

**Title:**

Leicester

**Shelfmark:**

C1190/20/02

**Recording date:**

16.11.2004

**Speakers:**

Allen, Ashley, b. 1986 New Parks, Leicester; male; roofing contractor (father engineer; mother teaching assistant)

Hunt, Lisa, b. 1974 Birstall; female; purchasing controller (father machine operator; mother machine setter)

Lees, Anita; b. 1975 Hinckley; female; machinist (father forklift truck driver; mother shop assistant)

Matt, b. 1989 Melton Mowbray; male; sixth-form student

The interviewees are all Leicester City fans who met through an online message board.

## ELICITED LEXIS

- see English Dialect Dictionary (1898-1905)
- \* see Survey of English Dialects Basic Material (1962-1971)
- ▼ see Ey Up Mi Duck! Dialect of Derbyshire and the East Midlands (2000)
- △ see New Partridge Dictionary of Slang and Unconventional English (2006)
- ◇ see Green's Dictionary of Slang (2010)
- ◆ see Urban Dictionary (online)
- ♥ see Dictionary of Contemporary Slang (2014)
- △ no previous source (with this sense) identified

<b>pleased</b>	<i>chuffed; happy; well made-up ("I'm made-up for her")</i>
<b>tired</b>	<i>knackered; shagged</i>
<b>unwell</b>	(not discussed)
<b>hot</b>	<i>baking</i>
<b>cold</b>	<i>freezing; parky; chilly</i>
<b>annoyed</b>	<i>pissed off</i> (not used in presence of parents); <i>peed off; mad; angry; radgy</i> ◇
<b>throw</b>	<i>chuck</i> ("chuck it here"); <i>lob; throw</i>
<b>play truant</b>	<i>skive off; bunk off; skip</i>
<b>sleep</b>	<i>catch some zeds</i> ◇; <i>siesta; kip</i> (most common); <i>bit of a snooze; I'm going bed</i> (suggested by interviewer)
<b>play a game</b>	<i>play; "gie's</i> ◦ <i>a game on that"</i>

<b>hit hard</b>	<i>wallop; whack; smack; hit; knock out</i>
<b>clothes</b>	<i>rags; clothes; gear; kit</i> (suggested by interviewer, used of “football/sports kit”)
<b>trousers</b>	<i>jeans; slacks</i> (used by family); <i>kecks</i> (suggested by interviewer, “get your kegs♥ off”)
<b>child’s shoe</b>	<i>plimmies<sup>△</sup>; plimsolls; pumps</i> (used in Hinckley)
<b>mother</b>	<i>mam; mum; me goose<sup>△1</sup></i> (abbreviation of “mother goose” learnt from sister’s ex-boyfriend and used of own mother, thought to be common in Birmingham); <i>mother; old dear; mummy</i> (if wanting something)
<b>gmother</b>	<i>grandma; nana; nan</i>
<b>m partner</b>	<i>babe, honey, sweetie</i> (“hiya, sweetie” used jokingly as form of address in online communication)
<b>friend</b>	<i>mate</i> (“hey up, matey” commonly used as form of address at football match)
<b>gfather</b>	<i>grandad; papa<sup>♦</sup></i>
<b>forgot name</b>	<i>thingybob<sup>◇</sup>; what’s-his-name; whatchacallit<sup>◇</sup>; John</i> (“if you don’t know their name just call them John” of person); <i>bloke</i> (of male); <i>whosit</i> (“whosit down the road” used frequently by father)
<b>kit of tools</b>	(not discussed)
<b>trendy</b>	<i>chav</i> (of male/female); <i>geezer; tart</i> (of female); <i>chavette<sup>♦</sup></i> (used by media of female)
<b>f partner</b>	(not discussed)
<b>baby</b>	<i>sprog; small<sup>△</sup></i> (of/to niece); <i>brat; little ’un<sup>△</sup></i> (of younger brother); <i>babbies<sup>○</sup></i> (suggested by interviewer); <i>babs<sup>◇</sup>; baby</i>
<b>rain heavily</b>	<i>peeing it down; chucking it down<sup>△</sup>; hammering it down<sup>♦</sup></i>
<b>toilet</b>	<i>bog; loo; shitter</i> (not used in presence of parents); <i>Gary Glitter<sup>△2</sup>; the Philpott<sup>△3</sup></i> (used jokingly by analogy with “pisspot”); <i>pisspot</i>
<b>walkway</b>	<i>jitty<sup>○</sup>; alley; entry</i>
<b>long seat</b>	<i>settee; sofa</i>
<b>run water</b>	<i>brook; stream; cut</i>
<b>main room</b>	<i>lounge; living-room; front room</i>
<b>rain lightly</b>	<i>spitting; drizzle</i>
<b>rich</b>	(not discussed)
<b>left-handed</b>	<i>cacky-handed<sup>◇</sup>; cack-handed</i> (used negatively as “they reckon you wipe your bottom with that hand”); <i>sinister</i> (thought to derive from Latin for “side of the devil”); <i>caggy<sup>○</sup>; caggy-handed<sup>○</sup></i> (suggested by interviewer)
<b>unattractive</b>	<i>minging</i> (used since childhood); <i>munter<sup>△</sup>; dog</i> (“she’s a right dog, she is”)
<b>lack money</b>	<i>skint; boracic; broke</i>
<b>drunk</b>	<i>pissed; hammered<sup>△</sup>; sloshed; wasted; out his head</i>
<b>pregnant</b>	<i>up the duff</i> (not used of friend); <i>bun in the oven; expecting</i> (of friend)
<b>attractive</b>	<i>fit; peach</i> (“a right peach”); <i>drop-dead</i> (“he’s drop-dead” used when younger, abbreviation of “drop-dead gorgeous”); <i>bit of all right</i>
<b>insane</b>	<i>mental; mad; loony</i>

