/>).

³ American R&B singer (real name Usher Terry Raymond IV, b. 1978); ‘My Boo’ was a single in 2004.

⁴ *OED* (online edition) records ‘spaz’ as term of abuse but not in sense of ‘left-handed’.

SPONTANEOUS LEXIS

bab^o = term of endearment (1:06:15 ('duck', "you all right, duck?" ugh) 'bab' ('cause I have my grandparents live in Stoke-on-Trent so when I go to visit them and it's, like, they they used to have a shop and everyone that's, "ta, duck" "you all right, duck?") or "you all right, bab?")

bad = good, great (0:58:46 'bad' is supposed to be 'good' (yeah) and, like, 'phat' doesn't have any 'phat' and 'phat's' got nothing ("that's phat, that is") to do with someone being 'fat' (summat like 'heavy'))

be arsed = to be bothered, willing to make required effort (0:31:08 um our speech gets lazy (it does) we don't say the words fully it's, like, we'll drop out letters and stuff and, [...] like, 'can't be arsed' or (yeah) 'mother' 'mum')

Cov[♦] = common local abbreviation of Coventry (0:03:46 I don't really know anyone from Cov properly (they do though, don't they) (well they say) (well the people I talk to they talk different to the way we talk) (yeah); 0:54:57 never see me dead in one of them now (I know) can you imagine walking down Cov in your (oh God) green Kappa⁶ tracksuit)

doofus = idiot, fool (1:00:26 you have it, Kieran, you go through stages where you have, like, a word (I do, yeah) (so actually so do I my cousin does that) like last year she went through a phase where she all she used was 'doofus', "oh my God, you're such a doofus")

dorky = contemptible, socially awkward (1:00:14 "oh you're a right geek" [...] I just mean it oh she does summat really stupid like 'dorky' or summat)

duck⁷ = term of endearment (1:06:15 'duck', "you all right, duck?" ugh ('bab') 'cause I have my grandparents live in Stoke-on-Trent so when I go to visit them and it's, like, they they used to have a shop and everyone that's, "ta, duck" "you all right, duck?" (or "you all right, bab?")

dude = form of address currently popular among young speakers (0:41:44 we've got, like, skaters and stuff in ours so they're like, "oh dude", you know, "hey dude")

freshy[♦] = abbreviation of 'fresh off the boat' used to refer to recently arrived Asian immigrant (0:14:20 even when you go India and you talk in Punjabi (it's different) I mean I'm comparing to a lot of people here I can talk a lot of Punjabi which is why they call me a 'freshy'; 0:14:28 a 'freshy' that's someone that actually comes from India and they come here)

gaddar² = 'traitor' in Punjabi, used as form of address among young British Asians locally (0:22:15 a lot of people I know say 'gaddar' but I don't even say 'sat sri akal' I'm just like, "hey" or "hi" or whatever)

gal = girl (0:30:42 but even words like 'girl' they're like, "gal")

gangsta = of or relating to gangsta rap music and culture (0:03:51 (they say I don't know but some of them some) they do (they say we speak a bit more formal as well than they do) I think it's the more of the gangsta look the way they talk (yeah, yeah, yeah yeah) (in Coventry 'cause it's more of a city))

gay = foolish, lame, socially inappropriate (0:59:49 my brother says 'gay', like, on every other word (I say it, "you're gay" yeah, I say it as well) "that's gay" and it's, like ("that's so gay" oh my God, "that's so gay") I say it a lot now)

geek = overly diligent/socially inept student (1:00:14 "oh you're a right geek" [...] I just mean it oh she does summat really stupid like 'dorky' or summat)

geezer = popular form of address locally (0:04:19 'innit' is not used that much any more but it's more, like (but it's more, like, 'safe') 'safe' (and 'geezer') yeah)

gross = repulsive, disgusting (1:12:09 that's gross when you think about it it's 'spitting')

hello = expression signalling disbelief (0:35:24 he goes to me he said summat like, "yeah, you're gonna get battered" or summat it's, like, even some of the words they use like 'battered' and stuff it's not even,

⁵ Green's Dictionary of Slang (2010) records 'p.m.s' [= abbreviation of 'pre-menstrual syndrome'] in this sense.

⁶ Italian sportswear manufacturer founded in 1916 in Turin.

⁷ This utterance is consciously 'performed' in imitation of speakers from Stoke-on-Trent.

like, proper language, “you’re gonna get I’m gonna get my mans on to you” it’s like, “hello” they’re not even proper it’s not even a proper language that they’re talking; 0:40:27 (sometimes it’s really embarrassing as well because someone will say summat to you and their mates will understand it but you won’t understand) yeah, and they start laughing (and they’re laughing at you) we’re like, “hello, what you on about?” (you don’t know what they’re on about and you’ll be like, “please tell me what that word you said” and they’ll be like, “no, oh it don’t matter nothing”))

hip = fashionable trendy (0:20:40 nowadays it’s a bit more hip and it’s a bit more trendy therefore you can use it more and I think it broaden makes extends our language as well I think)

ho = sexually promiscuous woman (0:33:29 it’s, like, words like ‘slag’ and ‘ho’ and stuff I mean I get called that (and me) and it’s, like, (I don’t know why) and it’s, like, I haven’t ev..., like, if ever, you know what I mean, (yeah, yeah) I don’t have a boyfriend and they’re like, “you’re a slag” or whatever (exactly ‘cause you wear a skirt or something) yeah, and it’s so pathetic (I know))

hood = neighbourhood, area (1:21:14 they speak (yeah) from the hood and stuff like that (exactly) and street and stuff (oh God I hate that word from the ‘hood’); 1:21:28 my friend’s MSN⁸ name is ‘I’m representing and I’m the hood’ (and ‘yard’) I’m like, “yeah, what the hell does ‘hood’ mean?” (‘house’ they always say ‘house’ these days it’s my ‘yard’) I hate that word)

interpretate⁹ = to interpret (0:38:53 it is a lot different to the olden days used how they used to talk and how it’s interpreted by us)

kill^Δ = to excel at, to complete something with skill (1:21:41 if you do summat really good it’s like, “you ‘killed’ it” I’m like, “no, I didn’t ‘kill’ it”)

lock-down^Δ = in a relationship in which freedom is restricted or controlled (0:40:14 a lot of people always say it to me, yeah, “I’ve got you on lock-down” (oh right, yeah) it’s like, “I’ve got control over you you can’t do this you can’t do that”)

LOL = expression used to draw attention to humorous statement or to express amusement (0:09:32 (yeah, you’d say, “laugh out loud”) but some people just use the term ‘LOL’ and they don’t even laugh out loud)

mans[♦] = friends (0:35:24 he goes to me he said summat like, “yeah, you’re gonna get battered” or summat it’s, like, even some of the words they use like ‘battered’ and stuff it’s not even, like, proper language, “you’re gonna get I’m gonna get my mans on to you” it’s like, “hello” they’re not even proper it’s not even a proper language that they’re talking; 0:41:06 not even my sister I talked with my friend on the internet and he’s always like, “rago” and he even changed my MSN⁸ name to ‘rago’ “mans are rago” which means ‘the man is wicked’ so it’s quite weird actually the way people talk (that’s weird, yeah))

oh my days[♦] = exclamation expressing surprise or disbelief (1:21:48 (he’ll come out with stuff and I know it’s because he’s been listening to certain music or talking to certain friends and he’ll come back and say words like) words like (I’m like, “what?”) instead of ‘oh my God’ ‘oh my days’ I say that now, (I say, “oh my life”) “oh my days”)

oh my life[♦] = exclamation expressing surprise or disbelief (1:21:48 (he’ll come out with stuff and I know it’s because he’s been listening to certain music or talking to certain friends and he’ll come back and say words like) (words like) (I’m like, “what?”) (instead of ‘oh my God’ ‘oh my days’ I say that now) I say, “oh my life” (“oh my days”))

phat = great, excellent (0:58:46 ‘bad’ is supposed to be ‘good’ (yeah) and, like, ‘phat’ doesn’t have any ‘phat’ and ‘phat’s’ got nothing (“that’s phat, that is”) to do with someone being ‘fat’ (summat like ‘heavy’))

proper = really, completely (0:14:50 when you go to India and you talk in Punjabi they say that we’ve got an English accent to it (yeah) which is really weird because I try talking, like, you try talking like them and you, like, just proper pick it up)

pow pow[♦] = great, excellent (0:40:50 ‘pow pow’ means summat like ‘wicked wicked’)

⁸ Presumably MSN (Microsoft Network) Messenger, a service for sending and receiving text-based messages over the internet.

⁹ Poss. performance error.

rago[♦] = great, excellent (0:41:06 *not even my sister I talked with my friend on the internet and he's always like, "rago" and he even changed my MSN⁸ name to 'rago' "mans are rago" which means 'the man is wicked' so it's quite weird actually the way people talk (that's weird, yeah)*)

random = peculiar, unexpected (0:07:43 *they, like, add random people and it's like, "oh my God, how do you know this person?" (yeah and they're talking about this that and the other and cutting short words and stuff) yeah, and they're talking all this, yeah, weird language*)

represent[♦] = to acknowledge overtly one's home area or group affiliation (1:21:28 *my friend's MSN⁸ name is 'I'm representing and I'm the hood' (and 'yard') I'm like, "yeah, what the hell does 'hood' mean?" ('house' they always say 'house' these days it's my 'yard') I hate that word*)

right = real, utter (1:00:14 *"oh you're a right geek" [...] I just mean it oh she does summat really stupid like 'dorky' or summat; 1:14:31 some people say it, "oh you're a right wagger, you are" and it's, like, I wouldn't say it though but I do say it though*)

safe[▲] = great, excellent (0:04:19 *'innit' is not used that much any more but it's more, like (but it's more, like, 'safe') 'safe' (and 'geezzer') yeah*)

sat sri akal² = common greeting in Punjabi (0:22:15 *a lot of people I know say 'gaddar' but I don't even say 'sat sri akal' I'm just like, "hey" or "hi" or whatever*)

slag = sexually promiscuous woman (0:33:29 *it's, like, words like 'slag' and 'ho' and stuff I mean I get called that (and me) and it's, like, (I don't know why) and it's, like, I haven't ev..., like, if ever, you know what I mean, (yeah, yeah) I don't have a boyfriend and they're like, "you're a slag" or whatever (exactly 'cause you wear a skirt or something) yeah, and it's so pathetic (I know); 0:34:08 one person I know he's always like, "oh you've got loads of boyfriends you're a slag you're this"*)

summat = something (0:35:24 *he goes to me he said summat like, "yeah, you're gonna get battered" or summat it's, like, even some of the words they use like 'battered' and stuff it's not even, like, proper language, "you're gonna get I'm gonna get my mans on to you" it's like, "hello" they're not even proper it's not even a proper language that they're talking; 0:40:27 sometimes it's really embarrassing as well because someone will say summat to you and their mates will understand (yeah, and they start laughing) and they're laughing at you (we're like, "hello, what you on about?") you don't know what they're on about and you'll be like, "please tell me what that word you said" and they'll be like, "no, oh it don't matter nothing"; 0:40:50 'pow pow' means summat like 'wicked wicked'; 0:56:37 like when you're angry or summat they're like, "you're talking next level" (yeah) or "you're on cocaine or summat you crackhead" (yeah, stupid stuff, yeah) stuff like that that's, like, proper towny people (yeah, "what?"); 1:00:14 "oh you're a right geek" [...] I just mean it oh she does summat really stupid like 'dorky' or summat; 1:10:45 sometimes people say, "I'm gonna go and lighten myself up" or summat, "I'm" as in, "I'm gonna put go and put make-up on" I think they do anyway [...] 'brighten' or 'lighten' one or the other; 1:10:56 they do actually (so they do, yeah) some people do say that 'cause they wanna go and put make-up on or summat 'cause they're embarrassed to say, "I wanna go to the toilet" (yeah); 1:21:41 if you do summat really good it's like, "you 'killed' it" I'm like, "no, I didn't 'kill' it")*)

take the mickey = to make fun of, poke fun at (0:26:14 *but I'm not really embarrassed it's, like, I went Southampton everyone's, like, really, 'cause I think there's more English people there and they go to, like, all boys and girls school and my cousins like, "if I spoke like that at school everyone would really, like, take" (the mickey) yeah*)

ta = thank you (1:06:15 *'duck', "you all right, duck?" ugh ('bab') 'cause I have my grandparents live in Stoke-on-Trent so when I go to visit them and it's, like, they they used to have a shop and everyone that's, "ta, duck" "you all right, duck?" (or "you all right, bab?")*)

TB[♦] = abbreviation for 'text back' (0:07:53 *well actually when I'm on the internet (yeah, I never write) I use, like, really slang terms, (yeah) like, really weird like ('cause it's easier to write, isn't it?) when you say 'text back' you don't write the whole thing (yeah) you just write 'TB' or something (yeah, yeah)*)

towny = derogatory term for town-dweller (0:56:37 *like when you're angry or summat they're like, "you're talking next level" (yeah) or "you're on cocaine or summat you crackhead" (yeah, stupid stuff, yeah) stuff like that that's, like, proper towny people (yeah, "what?")*)

well = very, really (0:52:57 *no, you're not 'boiling' and you're not 'freezing' but you just say, "oh I'm well hot" or "I'm boiling", like over exaggerating a little bit*; 0:55:41 (*"I'm happy with that"*) (*"I'm pleased"*) *I normally say 'well' at the beginning of it, "I'm well happy"*; 1:01:41 (*yeah, 'loaded'*) (*I'd say 'rich'*) *yeah, "you're well rich"* (*yeah, 'well rich'*); 1:05:59 *I just say, "oh he looks really nice he looks well nice"* (*I just say, "he's really good-looking"*) *yeah, but there ain't many good-looking ones*; 1:18:16 *my mum, like, 'cause she teaches young people to drive she'll say some she said to me the other day, "oh, I'm well vexed" and it means angry*)

wicked = cool, great (0:40:50 *'pow pow' means summat like 'wicked wicked'*; 0:41:06 *not even my sister I talked with my friend on the internet and he's always like, "rago" and he even changed my MSN⁸ name to 'rago' "mans are rago" which means 'the man is wicked' so it's quite weird actually the way people talk (that's weird, yeah)*)

vexed = angry (1:18:16 *my mum, like, 'cause she teaches young people to drive she'll say some she said to me the other day, "oh, I'm well vexed" and it means angry*)

yard = house, home (1:21:28 (*my friend's MSN⁸ name is 'I'm representing and I'm the hood'*) and *'yard' I'm like, "yeah, what the hell does 'hood' mean?"*) *'house' they always say 'house' these days it's my 'yard' (I hate that word)*)

PHONOLOGY

KIT [ɪ]

(0:14:50 *when you go to India [ɪndiə] and you talk in Punjabi they say that we've got an English [ɪŋɡlɪʃ] accent to it (yeah) which is really weird because I try talking, like, you try talking like them and you, like, just proper pick [pɪk] it up*; 0:22:59 *my sister [sɪstə] didn't [dɪnʔ] ta... use to talk Punjabi at all and it used to be quite funny actually and now she's just been to India [ɪndiə] and she's listening [lɪsɪnɪŋ] obviously to Indian [ɪndiən] music [mu:zɪk] and she actually talks it (yeah) 'cause she sings [sɪŋɡz] it and if [ɪf] you sing [sɪŋɡ] it (yeah, you pick [pɪk] it up) I think [fɪŋk] it, yeah, you pick [pɪk] it up more when you sing [sɪŋɡ] it (yeah) it depends [dɪpɛnz] what kind of learner you are really*; 0:32:05 *if you said a swear-word when you were little [lɪtʃ] you were you did [dɪd] actually mean it in a vicious [vɪʃəs] way but I don't think [θɪŋk] it's vicious [vɪʃəs] any more I think [θɪŋk] it's just our part of our dialect (it depends [dɪpɛndz] how you say it I think [fɪŋk])*)

<-em, ex> (0:40:27 *sometimes it's really embarrassing [ɪmbaɪəsɪŋ] as well because someone will say summat to you and their mates will understand (yeah, and they start laughing) and they're laughing at you (we're like, "hello, what you on about?") you don't know what they're on about and you'll be like, "please tell me what that word you said" and they'll be like, "no, oh it don't matter nothing"*; 0:51:58 (*'knackered'*) (*'knackered', yeah, people are 'knackered'*) (*'shattered'*) (*'exhausted' [ɪgzɔ:stɪd] ('tired' I use) ('shattered', yeah, I use all them words) there's loads of words, yeah ('can't be bothered')*; 1:10:56 *they do actually (so they do, yeah) some people do say that 'cause they want to go and put make-up on or summat 'cause they're embarrassed [ɪmbaɪəst] to say, "I want to go to the toilet" (yeah)*; 1:24:58 *everyone goes through it (when we go to university we'll speak we will speak better I know that) I'll sp... want to speak well for my children and show them a good example [ɪgzampʊ]*)

DRESS [ɛ]

(0:00:19 *I was born in Coventry and then [ðɛn] I moved to Burton on Trent [bɜ:ʔn ɒn tɪɛnʔ] because my parents bought a fish and chip shop um and then [ðɛn] I've moved back to Bedworth [bɛdwɜ:θ] and that's where I've lived ever [ɛvə] since*; 0:06:42 *when [wɛn] I was little I used to talk all cute and, you know, never [nɛvə] used to say anything [ɛnɪfɪŋ] out of touch or anything [ɛnɪfɪŋ]*; 0:31:08 *um our speech gets*

[gɛʔs] lazy (it does) we don't say the words fully it's, like, we'll drop out letters [lɛʔəz] and stuff and, [...] like, 'can't be arsed' or (yeah) 'mother' 'mum')

tell, well (0:01:48 yeah, they do ask but you can normally tell [tæʊ] from the way someone speaks like if you go to Birmingham you know with the accent where they're from but people have to ask me and my cousin 'cause we she comes from Leamington where we're from 'cause they can't really tell [tæʊ] by the way we speak; 0:13:29 well [wæʔ] yeah, my other grandparents are dead but my grandad my dad's dad was born here or he had he came over when he was really young; 0:52:57 no, you're not 'boiling' and you're not 'freezing' but you just say, "oh I'm well [wæʔ] hot" or "I'm boiling", like over exaggerating a little bit; 0:55:41 ("I'm happy with that") ("I'm pleased") I normally say 'well' [wæʔ] at the beginning of it, "I'm well [wæʔ] happy"; 1:01:41 (yeah, 'loaded') (I'd say 'rich') yeah, "you're well [wæʔ] rich" (yeah, 'well [wæʔ] rich'); 1:05:59 I just say, "oh he looks really nice he looks well [wæʔ] nice" (I just say, "he's really good-looking") yeah, but there ain't many good-looking ones; 1:24:58 everyone goes through it (when we go to university we'll speak we will speak better I know that) I'll sp... want to speak well [wæʊ] for my children and show them a good example)

TRAP~BATH [a]

(0:01:48 yeah, they do ask [ask] but you can normally tell from the way someone speaks like if you go to Birmingham you know with the accent [aksənʔ] where they're from but people have to ask [ask] me and my cousin 'cause we she comes from Leamington where we're from 'cause they can't really tell by the way we speak; 0:07:43 they, like, add [ad] random [ɹandəm] people and it's like, "oh my God, how do you know this person?" (yeah and they're talking about this that and the other and cutting short words and stuff) yeah, and they're talking all this, yeah, weird language [laŋgwɪdʒ]; 0:11:51 but it's, like, sometimes we laugh [laf] at him but we shouldn't really because it's it's just funny the accents [aksənts] are just sometimes really funny; 0:25:39 Pakistan [pakɪstən] is (next) kind of (yeah) on the border of India, isn't it, yeah)

LOT~CLOTH [ɒ]

(0:00:19 I was born in Coventry [kɒvəntɪi:] and then I moved to Burton on Trent [bɜ:ʔŋ ɒn tɪɛnʔ] because my parents bought a fish and chip shop [ʃɒp] um and then I've moved back to Bedworth and that's where I've lived ever since; 0:05:32 but if you hear someone shouting at you across [əkɹɒs] a street then you're obviously [ɒbvɪəsli] you're going to be like, (get really offended) "get lost" [lɒst]; 0:15:55 (it's like it's like they're shouting) I mean if we stayed in India for longer [lɒŋgə] (we'd pick up) we would pick up on it (yeah) it's, like, when I went India in August I actually picked up on [ɒn] quite a lot [lɒʔ] of things (yeah) but we've still got [gɒʔ] an English accent no matter what [wɒʔ])

STRUT [ə > ʊ]

(0:02:16 yeah, there's a lot 'cause my cousin [kəzən] lives in Wolverhampton and they use a lot of different, like, um words to us [əs] and it's quite hard to understand [ʊndəstænd] but I think it's because of the, like, African Caribbean culture as [kʊʔtʃə əz] well there that they all use different words; 0:13:29 well, yeah, my other [əðə] grandparents are dead but my grandad my dad's dad was born here or he had he came over when he was really young [jʊŋ]; 0:31:08 um our speech gets lazy (it does) we don't say the words fully it's, like, we'll drop out letters and stuff [stʊf] and, [...] like, 'can't be arsed' or (yeah) 'mother' [mɒðə] 'mum' [mʊm]; 0:32:24 yeah, we get told off a lot for it if my mum [mʊm] does notice she'll tell us [ʊz] off for it 'cause I've got a younger [jʊŋgə] brother [brʌðə] and also she's, "if you want to speak like that you don't you can speak like that with your friends but you don't speak like that in this house")

ONE (0:05:32 *but if you hear someone [səmwɒn] shouting at you across a street then you're obviously you're going to be like, (get really offended) "get lost"; 0:32:17 that's once [wʊns] or twice; 0:47:34 but then there's nothing [nʊθɪŋk] wrong with cheap stuff if you can get it cheaper why not get it cheaper (no, but it's the way they wear it) (yeah, but there's a limit, innit, to how much gold you wear); 0:58:46 'bad' is supposed to be 'good' (yeah) and, like, 'phat' doesn't have any 'phat' and 'phat's' got nothing [nʊθɪŋ] ("that's phat, that is") to do with someone being 'fat' (summat like 'heavy'); 1:09:47 sometimes you just come out with anything (yeah) you're just like, "going toilet" or whatever ("need a wee") yeah, that's it that's the one [wɒn]*)

FOOT [ʊ > ɒ]

(0:11:51 *but it's, like, sometimes we laugh at him but we shouldn't [ʃʊdən?] really because it's it's just funny the accents are just sometimes really funny; 1:05:59 I just say, "oh he looks [lʊks] really nice he looks [lʊks] well nice" (I just say, "he's really good-looking" [gʊdlʊkɪŋ]) yeah, but there ain't many good-looking [gʊdlʊkɪŋ] ones)*)

NURSE [ə:]