<sup>1</sup> *New Partridge Dictionary of Slang and Unconventional English* (2006) includes ‘goose’ in sense of ‘woman’ but not in sense of ‘mother’.

<sup>2</sup> British glam-rock singer (real name Paul Francis Gadd, b.1944).

<sup>3</sup> Reference, presumably, to former Leicester City footballer, Lee Philpott (b.1970).

**moody** *mardy* (common locally, heard recently on Coronation Street<sup>4</sup>); *in an arse*<sup>5</sup>; *radgy*<sup>6</sup> (“he’s *radgy again*” used frequently of partner); *got the hump* (suggested by interviewer, used); *mard-arse*<sup>6</sup>; *gone off on one*; *having a paddy*

## SPONTANEOUS LEXIS

**and all** = too, as well (0:30:18 *my uncle says that and all a lot when he’s speaking* (‘and all’?) *no, when he when he’s speaking he’ll say ‘whatchacallit’ and stuff like that*)

**as**<sup>6</sup> = as can be (0:36:28 *my mum was looking at buying a house in Bulgaria ear... earlier this year and she was saying, “oh yeah, we’ll go up there every month and we can have all these holidays and I said, “well, I can’t go during the football season there’s” and, you know, “I won’t be going simple as”*)

**at the minute** = at the moment (0:07:42 *(we try try and sing player’s songs if we can and get behind the players and the manager) we haven’t got that many songs at the minute though for players (we’ve not though, no) because we haven’t got anybody there who’s, like, any we haven’t got any characters at the club any more, have we? (we’ve not, no)*)

**aught**<sup>6</sup> = anything (0:56:59 *(they say ‘again’ quite a lot instead of ‘agai...’ um ‘against’ or ‘gi’en’ instead of ‘given’ and) yeah (or even ‘gen’ sometimes) yeah (“oh, he g... he gen him a tenner”)* *yeah (it’s like, “you what?”)* *(it just seems that that) “yeah, I haven’t gen him aught” (yeah)*)

**big time** = to a great degree, extensively (0:34:21 *(he will he does he takes the mick summat rotten) oh, big time, yeah*)

**bling bling** = ostentatious jewellery (0:31:52 *(I’ve been, like, recalled to the as a chav and I don’t wear cheap clothes) yeah, but you’re not, yeah, but you’re not a chav you’re not wearing Burberry<sup>7</sup> and bloody bling bling*)

**bugger** = nuisance, so-and-so (0:56:19 *my grandad he’s very um “eh, you bugger” kind of person, you know (yeah) yeah (is yours as well?) and he’ll eff and blind every other word but I don’t think it’s him being rude or anything it’s just in his nature, you know [...] “oh, you bugger” and that’s all he ever says, “you bugger, that were a good ‘un” or he’s, “you bugger, it’s cold”*)

**dense** = stupid, unintelligent (0:14:11 *it’s like people from Nottingham and Derby they’ve got a similar accent to us but it’s sort of more Yorkshire because that you’re getting further north but they speak slower so they sound a bit more dense than say, like, people from Leicester*)

**eff and blind** = to use word ‘fuck’, to swear frequently (0:56:19 *my grandad he’s very um “eh, you bugger” kind of person, you know (yeah) yeah (is yours as well?) and he’ll eff and blind every other word but I don’t think it’s him being rude or anything it’s just in his nature, you know [...] “oh, you bugger” and that’s all he ever says, “you bugger, that were a good ‘un” or he’s, “you bugger, it’s cold”*)

**fag** = cigarette (0:33:23 *well they’ll stand on the street corners smoking their fags (yeah) and with their skirts up to their arses (yeah)*)

**gie**<sup>6</sup> = to give (0:16:50 *(things like ‘give’ you don’t say ‘give’, do you, you say ‘gie it’ or) yeah, “gie it here” (“gie it here”); 0:19:46 (what about ‘to play a game’?) (‘to play’) “gie us a game on that”;* 0:56:59 *they say ‘again’ quite a lot instead of ‘agai...’ um ‘against’ or ‘gi’en’ instead of ‘given’ and (yeah) or even ‘gen’ sometimes (yeah) “oh, he g... he gen him a tenner” (yeah) it’s like, “you what?” it just seems that that (“yeah, I haven’t gen him aught”) yeah*)

**goth** = person, genre of music and associated youth culture, characterised by wearing black clothes and striking make up (0:31:33 *‘chav’ actually describes a s... kind of person, doesn’t it? (yeah, ‘cause that’s what they are) (yeah, ‘cause they are a chav) well you could be trendy and be a goth, couldn’t you?*)

<sup>4</sup> Long-running British soap opera broadcast on ITV since 1960 set in fictitious town of Weatherfield, Greater Manchester.

<sup>5</sup> *Dictionary of Contemporary Slang* (2014) includes ‘arse-on’ in this sense.

<sup>6</sup> This item is suggested by the interviewer as indicative of local dialect speakers.

<sup>7</sup> British luxury designer label established 1856.

**gran** = grandmother (0:56:09 *um there's a few people who I wouldn't swear when I'm in their company and I wouldn't swear when I'm with my gran (no)*)

**gyp** = ridicule, verbal abuse (0:20:27 *and you're left-handed as well and have you had a lot of gyp about it? (no, 'cause I keep quiet)*)

**het up**<sup>Δ</sup> = riled, angry (0:04:28 *I love it I th... it's um think it's a working-class game, football is, and and it is very passionate people who get quite het up about it so, you know, there is a lot of strong language down there)*)

**kid** = child (0:22:36 *(so 'minging' I thought that was quite recent but no you've been) no, used that since I were a kid (have you?) yeah; 0:46:43 reserve matches fair enough but I don't think little kids I think about five is about the right age to start taking your kids down (yeah) because before that they get bored; 0:48:07 do you know going back to taking kids at the football and I think if I did have children or whatever and took them to games it'd have to I'd take them quite probably may... maybe eight or something because I I have to be in the in the ground where the best atmosphere is, you know, 'cause (with the language and that) I I couldn't sit in in a boring seat)*)

**love** = form of address (0:55:32 *think the only difference is where we'll probably say 'me duck' and me nan will say 'me love' or something like that)*)

**me duck**<sup>▼</sup> = form of address (0:12:26 *Leicester people sometimes say 'me duck' people don't understand that from up north or st... places like that; 0:55:32 think the only difference is where we'll probably say 'me duck' and me nan will say 'me love' or something like that)*)

**nan** = grandmother (0:55:32 *think the only difference is where we'll probably say 'me duck' and me nan will say 'me love' or something like that)*)

**nob** = person with wealth and/or privileged social position (0:32:12 *(and then all of a sudden) all all the posh nobs (and then all of a sudden all the sort of [...] can't trying not to be nasty now but the, you know, people that are not from those backgrounds are now buying it and especially a lot of fake)*)