(0:00:19 *I was born in Coventry and then I moved to Burton on Trent [bɜː?ŋ ɒn tɪɛn?] because my parents bought a fish and chip shop um and then I've moved back to Bedworth [bedwɜːθ] and that's where I've lived ever since; 0:04:39 well there's, like, words [wɜːdz] you know, like, different words [wɜːdz] for, like, she's my 'girlfriend' [gɜːtʃɛnd] (she's my 'shorty'))*

girl (0:26:14 *but I'm not really embarrassed it's, like, I went Southampton everyone's, like, really, 'cause I think there's more English people there and they go to, like, all boys and girls [gʲəʊz] school and my cousins like, "if I spoke like that at school everyone would really, like, take" (the mickey) yeah; 0:30:42 but even words like 'girl' [gɜːtʃ] they're like, "girl" [gɜːtʃ]*)

FLEECE [i:]

(0:01:28 *Standard English I don't really know if I've got an accent other people [pi:pʃ] from other areas might think people [pi:pʃ] from Bedworth have an accent but I don't think we have not a broad accent, no; 0:31:08 um our speech [spi:tʃ] gets lazy (it does) we don't say the words fully it's, like, we'll drop out letters and stuff and, [...] like, 'can't be arsed' or (yeah) 'mother' 'mum')*

FACE [ɛɪ]

(0:00:47 *um I was born in Coventry in Walsgrave Hospital [wɔːtʃgɹɛɪv hɒspɪtʃ] and I've always [ɔːtʃweɪz] lived in the same [seɪm] place [pleɪs] and I've never really moved away [əweɪ] that's it; 0:01:17 mum and dad moved to Exhall and then about a year later [lɛɪʔa] they had me so I've lived here all my life; 0:31:08 um our speech gets lazy [lɛɪzi] (it does) we don't say [seɪ] the words fully it's, like, we'll drop out letters and stuff and, [...] like, 'can't be arsed' or (yeah) 'mother' 'mum')*

ain't (0:20:23 *I mean my parents ain't [ɛɪn?] very reli... religious but they do like us talking in Punjabi; 0:22:50 but like you said before (street life) they're influenced by the, like, um music as well, like (yeah) they really are influenced though, ain't [ɪn?] they? (definitely); 0:25:03 everyone's allowed their choice why ain't [ɛɪn?] we allowed our choice; 0:26:03 Southampton there ain't [ɛɪn?] many Asian peop... my cousins live in Southampton and they're really, like, they're really, like, really posh comparing to me; 0:57:34 ("you're on crack" I hate it when people say that) ("you're chatting" it's they'll be like, "you're chatting shit" like that) when you're ain't [ɛɪn?] that when you're 'mad'?; 1:02:36 (I've really) (I've just got so used to saying it now) actually I don't usually say 'skint' either I just say, "I ain't [ɛɪn?] got no money" (I don't like it at all); 1:02:52 (what do you say then, Anita?) um "haven't got no money" if you're say... if you're poor, "I haven't got any money" (or, "I ain't [ɛɪn?] got no money") yeah, "I ain't [ɛɪn?] got no money"; 1:05:59 I just*

say, “oh he looks really nice he looks well nice” (I just say, “he’s really good-looking”) yeah, but there ain’t [ɛɪnʔ] many good-looking ones)

PALM~START [ɑ:]

(0:01:01 it’s all right ’cause we’re used to it (yeah) but otherwise I’d rather [ɹɑ:ðə] move away from here (yeah, not the best place where we live); 0:02:16 yeah, there’s a lot ’cause my cousin lives in Wolverhampton and they use a lot of different, like, um words to us and it’s quite hard [hɑ:d] to understand but I think it’s because of the, like, African Caribbean culture as well there that they all use different words; 0:02:32 I won’t even understand what she’s going on about half [hɑ:f] the time; 0:08:31 you only start [stɑ:ʔ] off writing it because it’s easier to write but you start [stɑ:ʔ] talking like it as well (you start [stɑ:ʔ] getting into that cycle) yeah (where you’re not talking normal any more) yeah (well what’s seen as normal); 0:31:08 um our speech gets lazy (it does) we don’t say the words fully it’s, like, we’ll drop out letters and stuff and, [...] like, ‘can’t [kɑ:nʔ] be arsed’ [ɑ:st] or (yeah) ‘mother’ ‘mum’; 0:46:01 (I don’t know maybe they were words ages ago from civilisation) yeah, even, like, for ‘auntie’ [ɑ:nti] and ‘uncle’)

THOUGHT~NORTH~FORCE [ɔ:]

(0:00:19 I was born [bɔ:n] in Coventry and then I moved to Burton on Trent because my parents bought [bɔ:ʔ] a fish and chip shop um and then I’ve moved back to Bedworth and that’s where I’ve lived ever since; 0:08:31 (you only start off writing it because it’s easier to write but you start talking [tɔ:kɪn] like it as well) you start getting into that cycle (yeah) where you’re not talking [tɔ:kɪn] normal [nɔ:mʊ] any more (yeah) well what’s seen as normal [nɔ:mʊ]; 0:14:20 even when you go India and you talk [tɔ:k] in Punjabi (it’s different) I mean I’m comparing to a lot of people here I can talk [tɔ:k] a lot of Punjabi which is why they call [kɔ:t] me a ‘freshy’)

GOAT [əʊ]

(0:01:28 Standard English I don’t [dəʊnʔ] really know [nəʊ] if I’ve got an accent other people from other areas might think people from Bedworth have an accent but I don’t [dəʊnʔ] think we have not a broad accent, no [nəʊ]; 0:34:08 one person I know [nəʊ] he’s always like, “oh [əʊ] you’ve got loads [lɔʊdz] of boyfriends you’re a slag you’re this”; 0:43:37 we’re on the phone [fəʊn] to summat and it’s like, (“put the phone [fəʊn] down”) they just accuse you (yeah, yeah) or that you’re on the phone [fəʊn] to a boy just so [səʊ] controlling (yeah) and it’s just society now and it shouldn’t be like that)

don’t know (0:02:52 I don’t know [dənəʊ] it depends (yeah) where you’re brought up really (yeah) and who you hang around with (yeah); 0:46:01 I don’t know [dənəʊ] maybe they were words ages ago from civilisation (yeah, even, like, for ‘auntie’ and ‘uncle’); 0:55:23 (I find it really I fi... ‘chilly’s’ one of them words) not rea... (that it can mean ‘hot’ and ‘cold’) ‘chilly’ I don’t know [dənəʊ] (“bit chilly in here”) but it sounds like ‘chilling’, don’t it, when you’re relaxing)

going to (0:05:32 but if you hear someone shouting at you across a street then you’re obviously you’re going to [gənə] be like, (get really offended) “get lost”; 0:35:24 he goes to me he said summat like, “yeah, you’re going to [gənə] get battered” or summat it’s, like, even some of the words they use like ‘battered’ and stuff it’s not even, like, proper language, “you’re going to [gənə] get I’m going to [amənə] get my mans on to you” it’s like, “hello” they’re not even proper it’s not even a proper language that they’re talking; 1:10:45 sometimes people say, “I’m going to [gənə] go and lighten myself up” or summat, “I’m” as in, “I’m going to [gənə] put go and put make-up on” I think they do anyway [...] ‘brighten’ or ‘lighten’ one or the other; 1:13:31 even if I’m not going to [gənə] go sleep I just say, “I’m going to bed” (yeah); 1:15:21 “I’m going to [gənə] whack” you I’d say to someone or (“I’m going to [gənə] chuck it” as in ‘hit it hard’ ‘chuck

it'); 1:20:22 *our kids we're going to [gənə] say they speak lazy (yeah) (yeah) and it's not lazy it's just changing (yeah) I think*

GOAL [ɔ:]

(0:43:37 *we're on the phone to summat and it's like, ("put the phone down") they just accuse you (yeah, yeah) or that you're on the phone to a boy just so controlling [kəntɔ:ntɔ:n]* (yeah) and it's just society now and it shouldn't be like that; 1:16:41 *I think old [ɔ:tɔd] people (just use) older [ɔ:tɔda] people they don't their language is different because we've developed new language and they don't really find it easy (that's then again 'cause of the generations) to adapt*)

GOOSE [u:]

(0:00:19 *I was born in Coventry and then I moved [mu:vɔd] to Burton on Trent because my parents bought a fish and chip shop um and then I've moved [mu:vɔd] back to Bedworth and that's where I've lived ever since; 0:06:42 when I was little I used [ju:st] to talk all cute [kju:ʔ] and, you know, never used [ju:st] to say anything out of touch or anything; 1:09:32 it's weird 'cause I say it at school [sku:t] sometimes, "I'm going to the bathroom" [baθu:m] and they're like, "it's not a 'bathroom'" [baθu:m] (it's actually a 'toilet') "it's a 'toilet'"*)

PRICE [ɔ:]

(0:01:17 *mum and dad moved to Exhall and then about a year later they had me so I've lived here all my life [ɔ:f]*; 0:08:31 *you only start off writing [ɔ:ɔ:n] it because it's easier to write [ɔ:ɔ:] but you start talking like [ɔ:k] it as well (you start getting into that cycle [ɔ:kɔ]) yeah (where you're not talking normal any more) yeah (well what's seen as normal); 0:47:42 it's the way they wear it as well (yeah make-up and) like [ɔ:k] they wear things ten sizes [ɔ:kɔz] too small for them; 1:10:45 sometimes people say, "I'm going to go and lighten [bɔ:kɔn] myself up" or summat, "I'm" as in, "I'm going to put go and put make-up on" I think they do anyway [...] brighten [bɔ:kɔn] or lighten [ɔ:kɔn] one or the other*)

my (0:00:19 *I was born in Coventry and then I moved to Burton on Trent because my [mə] parents bought a fish and chip shop um and then I've moved back to Bedworth and that's where I've lived ever since; 0:01:17 mum and dad moved to Exhall and then about a year later they had me so I've lived here all my [mə] life; 0:13:29 well, yeah, my other grandparents are dead but my [mə] grandad my [mə] dad's dad was born here or he had he came over when he was really young; 0:20:23 I mean my [mə] parents ain't very reli... religious but they do like us talking in Punjabi*)
tired (0:51:58 *'knackered' ('knackered', yeah, people are 'knackered') 'shattered' ('exhausted') 'tired' [tɔ:əd] I use ('shattered', yeah, I use all them words) (there's loads of words, yeah) 'can't be bothered'*)

vile (0:46:37 *'babby' just sounds, like, oh my God really vile [vɔ:ɪt]*)

CHOICE [ɔ:]

(0:25:03 *everyone's allowed their choice [tʃɔ:ɪs] why ain't we allowed our choice [tʃɔ:ɪs]; 0:34:08 one person I know he's always like, "oh you've got loads of boyfriends [bɔ:kɪfɛndz] you're a slag you're this"*)

MOUTH [aʊ]