**Paki** = Pakistani, South Asian (0:52:08 *"it's like a town full of Pakis" ("town full of Pakis") we get that a lot when we go away (yeah, "town") (really?) (um "I'd rather bomb Leicester than Iraq" we've had)*)

**quid** = pound sterling (0:32:36 *I used to wear quite a bit of Burberry<sup>7</sup> a couple of years ago and it were just it weren't really a known make and it was more of a posh make than anything and it weren't till they started copying it and there was loads of fakes and you could, you know, if you brought a Burberry scarf or something it could be worth sixty quid or something and then you go and get a fake off the market for two quid and that kind of really devalued it a bit)*)

**right** = real, utter (0:22:06 *(what would be a sentence?) "she's a right dog, she is" [...] (have you noticed it's always 'she') ('she', I know) (well, we're not gonna say, "he's a right dog", are we?) (you never know)*)

**rotten** = completely, totally (0:34:21 *he will he does he takes the mick summat rotten (oh, big time, yeah)*)

**take the mick** = to mock, ridicule (0:34:21 *he will he does he takes the mick summat rotten (oh, big time, yeah)*)

**sheepshagger** = term of abuse directed at Derby County fans (0:10:15 *(so what do you say about Derby what's what's the chant?) ("sheepshaggers") "sheepshaggers" (so you just shout that?) (yeah) (and are there songs as well that go with Derby?) (uh, yeah) "what's it like to shag a sheep?" "sing when you're shearing" (it's all quality stuff)*)

**stick**<sup>Δ</sup> = harsh criticism, verbal abuse (0:41:33 *and we'd we'd been getting a lot of stick off of the Manchester United fans as well who were uh loving it (yeah, with, like, ten minutes to go it's like, "ten minutes till you're going down") yeah ("nine minutes till you're going down" stuff like that)*)

**summat**<sup>Δ</sup> = something (0:34:21 *he will he does he takes the mick summat rotten (oh, big time, yeah)*)

**thicky**<sup>Δ</sup> = unintelligent person (0:21:10 *that's why a lot of left-handed people get diagnosed as being dyslexic because you can do things like that (yeah) so you might put the odd letter backwards and before you know it the the teachers are hauling you out and calling you a 'thicky')*)

**well** = very, really (0:18:29 *(uh 'pleased?') ('chuffed') ('chuffed' yeah, definitely) 'well made-up')*)

## PHONOLOGY

### KIT [ɪ]

(0:03:26 *I don't think* [θɪŋk] *I've got an accent I mean (you never do, do you?) yeah, I don't I listen* [lɪsən] *to myself think* [θɪŋk] *I sound all right and then people say, "you're from Hinckley"* [ɪŋkleɪ] *and I'm like, "am I?"*; 0:12:07 *I suppose I do when I speak to other people from other cities* [sɪtɪz] *'cause uh I'm in the building* [brɪʊdɪn] *trade so I travel a lot*; 0:46:43 *reserve matches fair enough* [ɪnʊf] *but I don't think* [θɪŋk] *little* [lɪʔʊ] *kids* [kɪdz] *I think* [θɪŋk] *about five is about the right age to start taking your kids* [kɪdz] *down (yeah) because before that they get bored*)

**<en-, ex->** (0:08:36 *everyone expects* [ɛkspɛks] *a lot from him and he's not been performing lately that maybe they've been disappointed*; 0:05:07 (*what do you think?*) *yeah, well they stick it next to the away fans and course the away fans don't know they're next to a family enclosure* [famli ɪŋkleʊzə] *so they start swearing and then the club gets complaints from parents because they've had to put up with the away supporters swearing*; 0:23:43 (*"she's up the duff, isn't she?"*) *you I thi... you tend to do it to to people that you don't like I mean if it was, like, your best mate that was pregnant you wouldn't say, "oh, my my best mate's up the duff" you go, "oh, my my best mate's expecting"* [ɪkspɛktɪŋ]; 0:54:50 (*you'll have to support Hinckley Town*) (*yeah, well there on the up, ain't they?*) *Hinckley United Hinckley Town doesn't exist* [ɛgzɪst] *no more*)

**give(n)** (0:16:50 (*things like 'give'* [gɪv] *you don't say 'give', [gɪv] do you, you say 'give it'* [gi: ɪt] *or*) *yeah, "give it here"* [gi: ɪt ɪ:] (*"give it here"* [gi: ɪt ɪ:]); 0:56:59 *they say 'again' quite a lot instead of 'agai...'* *um 'against' or 'given'* [gɪn] *instead of 'given'* [gɪvən] *and (yeah) or even 'gave' sometimes (yeah) "oh, he g... he gave him a tenner" (yeah) it's like, "you what?" it just seems that that ("yeah, I haven't given [gɛn] him aught") yeah*)

### DRESS [ɛ]

(0:02:37 *it is a bit, yes,* [jɛs] *although they did take some of the old um Members Stand* [mɛmbəz stand] *when* [wɛn] *that got knocked down for the Carling Stand but it wasn't the same*; 0:03:04 *I think it's because it's so close to the border with Warwickshire Nuneaton and that it kind of comes across especially* [ɛspɛʃli] *some of the words we pick it up from the other side of the border*; 0:06:19 *we have to know more about the game 'cause otherwise we get belittled by men* [mɛn] *telling* [tɛlɪn] *us that we don't know anything,* [ɛniθɪŋ] *"oh, you don't know what offside is" (yeah) so if you can rattle the offside rule off then* [ðɛn] *you're all right*)

### TRAP [a]

(0:06:19 *we have to* [haftə] *know more about the game 'cause otherwise we get belittled by men telling us that we don't know anything, "oh, you don't know what offside is" (yeah) so if you can rattle* [ɹaʔt] *the offside rule off then you're all right*; 0:10:06 *fifty-fifty with the chants fifty per cent is chants getting behind the team and then the other fifty we're, you know, mocking the other fans* [fanz] *and local rivals and stuff*; 0:33:23 *well they'll stand* [stand] *on the street corners smoking their fags* [fagz] *(yeah) and with their skirts up to their arses (yeah)*; 0:52:08 (*it's like a town full of Pakis* [pakɪz] (*"town full of Pakis"* [pakɪz]) *we get that* [ðəʔ] *a lot when we go away (yeah, "town") (really?) (um "I'd rather bomb Leicester than Iraq"* [ɪak] *we've had* [had]))

**accentuate** (0:13:59 *if you're from Birmingham and you have an accent and you speak at a normal speed then it's not so bad but the problem is (in a way) is that a lot of people from Birmingham talk slowly so it accentuates* [ɪksɛntʃuɛɪts] *the accent*)

**papa** (0:30:32 (*what about 'grandfather'?*) (*'grandad'*) (*yeah, just 'grandad'*) *no, I call mine 'papa'* [pəpə])

**LOT** [ɒ]

(0:08:49 *yeah, he's someone that maybe not [nɒʔ] a big name but he's done well in Scotland [skɒʔlənd] so maybe he can bring it down here and get us promotion this season; 0:10:06 fifty-fifty with the chants fifty per cent is chants getting behind the team and then the other fifty we're, you know, mocking [mɒkɪn] the other fans and local rivals and stuff; 0:26:13 [...] people say 'football kit' if you're getting new shorts and long [lɒŋ] socks [sɒks]*)

**STRUT** [ʊ > ə]

(0:01:33 *we don't use text-speak or 'cause I mean it does [dʊz] get very annoying you can't always understand [ʊndəstand] it so it is us [ʊz] all it's always proper English; 0:03:04 I think it's because it's so close to the border with Warwickshire Nuneaton [nəni:tɒn] and that it kind of comes [kʊmz] across especially some [sʊm] of the words we pick it up [ʊp] from the other [ʊðə] side of the border; 0:30:18 my uncle [ʊŋkɪ] says that and all a lot when he's speaking ('and all?') no, when he when he's speaking he'll say 'whatchacallit' and stuff [stʌf] like that*)