(0:05:32 *but if you hear someone shouting [ʃaʊtɪŋ] at you across a street then you're obviously you're going to be like, (get really offended) "get lost"; 0:09:32 (yeah, you'd say, "laugh out [aʊʔ] loud [laʊd]"*) but some people just use the term 'LOL' and they don't even laugh out [aʊʔ] loud [laʊd]; 0:32:24 *yeah, we get told off a lot for it if my mum does notice she'll tell us off for it 'cause I've got a younger brother and also she's, "if you want to speak like that you don't you can speak like that with your friends but you don't speak like that in this house" [haʊs]*)

down, town¹⁰ (0:03:31 (any example of Bedworth slang?) ‘down town’ [da:n ta:n] or is it ‘up town’, [ta:n] “get up town” [ta:n])

our, shower (0:20:40 nowadays it’s a bit more hip and it’s a bit more trendy therefore you can use it more and I think it broaden makes extends our [ɑ:] language as well I think; 0:25:03 everyone’s allowed their choice why ain’t we allowed our [aʊə] choice; 0:30:04 (they drop their aitches) yeah (as well a lot and it’s like) that Yorkshire accent (yeah, it’s I don’t like it) it’s totally different to our accent [ɑ:ɪ aksən?] ’cause my auntie talks really weird it’s really posh comparing to ours [ɑ:z]; 0:31:08 um our [ɑ:] speech gets lazy (it does) we don’t say the words fully it’s, like, we’ll drop out letters and stuff and, [...] like, ‘can’t be arsed’ or (yeah) ‘mother’ ‘mum’ or use an example; 0:32:05 if you said a swear-word when you were little you were you did actually mean it in a vicious way but I don’t think it’s vicious any more I think it’s just our [ɑ:] part of our [ɑ:] dialect (it depends how you say it I think); 1:17:19 still they’ll say, like, if you’re having a shower or [ʃaʊə ɔ:] something they’ll say, “I’m having a bath” even though you’re not having a bath you’re having a shower [ʃaʊə] (yeah, you’re having a shower [ʃaʊə]); 1:20:22 our [ɑ:] kids we’re going to say they speak lazy (yeah) (yeah) and it’s not lazy it’s just changing (yeah) I think)

NEAR [ɪ ~ ɪə > ɪə]

(0:01:01 it’s all right ’cause we’re [wɪ:] used to it (yeah) but otherwise I’d rather move away from here [hɪə] (yeah, not the best place where we live); 0:05:32 but if you hear [hɪ:] someone shouting at you across a street then you’re obviously you’re going to be like, (get really offended) “get lost”; 0:13:29 well, yeah, my other grandparents are dead but my grandad my dad’s dad was born here [hɪə] or he had he came over when he was really young; 0:14:50 when you go to India and you talk in Punjabi they say that we’ve got an English accent to it (yeah) which is really [ɪ:li] weird [wɪəd] because I try talking, like, you try talking like them and you, like, just proper pick it up)

SQUARE [ɛ:]

(0:00:19 I was born in Coventry and then I moved to Burton on Trent because my parents [pɛ:ɪənts] bought a fish and chip shop um and then I’ve moved back to Bedworth and that’s where I’ve [wɛ:ɪ əv] lived ever since; 0:01:28 Standard English I don’t really know if I’ve got an accent other people from other areas [ɛ:ɪəz] might think people from Bedworth have an accent but I don’t think we have not a broad accent, no; 0:32:35 I think it’s just an age thing I think I will when I get to my parents [pɛ:ɪənts] I think I won’t swear either [swɛ:ɪ ɪ:ðə] because it’s just it just doesn’t sound right)

CURE [ɔ:]

(0:52:23 (um OK how about ‘unwell’?) ‘poorly’ [pɔ:li] (‘poorly’ [pɔ:li]) (‘ill’ I say) (‘poorly’ [pɔ:li] ‘ill’) ‘under the weather’; 1:02:52 (what do you say then, Anita?) um “haven’t got no money” if you’re say... if you’re poor, [pɔ:] “I haven’t got any money” (or, “I ain’t got no money”) yeah, “I ain’t got no money”)

happy [i(:)]

(0:00:19 I was born in Coventry [kɒvəntɪ:] and then I moved to Burton on Trent because my parents bought a fish and chip shop um and then I’ve moved back to Bedworth and that’s where I’ve lived ever since; 0:22:59 my sister didn’t ta... use to talk Punjabi [pəndʒɑ:bi] at all and it used to be quite funny [fəni] actually [aktʃəli] and now she’s just been to India and she’s listening obviously to Indian music and she actually talks it (yeah) ’cause she sings it and if you sing it (yeah, you pick it up) I think it, yeah, you pick it up more when you sing it (yeah) it depends what kind of learner you are really [ɪ:li]; 0:30:04 (they drop their aitches) yeah (as well a lot and it’s like) that Yorkshire accent (yeah, it’s I don’t like it) it’s totally [təʊʔəli] different to our accent ’cause my auntie [ɑ:nti] talks really [ɪ:li] weird it’s really [ɪ:li] posh comparing to ours)

¹⁰ This pronunciation is consciously ‘performed’ in imitation of speakers from Bedworth.

letter [ə > a > ɐ]

(0:01:01 *it's all right 'cause we're used to it but otherwise* [əðəwɔɪz] *I'd rather* [ɪɑːðə] *move away from here (yeah, not the best place where we live)*; 0:06:42 *when I was little I used to talk all cute and, you know, never* [nevə] *used to say anything out of touch or anything*; 0:14:28 *a 'freshy' that's someone that actually comes from India and they come here* [hɪɑ]; 0:41:06 *not even my sister* [sɪstə] *I talked with my friend on the internet and he's always like, "rago" and he even changed my MSN⁸ name to 'rago' "mans are rago" which means 'the man is wicked' so it's quite weird actually the way people talk (that's weird, yeah)*; 0:52:23 *(um OK how about 'unwell'?) 'poorly' ('poorly') ('ill' I say) ('poorly' 'ill') 'under* [ændə] *the weather'* [wɛðɐ]; 1:11:56 *look, it says 'smaller* [smlɔːə] *than a river'* [ɪvɑ] *(oh OK) is that a 'lake' how about the 'ocean'?)*

<-shire> (0:28:55 *my um uncle he comes from Derbyshire* [dɑːbɪʃɪɑ] *but he lives in Sheffield now and he says we sound like farmers*; 0:30:04 *(they drop their aitches) yeah (as well a lot and it's like) that Yorkshire accent* [jɔːkʃə ɔksən?] *(yeah, it's I don't like it) it's totally different to our accent 'cause my auntie talks really weird it's really posh comparing to ours)*

comma [ə > a]

(0:01:28 *Standard English I don't really know if I've got an accent other people from other areas* [ɛːɪəz] *might think people from Bedworth have an accent but I don't think we have not a broad accent, no*; 0:14:28 *a 'freshy' that's someone that actually comes from India and* [ɪndiə ən] *they come here*; 0:15:55 *(it's like it's like they're shouting) I mean if we stayed in India* [ɪndiə] *for longer (we'd pick up) we would pick up on it (yeah) it's, like, when I went India* [ɪndiə] *in August I actually picked up on quite a lot of things ((yeah) but we've still got an English accent no matter what)*

horseS [ɪ]

(0:18:31 *OK fair enough they do assume that but at the end of the day there's other people out there that talk (I think there's) different languages* [lɑŋɡwɪdʒɪz]; 0:46:01 *I don't know maybe they were words ages* [ɛɪdʒɪz] *ago from civilisation (yeah, even, like, for 'auntie' and 'uncle')*; 1:00:26 *you have it, Kieran, you go through stages* [steɪdʒɪz] *where you have, like, a word (I do, yeah) (so actually so do I my cousin does that) like last year she went through a phase where she all she used was 'doofus', "oh my God, you're such a doofus")*

startED [ɪ]

(0:51:58 ('knackered') ('knackered', yeah, people are 'knackered') ('shattered') 'exhausted' [ɪgzɔːstɪd] ('tired' I use) ('shattered', yeah, I use all them words) *there's loads of words, yeah ('can't be bothered')*; 1:05:43 ("he's handsome") *that's what old people say (it's like, yeah) it's like I hear old people, "oh my grandson's so handsome" and it's like, "oh my God you can't use that any more" because you've just tainted* [teɪntɪd] *it)*

mornING [ɪ]

(0:06:42 *when I was little I used to talk all cute and, you know, never used to say anything* [ɛnɪfɪn] *out of touch or anything* [ɛnɪfɪn]; 0:43:37 *we're on the phone to summat and it's like, ("put the phone down") they just accuse you (yeah, yeah) or that you're on the phone to a boy just so controlling* [kəntɹɔʊlɪŋ] *(yeah) and it's just society now and it shouldn't be like that*; 1:05:59 *I just say, "oh he looks really nice he looks well nice" (I just say, "he's really good-looking" [gɒdlʊkɪŋ]) yeah, but there ain't many good-looking* [gʊdlʊkɪŋ] *ones)*

ZERO RHOTICITY**PLOSIVES**

T

frequent word final T-glottaling (e.g. 0:00:19 *I was born in Coventry and then I moved to Burton on Trent* [bæ:ʔŋ ʊn tɪɛnʔ] *because my parents bought a fish and chip shop um and then I've moved back to Bedworth and that's where I've lived ever since*; 0:01:28 *Standard English I don't* [dəʊnʔ] *really know if I've got* [gʊʔ] *an accent* [aksənʔ] *other people from other areas might* [mɔɪʔ] *think people from Bedworth have an accent but I don't* [dəʊnʔ] *think we have not* [nʊʔ] *a broad accent,* [aksənʔ] *no*; 0:06:42 *when I was little* [lɪʔʊ] *I used to talk all cute* [kju:ʔ] *and, you know, never used to say anything out* [aʊʔ] *of touch or anything*; 0:08:31 *you only start* [stɑ:ʔ] *off writing it* [ɪʔ] *because it's easier to write* [ɹɔɪʔ] *but you start talking like it* [ɪʔ] *as well (you start* [stɑ:ʔ] *getting into that* [ðɑʔ] *cycle) yeah (where you're not* [nʊʔ] *talking normal any more) yeah (well what's seen as normal)*; 0:22:59 *my sister didn't* [dɪnʔ] *ta... use to talk Punjabi at* [əʔ] *all and it* [ɪʔ] *used to be quite* [kwɔɪʔ] *funny actually and now she's just been to India and she's listening obviously to Indian music and she actually talks it* [ɪʔ] *(yeah) 'cause she sings it and if you sing it* [ɪʔ] *(yeah, you pick it* [ɪʔ] *up) I think it,* [ɪʔ] *yeah, you pick it* [ɪʔ] *up more when you sing it* [ɪʔ] *(yeah) it* [ɪʔ] *depends what* [wʊʔ] *kind of learner you are really)*

frequent word medial and syllable initial T-glottaling (e.g. 0:00:19 *I was born in Coventry and then I moved to Burton on Trent* [bæ:ʔŋ ʊn tɪɛnʔ] *because my parents bought a fish and chip shop um and then I've moved back to Bedworth and that's where I've lived ever since*; 0:00:47 *um I was born in Coventry in Walsgrave Hospital* [wɔ:ʔzɡɹɛɪv hɔspɪʔt] *and I've always lived in the same place and I've never really moved away that's it*; 0:01:17 *mum and dad moved to Exhall and then about a year later* [ɪɪʔɑ] *they had me so I've lived here all my life*; 0:04:39 *well there's, like, words you know, like, different words for, like, she's my 'girlfriend' (she's my 'shorty')* [ʃɔ:ʔi]; 0:05:32 *but if you hear someone shouting* [ʃaʊʔɪn] *at you across a street then you're obviously you're going to be like, (get really offended) "get lost"*; 0:08:31 *(you only start off writing it because it's easier to write but you start talking like it as well) you start getting* [gɛʔɪn] *into that cycle (yeah) where you're not talking normal any more (yeah) well what's seen as normal*; 0:31:08 *um our speech gets lazy (it does) we don't say the words fully it's, like, we'll drop out letters* [ɪɛʔəz] *and stuff and, [...] like, 'can't be arsed' or (yeah) 'mother' 'mum'*; 0:33:29 *it's, like, words like 'slag' and 'ho' and stuff I mean I get called that (and me) and it's, like, (I don't know why) and it's, like, I haven't ev..., like, if ever, you know what I mean, (yeah, yeah) I don't have a boyfriend and they're like, "you're a slag" or whatever* [wʊʔɛvə] *(exactly 'cause you wear a skirt or something) yeah, and it's so pathetic* [pəθɛʔɪk] *(I know)*; 0:50:44 *but it depends what trousers you're on about (I'd say 'jeans') there's 'jeans' there's 'bottoms'* [bʊʔʊmz] *I'd say 'bottoms'* [bʊʔʊmz]; 0:51:58 *'knackered' ('knackered', yeah, people are 'knackered') 'shattered'* [ʃɑʔəd] *('exhausted') 'tired' I use ('shattered', yeah, I use all them words) (there's loads of words, yeah) 'can't be bothered')*

T-voicing (0:03:31 *(any example of Bedworth slang?) 'down town' or is it 'up town', "get* [gɛd] *up town"*; 0:36:46 *London, yeah, she didn't use to be like that and now she's really snobby I'd say and posh and stuff whereas we're just like, "yeah, whatever"* [wʊʔɛvə] *and she's like, "don't talk to me like that" and we're like, "yeah, whatever* [wʊdɛvə] *we don't care"*; 0:47:34 *but then there's nothing wrong with cheap stuff if you can get* [gɛd] *it cheaper why not get* [gɛd] *it cheaper (no, but it's the way they wear it) (yeah, but there's a limit, innit, to how much gold you wear))*

G

palatalisation of G (0:26:14 *but I'm not really embarrassed it's, like, I went Southampton everyone's, like, really, 'cause I think there's more English people there and they go to, like, all boys and girls* [gʰəʊz] *school and my cousins like, "if I spoke like that at school everyone would really, like, take" (the mickey) yeah)*

NASALS

NG

frequent velar nasal plus (e.g. 0:01:48 *yeah, they do ask but you can normally tell from the way someone speaks like if you go to Birmingham [bə:mɪŋgəm] you know with the accent where they're from but people have to ask me and my cousin 'cause we she comes from Leamington where we're from 'cause they can't really tell by the way we speak*; 0:02:52 *I don't know it depends (yeah) where you're brought up really (yeah) and who you hang [hɑŋg] around with (yeah)*; 0:22:59 *my sister didn't ta... use to talk Punjabi at all and it used to be quite funny actually and now she's just been to India and she's listening obviously to Indian music and she actually talks it (yeah) 'cause she sings [sɪŋgz] it and if you sing [sɪŋg] it (yeah, you pick it up) I think it, yeah, you pick it up more when you sing [sɪŋg] it (yeah) it depends what kind of learner you are really*; 0:26:34 *but some people find it offensive 'cause all Asian people hang [hɑŋg] around together but then again that's again (you get) because we're coloured I mean we've had a lot of racial issues in school but (yeah) yeah*; 0:28:20 *they're trying to make jokes out of it kind of thing [θɪŋg]*; 1:14:42 *someone's 'truanting' [tɹu:əntɪŋg] like yesterday when they were getting done (who?) I don't know a student*)

frequent NG-fronting (e.g. 0:05:32 *but if you hear someone shouting [ʃaʊʔɪn] at you across a street then you're obviously you're going to [gənə] be like, (get really offended) "get lost"*; 0:08:31 *you only start off writing [ɹɔɪtɪn] it because it's easier to write but you start talking [tɔ:kɪn] like it as well (you start getting [gɛʔɪn] into that cycle) yeah (where you're not talking [tɔ:kɪn] normal any more) yeah (well what's seen as normal)*; 0:28:20 *they're trying to [tɹɔɪnə] make jokes out of it kind of thing* 0:40:27 *sometimes it's really embarrassing [ɪmbəʊəsɪn] as well because someone will say summat to you and their mates will understand it but you won't understand (yeah, and they start laughing) and they're laughing [lafɪn] at you (we're like, "hello, what you on about?") you don't know what they're on about and you'll be like, "please tell me what that word you said" and they'll be like, "no, oh it don't matter nothing")*)

frequent <-thing> with NK (e.g. 0:15:10 *even when you go into the shops in India they're, like, they understand it actually (yeah) English cause they're, like, taught English there (yeah) but I went into this, like, shop where you get clothes from and he was, like, I was talking English to my sister saying "oh he's this he's that" and he was like, "I do know what you're saying" and I was like, "oh my God" I didn't actually think they'd understand it (yeah) but yeah, most of them do they can even read it and everything [ɛvɪθɪŋk] (yeah)*; 0:30:47 *(speak or say saying something different) it's just they make their own words up now and just say anything [ɛnɪθɪŋk] (yeah) and everything [ɛvɪθɪŋk] (yeah) what comes to their head (yeah)*; 0:47:34 *but then there's nothing [nʊθɪŋk] wrong with cheap stuff if you can get it cheaper why not get it cheaper (no, but it's the way they wear it) (yeah, but there's a limit, innit, to how much gold you wear)*; 0:57:56 *(it just) so it's really weird the way they just make up phrases for anything [ɛnɪfɪŋk])*)

N

syllabic N with nasal release (0:06:07 *if you speak different to them you're a snob all of a sudden [sədŋ]*; 0:38:53 *it is a lot different to the olden [əʊtɔŋ] days used how they used to talk and how it's interpreted⁹ by us*)

syllabic N with epenthetic schwa (0:11:51 *but it's, like, sometimes we laugh at him but we shouldn't [ʃʊdənʔ] really because it's it's just funny the accents are just sometimes really funny*; 0:20:40 *nowadays it's a bit more hip and it's a bit more trendy therefore you can use it more and I think it broaden [brɔ:dən] makes extends our language as well I think*; 1:10:45 *sometimes people say, "I'm going to go and lighten [lɪtən] myself up" or summat, "I'm" as in, "I'm going to put go and put make-up on" I think they do anyway [...]'brighten' [brɪtən] or 'lighten' [lɪtən] one or the other*; 1:13:53 *I probably wouldn't*)

[wʊdən?] *I'd probably stay asleep*; 1:21:41 *if you do summat really good it's like, "you 'killed' it" I'm like, "no, I didn't [dɪdən?] 'kill' it"*)

FRICATIVES

H

hypercorrect H (0:30:04 *they drop their aitches [hɛɪtʃɪz] (yeah) as well a lot and it's like (that Yorkshire accent) yeah, it's I don't like it (it's totally different to our accent 'cause my auntie talks really weird it's really posh comparing to ours)*)

TH

TH-stopping (1:22:25 *he's like, saying, "what are you saying 'oh my God' for?" he's not religious or anything he just thinks, "why are you saying it, like, what's God got to do with it?" if I'm something's [sʊmʔɪnz] happened and I think, "yeah, that's true"*)

frequent TH-fronting (e.g. 0:01:28 *Standard English I don't really know if I've got an accent other [əðə] people from other [əðə] areas might think [θɪŋk] people from Bedworth [bedwəf] have an accent but I don't think [fɪŋk] we have not a broad accent, no; 0:03:20 but I think [fɪŋk] in Bedworth [bedwəf] it's all like, "oh, Bedworth" [bedəf]¹⁰ and stuff like that they're quite lazy with their speech; 0:06:42 when I was little I used to talk all cute and, you know, never used to say anything [ɛnɪfɪn] out of touch or anything [ɛnɪfɪn]; 0:07:43 they, like, add random people and it's like, "oh my God, how do you know this [vɪs] person?" (yeah and they're talking about this that and the other [ʊvə] and cutting short words and stuff) yeah, and they're talking all this, yeah, weird language; 0:34:08 one person I know he's always like, "oh you've got loads of boyfriends you're a slag you're this [vɪs]"; 0:51:58 'knackered' ('knackered', yeah, people are 'knackered') 'shattered' ('exhausted') 'tired' I use ('shattered', yeah, I use all them words) (there's loads of words, yeah) 'can't be bothered' [bʊvəd]; 0:59:49 my brother [bɹʊvə] says 'gay', like, on every other [ʊvə] word (I say it, "you're gay" yeah, I say it as well) "that's gay" and it's, like ("that's so gay" oh my God, "that's so gay") I say it a lot now; 1:22:25 he's like, saying, "what are you saying 'oh my God' for?" he's not religious or anything [ɛnɪfɪn] he just thinks, [fɪŋks] "why are you saying it, like, what's God got to do with [wɪv] it?" if I'm something's happened and I think, [fɪŋk] "yeah, that's true"*)

LIQUIDS

R

approximant R (0:01:01 *it's all right [ɔː ɹɔɪʔ] 'cause we're used to it but otherwise I'd rather [ɹɑːðə] move away from [fɹəm] here (yeah, not the best place where we live); 0:01:28 Standard English I don't really know if I've got an accent other people from [fɹʊm] other areas [ɛːɹiəz] might think people from [fɹʊm] Bedworth have an accent but I don't think we have not a broad [bɹɔːd] accent, no; 0:07:10 I'll tell him off because it's not, like, proper English [pɹɒpəɹ ɪŋɡlɪʃ] or whatever and I don't want him speaking like that)*

retroflex R (0:25:29 *(the Muslim language is totally different to our language) yeah Urdu [ʌɹduː] (yeah, it's totally different)*)

L

clear onset L (0:00:47 *um I was born in Coventry in Walsgrave Hospital and I've always lived [lɪvd] in the same place [plɛɪs] and I've never really [ɹɪːli] moved away that's it; 0:01:17 mum and dad moved to Exhall and then about a year later [lɛɪʔə] they had me so I've lived [lɪvd] here all my life [lɔɪf]; 0:21:41 it's quite good because they've used English [ɪŋɡlɪʃ] phrases and Indian phrases in it so it sends a*

message out not only [əʊnli] to the Indian people it sends a message out to the English [ɪŋɡlɪʃ] people as well)

dark coda L (0:00:47 *um I was born in Coventry in Walsgrave Hospital [wɔːtʒɡrɛɪv hɒspɪtəl] and I've always [ɔːtweɪz] lived in the same place and I've never really moved away that's it; 0:02:16 yeah, there's a lot 'cause my cousin lives in Wolverhampton [wɒlvəhɑːmtən] and they use a lot of different, like, um words to us and it's quite hard to understand but I think it's because of the, like, African Caribbean culture as [kʊtʃəɪ əz] well there that they all [ɔːt] use different words; 0:55:23 I find it really I fi... 'chilly's' one of them words (not rea...) that it can mean 'hot' and 'cold' [kɔʊtɪd] ('chilly' I dunno) ("bit chilly in here") (but it sounds like 'chilling', don't it, when you're relaxing))*

L-vocalisation (0:01:48 *yeah, they do ask but you can normally tell [tæʊ] from the way someone speaks like if you go to Birmingham you know with the accent where they're from but people [pi:pʊ] have to ask me and my cousin 'cause we she comes from Leamington where we're from 'cause they can't really tell [tæʊ] by the way we speak; 0:32:05 if you said a swear-word when you were little [lɪtʊ] you were you did actually mean it in a vicious way but I don't think it's vicious any more I think it's just our part of our dialect (it depends how you say it I think); 0:45:53 ('baba' it's, like, the first words you say as well) you kind of speak as well when you're little [lɪʔʊ] (when you're younger) (yeah) (when you're little); 1:24:58 everyone goes through it (when we go to university we'll speak we will speak better I know that) I'll sp... want to speak well [wæʊ] for my children [tʃɪldrən] and show them a good example [ɪgzɑmpʊ])*

syllabic L with lateral release (0:23:36 *'if you spoke Punjabi in the middle [mɪdɪ] of the town centre or whatever everyone would turn around and probably look at you; 1:06:46 I think quite, like, middle-aged [mɪdɪeɪdʒd] people use that word as well (yeah, yeah) "you all right, mate?"*)

syllabic L with epenthetic schwa (0:45:53 *'baba' it's, like, the first words you say as well (you kind of speak as well when you're little) when you're younger (yeah) when you're little [lɪtəʔ]; 0:46:52 if it's really cute and (yeah, nice) a little [lɪkət] babe that's my word 'little' [lɪkət] 'little' [lɪtəʔ]*)

GLIDES

J

yod with T (0:56:37 *(like when you're angry or summat they're like, "you're talking next level") yeah (or "you're on cocaine or summat you crackhead") yeah, stupid [stju:pɪd] stuff; yeah (stuff like that that's, like, proper towny people) yeah, "what?"*)

yod with word medial S (0:18:31 *OK fair enough they do assume [əsju:m] that but at the end of the day there's other people out there that talk (I think there's) different languages)*

yod dropping with T (1:14:42 *someone's 'truanting' like yesterday when they were getting done (who?) I don't know a student [stu:dənʔ])*

zero yod (0:22:50 *but like you said before (street life) they're influenced by the, like, um music [mu:zɪk] as well, like (yeah) they really are influenced though, ain't they? (definitely); 0:22:59 my sister didn't ta... use to talk Punjabi at all and it used to be quite funny actually and now she's just been to India and she's listening obviously to Indian music [mu:zɪk] and she actually talks it (yeah) 'cause she sings it and if you sing it (yeah, you pick it up) I think it, yeah, you pick it up more when you sing it (yeah) it depends what kind of learner you are really)*

yod coalescence (0:07:43 *they, like, add random people and it's like, "oh my God, how do you [dʒə] know this person?" (yeah and they're talking about this that and the other and cutting short words and stuff) yeah, and they're talking all this, yeah, weird language; 0:26:34 but some people find it offensive 'cause all Asian people hang around together but then again that's again (you get) because we're coloured I mean we've had a lot of racial issues [ɪʃu:z] in school but (yeah) yeah; 0:27:46 yeah, it's changed so*

many people's attitudes [aɪtʃuːdz] towards us; 1:00:14 "oh you're a right geek" [...] I just mean it oh she does summat really stupid [ʃtʃuːpɪd] like 'dorky' or summat)

ELISION

prepositions

of reduction (0:27:08 that is also 'cause of [ə] the music scene and stuff (the music, yeah) they're making money out of it (yeah) like it's a craze so like with Jay Sean¹¹ (yeah); 0:29:07 (I don't know why we sound really country) even our Indian language, like, (countryside) I'm at work sometimes and I've got a lot of [ə] other Indian friends and it's, like, they say to me that my Punjabi is good; 0:54:57 never see me dead in one of [ə] them now (I know) can you imagine walking down Cov in your (oh God) green Kappa⁶ tracksuit; 1:14:06 'crashing' for a couple of [ə] minutes (yeah))

to reduction (1:15:21 "I'm going to whack" you I'd say to someone [sɛɪtsəmʍən] or ("I'm going to chuck it" as in 'hit it hard' 'chuck it'))

with reduction (0:27:08 that is also 'cause of the music scene and stuff (the music, yeah) they're making money out of it (yeah) like it's a craze so like with [wɪ] Jay Sean¹¹ (yeah))

negation

frequent secondary contraction (e.g. 0:15:10 even when you go into the shops in India they're, like, they understand it actually (yeah) English cause they're, like, taught English there (yeah) but I went into this, like, shop where you get clothes from and he was, like, I was talking English to my sister saying "oh he's this he's that" and he was like, "I do know what you're saying" and I was like, "oh my God" I didn't [dɪnʔ] actually think they'd understand it (yeah) but yeah, most of them do they can even read it and everything (yeah); 0:16:13 when they actually pick it out then you're like, oh hang on" it is different bet otherwise you wouldn't've [wʊnʔəv] known; 0:22:59 my sister didn't [dɪnʔ] ta... use to talk Punjabi at all and it used to be quite funny actually and now she's just been to India and she's listening obviously to Indian music and she actually talks it (yeah) 'cause she sings it and if you sing it (yeah, you pick it up) I think it, yeah, you pick it up more when you sing it (yeah) it depends what kind of learner you are really; 0:36:46 London, yeah, she didn't [dɪnʔ] use to be like that and now she's really snobby I'd say and posh and stuff whereas we're just like, "yeah, whatever" and she's like, "don't talk to me like that" and we're like, "yeah, whatever we don't care"; 0:43:37 we're on the phone to summat and it's like, ("put the phone down") they just accuse you (yeah, yeah) or that you're on the phone to a boy just so controlling (yeah) and it's just society now and it shouldn't [ʃʊnʔ] be like that; 1:14:31 some people say it, "oh you're a right wagger, you are" and it's, like, I wouldn't [wʊnʔ] say it though but I do say it though)

simplification

word final consonant cluster reduction (0:02:32 I won't [wəʊn] even understand what she's going on about half the time; 0:02:52 I don't know [dənəʊ] it depends (yeah) where you're brought up really (yeah) and who you hang around with (yeah); 0:07:10 I'll tell him off because it's not, like, proper English or whatever and I don't want [wɒn] him speaking like that; 0:09:32 (yeah, you'd say, "laugh out loud") but some people just use the term 'LOL' and they don't [dəʊn] even laugh out loud; 0:15:10 even when you go into the shops in India they're, like, they understand it actually (yeah) English cause they're, like, taught English there (yeah) but I went [wɛn] into this, like, shop where you get clothes from and he was, like, I was talking English to my sister saying "oh he's this he's that" and he was like, "I do know what you're saying" and I was like, "oh my God" I didn't actually think they'd understand it (yeah) but yeah, most of them do they can even read it and everything (yeah); 0:25:39 Pakistan is (next) kind of (yeah) on the

¹¹ British singer-songwriter, rapper and record producer, real name Kamaljit Singh Jhooti (born 1981).

border of India, isn't [ɪzən] it, yeah; 0:32:24 yeah, we get told off a lot for it if my mum does notice she'll tell us off for it 'cause I've got a younger brother and also she's, "if you want to [wɒnə] speak like that you don't you can speak like that with your friends but you don't speak like that in this house"; 0:46:01 I don't know [dənəʊ] maybe they were words ages ago from civilisation (yeah, even, like, for 'auntie' and 'uncle'); 0:55:23 (I find it really I fi... 'chilly's' one of them words) not rea... (that it can mean 'hot' and 'cold') 'chilly' I don't know [dənəʊ] ("bit chilly in here") but it sounds like 'chilling', don't [dəʊn] it, when you're relaxing; 1:10:56 they do actually (so they do, yeah) some people do say that 'cause they want to [wɒnə] go and put make-up on or summat 'cause they're embarrassed to say, "I want to [wɒnə] go to the toilet" (yeah); 1:24:58 everyone goes through it (when we go to university we'll speak we will speak better I know that) I'll sp... want to [wɒnə] speak well for my children and show them a good example)

word medial consonant cluster reduction (1:08:16 *it's something [sʊmɪŋk] that's used quite a lot round here though she's 'up the duff'; 1:19:13 yeah, but when she says it it just sounds wrong it's like, "are you texting [tekstɪŋ] someone?" it's like, "no, I'm texting [teksɪŋ] someone"*)

syllable deletion (0:21:13 *we feel our ours is stronger than theirs obviously because they've got an English accent but that's probably [pɒʊbli:] how the India people when we go (see us, yeah) they probably [pɒʊbli] see it as that as well (yeah)*)

frequent TH-deletion with them (e.g. 0:03:51 *they say I don't know but some of them [əm] some (they do) they say we speak a bit more formal as well than they do (I think it's the more of the gangsta look the way they talk) (yeah, yeah, yeah yeah) in Coventry 'cause it's more of a city; 0:06:07 if you speak different to them [əm] you're a snob all of a sudden; 0:18:40 (do you ever use Punjabi to talk about people behind their backs?) (I don't) if we don't like them [əm] I'll be honest sometimes; 0:47:42 it's the way they wear it as well (yeah make-up and) like they wear things ten sizes too small for them [əm]; 1:06:15 'duck', "you all right, duck?" ugh ('bab') 'cause I have my grandparents live in Stoke-on-Trent so when I go to visit them [ʊm] and it's, like, they they used to have a shop and everyone that's, "ta, duck" "you all right, duck?" (or "you all right, bab?")*)

w-deletion¹⁰ (0:03:20 *but I think in Bedworth [bedwəf] it's all like, "oh, Bedworth" [bedəf] and stuff like that they're quite lazy with their speech*)

LIAISON

frequent linking R (e.g. 0:00:19 *I was born in Coventry and then I moved to Burton on Trent because my parents bought a fish and chip shop um and then I've moved back to Bedworth and that's where I've [wɛ:ɪ av] lived ever since; 0:02:16 yeah, there's a lot 'cause my cousin lives in Wolverhampton and they use a lot of different, like, um words to us and it's quite hard to understand but I think it's because of the, like, African Caribbean culture as [kʊɪtʃə əz] well there that they all use different words; 0:07:10 I'll tell him off because it's not, like, proper English [pɒpə ɪŋɡlɪʃ] or whatever and I don't want him speaking like that; 0:18:31 OK fair enough [fɛ:ɪ ɪnʊf] they do assume that but at the end of the day there's other people out there that talk (I think there's) different languages; 0:30:04 (they drop their aitches) yeah (as well a lot and it's like) that Yorkshire accent [jɔ:kʃə aksənʔ] (yeah, it's I don't like it) it's totally different to our accent [a:ɪ aksənʔ] 'cause my auntie talks really weird it's really posh comparing to ours; 0:32:24 yeah, we get told off a lot for it [fəɪ ɪʔ] if my mum does notice she'll tell us off for it [fəɪ ɪʔ] 'cause I've got a younger brother and also she's, "if you want to speak like that you don't you can speak like that with your friends but you don't speak like that in this house"; 0:32:35 I think it's just an age thing I think I will when I get to my parents I think I won't swear either [swɛ:ɪ ɪ:ðə] because it's just it just doesn't sound right; 0:47:42 it's the way they wear it [wɛ:ɪ ɪʔ] as well (yeah make-up and) like they wear things ten sizes too*

small for them [fə əm]; 1:10:56 *they do actually (so they do, yeah) some people do say that 'cause they want to go and put make-up on or summat 'cause they're embarrassed [ðeɪ ɪmbəɪəst] to say, "I want to go to the toilet" (yeah); 1:14:06 'crashing' for a [fə ə] couple of minutes (yeah); 1:17:19 still they'll say, like, if you're having a shower or [ʃaʊə ɪ:] something they'll say, "I'm having a bath" even though you're not having a bath you're having a shower (yeah, you're having a shower)*

zero linking R (0:01:28 *Standard English I don't really know if I've got an accent other people from other areas [əðə ɛɪɪəz] might think people from Bedworth have an accent but I don't think we have not a broad accent, no; 0:30:47 (speak or say saying something different) it's just they make their own [ðe əʊn] words up now and just say anything (yeah) and everything (yeah) what comes to their head (yeah); 0:46:01 (I don't know maybe they were words ages ago from civilisation) yeah, even, like, for 'auntie' [fə a:nti] and 'uncle'*)

zero intrusive R (0:14:28 *a 'freshy' that's someone that actually comes from India and [ɪndi ən] they come here; 0:15:55 (it's like it's like they're shouting) I mean if we stayed in India for longer (we'd pick up) we would pick up on it (yeah) it's, like, when I went India in [ɪndiə ɪn] August I actually picked up on quite a lot of things (yeah) but we've still got an English accent no matter what; 0:26:14 but I'm not really embarrassed it's, like, I went Southampton everyone's, like, really, 'cause I think there's more English [mɔ: ɪŋɡlɪʃ] people there and they go to, like, all boys and girls school and my cousins like, "if I spoke like that at school everyone would really, like, take" (the mickey) yeah*)

SUBSTITUTION

TL with KL (0:46:52 *if it's really cute and (yeah, nice) a little [ɪkəʃ] 'babe' that's my word 'little' [ɪkəʃ] 'little' [ɪtəʃ]*)

+/- VOICE

Asian, Muslim (0:26:03 *Southampton there ain't many Asian [ɛɪzən] peop... my cousins live in Southampton and they're really, like, they're really, like, really posh comparing to me; 0:26:34 but some people find it offensive 'cause all Asian [ɛɪzən] people hang around together but then again that's again (you get) because we're coloured I mean we've had a lot of racial issues in school but (yeah) yeah; 0:25:29 (the Muslim [mʊzɪm] language is totally different to our language) yeah Urdu (yeah, it's totally different)*)

WEAK-STRONG CONTRAST

vowel reduction

weak definite article + vowel (0:01:48 *yeah, they do ask but you can normally tell from the way someone speaks like if you go to Birmingham you know with the accent [ðə əksənʔ] where they're from but people have to ask me and my cousin 'cause we she comes from Leamington where we're from 'cause they can't really tell by the way we speak; 0:11:51 but it's, like, sometimes we laugh at him but we shouldn't really because it's it's just funny the accents [ðə əksənts] are just sometimes really funny; 0:21:41 it's quite good because they've used English phrases and Indian phrases in it so it sends a message out not only to the Indian [ðə ɪndiən] people it sends a message out to the English [ðə ɪŋɡlɪʃ] people as well; 0:38:53 it is a lot different to the olden [ðə əʊtɔɪn] days used how they used to talk and how it's interpreted^o by us; 1:11:56 look, it says 'smaller than a river' (oh OK) is that a 'lake' how about the 'ocean'? [ðə əʊʃən]*)

vowel strengthening

word final vowel strengthening (0:01:48 *yeah, they do ask but you can normally tell from the way someone speaks like if you go to Birmingham [bɜːmɪŋɡʊm] you know with the accent where they're from but people have to ask me and my cousin 'cause we she comes from Leamington where we're from 'cause they can't really tell by the way we speak; 0:07:43 they, like, add random [ɹʌndəm] people and it's like, "oh my God, how do you know this person?" (yeah and they're talking about this that and the other and cutting short words and stuff) yeah, and they're talking all this, yeah, weird language; 0:18:18 (people find it offensive) they have a problem [pɹɒbləm] with it (yeah, but I don't see why); 0:28:02 (bringing comedy in) (comedy into it) like, showing it's not that we're all religious fanatics and, you know) (and they're taking the, yeah, and they're taking the mick out of us as well) films like 'Bend it like Beckham'¹² [bɛkəm]; 0:38:08 we're studying Hamlet¹³ [hæmlɪt] and comparing to the language Shakespeare¹⁴ used and the way we use it now it's just totally different; 0:50:44 but it depends what trousers you're on about (I'd say 'jeans') there's 'jeans' there's 'bottoms' [bɒtəmz] I'd say 'bottoms' [bɒtəmz]; 1:05:43 "he's handsome" [hænsəm] (that's what old people say) it's like, yeah (it's like I hear old people, "oh my grandson's so handsome" [hænsəm] and it's like, "oh my God you can't use that any more" because you've just tainted it; 1:20:02 kids nowadays are getting more freedom [fɹiːdəm] and the way they talk and stuff)*

vowel strengthening – other ((0:01:28 *Standard English I don't really know if I've got an accent other people from [fɹʊm] other areas might think people from [fɹʊm] Bedworth have an accent but I don't think we have not a broad accent, no; 0:10:29 they still know that texting is the next best thing to, like, talking to somebody so it has caught on with them [ðəm]; 0:13:04 I understand it but I find it a bit difficult to speak to them [ðəm] in Punjabi; 0:18:31 OK fair enough they do assume that but at [aʔ] the end of the day there's other people out there that talk (I think there's) different languages ; 0:35:16 it's like it's OK for [fɔː] him to swear at me but when I do it to him he's like, "oh he puts the phone down ; 1:06:15 'duck', "you all right, duck?" ugh ('bab') 'cause I have my grandparents live in Stoke-on-Trent so when I go to visit them [ʊm] and it's, like, they they used to have a shop and everyone that's, "ta, duck" "you all right, duck?" (or "you all right, bab?")*)

PROSODY

intonation

uptalk (0:11:12 *'cause mum and that are born in India so they talk different well my mum speaks English but she's got an Indian accent to her English; 0:12:01 obviously it's because we can talk Standard English and we were, like, born here)*

low falling terminal (0:02:16 *yeah, there's a lot 'cause my cousin lives in Wolverhampton and they use a lot of different, like, um words to us and it's quite hard to understand but I think it's because of the, like, African Caribbean culture as well there that they all use different words)*

LEXICALLY SPECIFIC VARIATION

again (0:26:34 *but some people find it offensive 'cause all Asian people hang around together but then again [əgeɪn] that's again [əgeɪn] (you get) because we're coloured I mean we've had a lot of racial issues in school but (yeah) yeah; 1:16:41 (I think old people) just use (older people they don't their language is different because we've developed new language and they don't really find it easy) that's then again [əgeɪn] 'cause of the generations (to adapt)*)

¹² British comedy film directed by Gurinder Chadha released in 2002.

¹³ Play, 'The Tragedy of Hamlet, Prince of Denmark', by William Shakespeare – see footnote 14 below.

¹⁴ English poet and playwright, William Shakespeare (c.1564-1602) – see footnote 13 above.

because (0:00:19 *I was born in Coventry and then I moved to Burton on Trent because [bɪkəz] my parents bought a fish and chip shop um and then I've moved back to Bedworth and that's where I've lived ever since; 0:14:50 when you go to India and you talk in Punjabi they say that we've got an English accent to it (yeah) which is really weird because [bɪkəz] I try talking, like, you try talking like them and you, like, just proper pick it up)*

(n)either (0:19:46 *I don't know how to explain it I just feel like I'm neither [neɪðə] here nor there; 0:32:35 I think it's just an age thing I think I will when I get to my parents I think I won't swear either [i:ðə] because it's just it just doesn't sound right; 1:02:36 (I've really) (I've just got so used to saying it now) actually I don't usually say 'skint' either [i:və] I just say, "I ain't got no money" (I don't like it at all) says (0:28:55 my um uncle he comes from Derbyshire but he lives in Sheffield now and he says [sɛz] we sound like farmers; 0:33:44 the people that actually, like, do have loads of boyfriends and do everything this that and that they don't no one really says [sɛz] anything to them; 1:11:56 look, it says [sɛz] 'smaller than a river' (oh OK) is that a 'lake' how about the 'ocean'?)*

GRAMMAR

DETERMINERS

demonstrative them (0:51:24 *I remember them days when you used to wear little 'pumps' (yeah) (that was so funny that was) now it would just be, like, 'trainers' or (yeah); 0:51:58 ('knackered') 'knackered', yeah, people are 'knackered' ('shattered') ('exhausted') ('tired' I use) 'shattered', yeah, I use all them words (there's loads of words, yeah) ('can't be bothered'); 0:55:23 I find it really I fi... 'chilly's' one of them words (not rea...) that it can mean 'hot' and 'cold' ('chilly' I dunno) ("bit chilly in here") (but it sounds like 'chilling', don't it, when you're relaxing))*

NOUNS

irregular plural (0:35:24 *he goes to me he said summat like, "yeah, you're gonna get battered" or summat it's, like, even some of the words they use like 'battered' and stuff it's not even, like, proper language, "you're gonna get I'm gonna get my mans on to you" it's like, "hello" they're not even proper it's not even a proper language that they're talking; 0:41:06 not even my sister I talked with my friend on the internet and he's always like, "rago" and he even changed my MSN⁸ name to 'rago' "mans are rago" which means 'the man is wicked' so it's quite weird actually the way people talk (that's weird, yeah))*

PRONOUNS

singular object us (0:32:24 *yeah, we get told off a lot for it if my mum does notice she'll tell us off for it 'cause I've got a younger brother and also she's, "if you want to speak like that you don't you can speak like that with your friends but you don't speak like that in this house")*

relative that (0:14:28 *a 'freshy' that's someone that actually comes from India and they come here; 0:33:44 the people that actually, like, do have loads of boyfriends and do everything this that and that they don't no one really says anything to them)*

relative what (0:30:47 *(speak or say saying something different) it's just they make their own words up now and just say anything (yeah) and everything (yeah) what comes to their head (yeah))*

VERBS

past

regularised past (0:10:29 *they still know that texting is the next best thing to, like, talking to somebody so it has caught on with them*)

be – was generalisation (1:03:18 *'mashed' summat like (oh my God) I thought that was like if you was high on drugs or something*)

compounds

zero auxiliary be (0:40:27 *sometimes it's really embarrassing as well because someone will say summat to you and their mates will understand it but you won't understand*) yeah, and they start laughing (and they're laughing at you) we're like, "hello, what _ you on about?" (you don't know what they're on about and you'll be like, "please tell me what that word you said" and they'll be like, "no, oh it don't matter nothing"); 1:06:46 *I think quite, like, middle-aged people use that word as well (yeah, yeah) "_ you all right, mate?"*)

invariant there is~was (0:04:39 *well there's, like, words you know like, different words for, like, she's my 'girlfriend' (she's my 'shorty')*; 0:18:31 *OK fair enough they do assume that but at the end of the day there's other people out there that talk (I think there's) different languages*; 0:23:53 *there's certain phrases that everyone understands out of every kind of language because that it's used so much and, yeah*; 0:51:58 *('knackered') ('knackered', yeah, people are 'knackered') ('shattered') 'exhausted' ('tired' I use ('shattered', yeah, I use all them words) there's loads of words, yeah ('can't be bothered'))*)

bare infinitive (1:13:31 *even if I'm not gonna go _ sleep I just say, "I'm going to bed" (yeah)*)

NEGATION

multiple negation (0:40:27 *sometimes it's really embarrassing as well because someone will say summat to you and their mates will understand it but you won't understand (yeah, and they start laughing) and they're laughing at you (we're like, "hello, what you on about?") you don't know what they're on about and you'll be like, "please tell me what that word you said" and they'll be like, "no, oh it don't matter nothing"*; 1:02:36 *(I've really) (I've just got so used to saying it now) actually I don't usually say 'skint' either I just say, "I ain't got no money" (I don't like it at all)*; 1:02:52 *(what do you say then, Anita?) um "haven't got no money" if you're say... if you're poor, "I haven't got any money" (or, "I ain't got no money") yeah, "I ain't got no money"*)

ain't for negative be (0:20:23 *I mean my parents ain't very reli... religious but they do like us talking in Punjabi*; 0:25:03 *everyone's allowed their choice why ain't we allowed our choice*; 0:26:03 *Southampton there ain't many Asian peop... my cousins live in Southampton and they're really, like, they're really, like, really posh comparing to me*; 0:57:34 *("you're on crack" I hate it when people say that) ("you're chatting" it's they'll be like, "you're chatting shit" like that) when you're ain't that when you're 'mad'?*; 1:05:59 *I just say, "oh he looks really nice he looks well nice" (I just say, "he's really good-looking") yeah, but there ain't many good-looking ones*)

ain't for negative have (1:02:36 *(I've really) (I've just got so used to saying it now) actually I don't usually say 'skint' either I just say, "I ain't got no money" (I don't like it at all)*; 1:02:52 *(what do you say then, Anita?) um "haven't got no money" if you're say... if you're poor, "I haven't got any money" (or, "I ain't got no money") yeah, "I ain't got no money"*)

invariant don't (0:36:27 *(I think they would think with a speak with a much more Standard English dialect) but even my sister don't like the way I talk 'cause she's, like, "oh God"*; 0:40:27 *sometimes it's really embarrassing as well because someone will say summat to you and their mates will understand it but you won't understand (yeah, and they start laughing) and they're laughing at you (we're like, "hello, what you on about?") you don't know what they're on about and you'll be like, "please tell me what that word you said" and they'll be like, "no, oh it don't matter nothing"*; 0:44:56 *'cause my grandma's Punjabi and she only she don't understand English so I don't I just call her Pun... in a Punjabi way I call her 'nani'*; 0:55:23 *(I find it really I fi... 'chilly's' one of them words) not rea... (that it can mean 'hot'*)

and 'cold') 'chilly' I dunno ("bit chilly in here") but it sounds like 'chilling', don't it, when you're relaxing)

PREPOSITIONS

deletion

zero habitual to (0:14:20 even when you go _ India and you talk in Punjabi (it's different) I mean I'm comparing to a lot of people here I can talk a lot of Punjabi which is why they call me a 'freshy'; 0:15:55 (it's like it's like they're shouting) I mean if we stayed in India for longer (we'd pick up) we would pick up on it (yeah) it's, like, when I went _ India in August I actually picked up on quite a lot of things (yeah) but we've still got an English accent no matter what; 0:26:14 but I'm not really embarrassed it's, like, I went _ Southampton everyone's, like, really, 'cause I think there's more English people there and they go to, like, all boys and girls school and my cousins like, "if I spoke like that at school everyone would really, like, take" (the mickey) yeah; 1:09:47 sometimes you just come out with anything (yeah) you're just like, "going _ toilet" or whatever ("need a wee") yeah, that's it that's the one)

ADJECTIVES

double comparative (0:15:36 it's a bit more toned down I think (yeah) it's a bit more soft whereas (it's the same words but it's not the same accent) it's they're just much more softer words I think)

ADVERBS

unmarked manner adverb (0:03:46 (I don't really know anyone from Cov properly) they do though, don't they, (well they say) well the people I talk to they talk different to the way we talk (yeah); 0:03:51 they say I don't know but some of them some (they do) they say we speak a bit more formal as well than they do (I think it's the more of the gangsta look the way they talk) (yeah, yeah, yeah yeah) in Coventry 'cause it's more of a city; 0:06:07 if you speak different to them you're a snob all of a sudden; 0:08:31 (you only start off writing it because it's easier to write but you start talking like it as well) you start getting into that cycle (yeah) where you're not talking normal any more (yeah) well what's seen as normal; 0:11:12 'cause mum and that are born in India so they talk different well my mum speaks English but she's got an Indian accent to her English; 0:14:50 when you go to India and you talk in Punjabi they say that we've got an English accent to it (yeah) which is really weird because I try talking, like, you try talking like them and you, like, just proper pick it up; 1:12:43 when it rains really really heavy I just say, "God, it's shitting it down" like oh my God that's really bad; 1:20:22 our kids we're going to say they speak lazy (yeah) (yeah) and it's not lazy it's just changing (yeah) I think)

DISCOURSE

frequent utterance internal like (e.g. 0:02:16 yeah, there's a lot 'cause my cousin lives in Wolverhampton and they use a lot of different, like, um words to us and it's quite hard to understand but I think it's because of the, like, African Caribbean culture as well there that they all use different words; 0:07:10 I'll tell him off because it's not, like, proper English or whatever and I don't want him speaking like that; 0:07:43 they, like, add random people and it's like, "oh my God, how do you know this person?" (yeah and they're talking about this that and the other and cutting short words and stuff) yeah, and they're talking all this, yeah, weird language; 0:12:01 obviously it's because we can talk Standard English and we were, like, born here; 0:14:50 when you go to India and you talk in Punjabi they say that we've got an English accent to it (yeah) which is really weird because I try talking, like, you try talking like them and you, like, just proper pick it up; 0:15:10 even when you go into the shops in India they're, like, they understand it actually (yeah) English cause they're, like, taught English there (yeah) but I went into this,

like, shop where you get clothes from and he was, like, I was talking English to my sister saying “oh he’s this he’s that” and he was like, “I do know what you’re saying” and I was like, “oh my God” I didn’t actually think they’d understand it (yeah) but yeah, most of them do they can even read it and everything (yeah); 0:22:50 but like you said before (street life) they’re influenced by the, like, um music as well, like (yeah) they really are influenced though, ain’t they? (definitely); 0:26:03 Southampton there ain’t many Asian peop... my cousins live in Southampton and they’re really, like, they’re really, like, really posh comparing to me; 0:29:07 (I don’t know why we sound really country) even our Indian language, like, (countryside) I’m at work sometimes and I’ve got a lot of other Indian friends and it’s, like, they say to me that my Punjabi is good; 0:31:08 um our speech gets lazy (it does) we don’t say the words fully it’s, like, we’ll drop out letters and stuff and, [...] like, ‘can’t be arsed’ or (yeah) ‘mother’ ‘mum’; 0:33:29 it’s, like, words like ‘slag’ and ‘ho’ and stuff I mean I get called that (and me) and it’s, like, (I don’t know why) and it’s, like, I haven’t ev..., like, if ever, you know what I mean, (yeah, yeah) I don’t have a boyfriend and they’re like, “you’re a slag” or whatever (exactly ‘cause you wear a skirt or something) yeah, and it’s so pathetic (I know); 0:41:44 we’ve got, like, skaters and stuff in ours so they’re like, “oh dude”, you know, “hey dude”; 0:46:01 (I don’t know maybe they were words ages ago from civilisation) yeah, even, like, for ‘auntie’ and ‘uncle’; 1:00:26 you have it, Kieran, you go through stages where you have, like, a word (I do, yeah) (so actually so do I my cousin does that) like last year she went through a phase where she all she used was ‘doofus’, “oh my God, you’re such a doofus”; 1:06:15 ‘duck’, “you all right, duck?” ugh (‘bab’) ‘cause I have my grandparents live in Stoke-on-Trent so when I go to visit them and it’s, like, they they used to have a shop and everyone that’s, “ta, duck” “you all right, duck?” (or “you all right, bab?”))

intensifier well (0:52:57 *no, you’re not ‘boiling’ and you’re not ‘freezing’ but you just say, “oh I’m well hot” or “I’m boiling”, like over exaggerating a little bit; 0:55:41 (“I’m happy with that”) (“I’m pleased”) I normally say ‘well’ at the beginning of it, “I’m well happy”; 1:01:41 (yeah, ‘loaded’) (I’d say ‘rich’) yeah, “you’re well rich” (yeah, ‘well rich’); 1:05:59 I just say, “oh he looks really nice he looks well nice” (I just say, “he’s really good-looking”) yeah, but there ain’t many good-looking ones; 1:18:16 my mum, like, ‘cause she teaches young people to drive she’ll say some she said to me the other day, “oh, I’m well vexed” and it means angry)*)

frequent quotative like (e.g. 0:03:20 *but I think in Bedworth it’s all like, “oh, Bedworth” and stuff like that they’re quite lazy with their speech; 0:05:32 but if you hear someone shouting at you across a street then you’re obviously you’re gonna be like, (get really offended) “get lost”; 0:07:21 and you’re like, “what?”; 0:07:43 they, like, add random people and it’s like, “oh my God, how do you know this person?” (yeah and they’re talking about this that and the other and cutting short words and stuff) yeah, and they’re talking all this, yeah, weird language; 0:15:10 even when you go into the shops in India they’re, like, they understand it actually (yeah) English cause they’re, like, taught English there (yeah) but I went into this, like, shop where you get clothes from and he was, like, I was talking English to my sister saying “oh he’s this he’s that” and he was like, “I do know what you’re saying” and I was like, “oh my God” I didn’t actually think they’d understand it (yeah) but yeah, most of them do they can even read it and everything (yeah); 0:22:15 a lot of people I know say ‘gaddar’ but I don’t even say ‘sat sri akal’ I’m just like, “hey” or “hi” or whatever; 0:30:42 but even words like ‘girl’ they’re like, “gal”; 0:33:29 it’s, like, words like ‘slag’ and ‘ho’ and stuff I mean I get called that (and me) and it’s, like, (I don’t know why) and it’s, like, I haven’t ev..., like, if ever, you know what I mean, (yeah, yeah) I don’t have a boyfriend and they’re like, “you’re a slag” or whatever (exactly ‘cause you wear a skirt or something) yeah, and it’s so pathetic (I know); 0:34:08 one person I know he’s always like, “oh you’ve got loads of boyfriends you’re a slag you’re this”; 0:35:24 he goes to me he said summat like, “yeah, you’re gonna get battered” or summat it’s, like, even some of the words they use like ‘battered’ and stuff it’s not even, like, proper language, “you’re gonna get I’m gonna get my mans on to you” it’s like, “hello” they’re not even proper it’s not even a proper language that they’re talking; 0:36:46 London, yeah, she didn’t use to be like that*)

and now she's really snobby I'd say and posh and stuff whereas we're just like, "yeah, whatever" and she's like, "don't talk to me like that" and we're like, "yeah, whatever we don't care"; 0:40:27 (sometimes it's really embarrassing as well because someone will say summat to you and their mates will understand it but you won't understand) yeah, and they start laughing (and they're laughing at you) we're like, "hello, what you on about?" (you don't know what they're on about and you'll be like, "please tell me what that word you said" and they'll be like, "no, oh it don't matter nothing"); 0:41:44 we've got, like, skaters and stuff in ours so they're like, "oh dude", you know, "hey dude" ; 1:09:32 it's weird 'cause I say it at school sometimes, "I'm going to the bathroom" and they're like, "it's not a 'bathroom'" (it's actually a 'toilet') "it's a 'toilet'"; 1:09:47 sometimes you just come out with anything (yeah) you're just like, "going toilet" or whatever ("need a wee") yeah, that's it that's the one; 1:19:13 yeah, but when she says it it just sounds wrong it's like, "are you texting someone?" it's like, "no, I'm texting someone")

quotative go (0:35:24 he goes to me he said summat like, "yeah, you're gonna get battered" or summat it's, like, even some of the words they use like 'battered' and stuff it's not even, like, proper language, "you're gonna get I'm gonna get my mans on to you" it's like, "hello" they're not even proper it's not even a proper language that they're talking)

invariant tag (0:47:34 (but then there's nothing wrong with cheap stuff if you can get it cheaper why not get it cheaper) (no, but it's the way they wear it) yeah, but there's a limit, innit, to how much gold you wear)

form of address bab (1:06:15 ('duck', "you all right, duck?" ugh) 'bab' ('cause I have my grandparents live in Stoke-on-Trent so when I go to visit them and it's, like, they they used to have a shop and everyone that's, "ta, duck" "you all right, duck?") or "you all right, bab?")

form of address duck⁷ (1:06:15 'duck', "you all right, duck?" ugh ('bab') 'cause I have my grandparents live in Stoke-on-Trent so when I go to visit them and it's, like, they they used to have a shop and everyone that's, "ta, duck" "you all right, duck?" (or "you all right, bab?"))

© Robinson, Herring, Gilbert

Voices of the UK, 2009-2012

A British Library project funded by The Leverhulme Trust