**ONE** (0:05:48 *um my dad took me to my first game and then I started going with a friend but problem is neither my none [nʊn] of my friends like football very much so in the end I go on my own sounds quite desperate, doesn't it?; 0:06:10 it is now, isn't it, there's a lot more women who go football now I mean I think women know more about football than men anyway (oh, yeah) because we're the ones [wʊnz] who talk more sense; 0:28:35 I call my little brother 'little one' [lɪʔlən]; 0:33:37 (Elizabeth Duke<sup>8</sup> specials and ca... I can't even think of a cheap cosmetic company) (you don't want to you daren't say anything so you offend anyone [ɛnɪwʊn]) (I don't know I just can't think, no, no) it's cheap ones [wʊnz] off the market; 0:43:51 I'm not eighteen yet so obviously I ain't going to have a tattoo but I al... always want one [wʊn] on my heart, you know, on well on the chest; 0:56:19 my grandad he's very um "eh, you bugger" kind of person, you know (yeah) yeah (is yours as well?) and he'll eff and blind every other word but I don't think it's him being rude or anything it's just in his nature, you know [...] "oh, you bugger" and that's all he ever says, "you bugger, that were a good one" [gʊdən] or he's, "you bugger, it's cold")*)

**FOOT** [ʊ > ə]

(0:05:48 *um my dad took [tʊk] me to my first game and then I started going with a friend but problem is neither my none of my friends like football [fʊtbɔ:ʔ] very much so in the end I go on my own sounds quite desperate, doesn't it?; 0:08:16 sort of you couldn't [kʊdnʔ] connect with the players (you can't get attached to them) you can't get attached to them because you don't know if they're going to stay or if they're going to go and the players have got that same attitude as well; 0:35:15 (I mean if I had to move to another part of the country I would [wʊd] but I'd still go the football) yeah (but like he says you can't do that if you move abroad so) well the thing is, like, you've been to every game for, like, what twelve years is it now or something so to give that up it it'd be like you're giving your life up really, aren't you, you know, I couldn't [kʊdnʔ] move away I wouldn't [wʊnʔ] dream of it; 0:36:28 my mum was looking [lʊkɪn] at buying a house in Bulgaria ear... earlier this year and she was saying, "oh yeah, we'll go up there every month and we can have all these holidays and I said, "well, I can't go during the football [fʊtbɔ:ʔ] season there's" and, you know, "I won't be going simple as")*)

**BATH** [a]

(0:03:47 *yeah, it's very um rural but you kind of with Leicestershire I think you you look at, like, Newcastle [nu:kəsəʔ] and Liverpool you can always tell where different people've ki... come from but Leicester I don't think there's really a distinctive accent; 0:04:28 I love it I th... it's um think it's a working-class [wɜ:kɪŋkləs] game, football is, and and it is very passionate people who get quite het up*)

<sup>8</sup> Jewellery and watch brand within British retail chain, Argos.

*about it so, you know, there is a lot of strong language down there; 0:10:06 fifty-fifty with the chants [tʃants] fifty per cent is chants [tʃants] getting behind the team and then the other fifty we're, you know, mocking the other fans and local rivals and stuff; 0:50:08 (now 'cause we meet up as a group and socialise it it makes it a lot better, doesn't it, you kind of really forget about the game) we don't tend to talk about the match much after [aftə] (no) (no) afterwards [aftəwədz])*

### CLOTH [ɒ]

*(0:03:04 I think it's because it's so close to the border with Warwickshire Nuneaton and that it kind of comes across [ækɒs] especially some of the words we pick it up from the other side of the border; 0:06:19 we have to know more about the game 'cause otherwise we get belittled by men telling us that we don't know anything, "oh, you don't know what offside [ɒfsaɪd] is" (yeah) so if you can rattle the offside [ɒfsaɪd] rule off [ɒf] then you're all right; 0:31:33 'chav' actually describes a s... kind of person, doesn't it? (yeah, 'cause that's what they are) (yeah, 'cause they are a chav) well you could be trendy and be a goth, [gɒf] couldn't you?)*

*posh (0:27:51 (and what about you?) ('mum' or 'mother') ('mother'?) (yes) very posh [pəʊʃ]<sup>9</sup>; 0:32:12 (and then all of a sudden) all all the posh [pɒʃ] nobs (and then all of a sudden all the sort of [...] can't trying not to be nasty now but the, you know, people that are not from those backgrounds are now buying it and especially a lot of fake))*

### NURSE [ə:]

*(0:03:04 I think it's because it's so close to the border with Warwickshire Nuneaton and that it kind of comes across especially some of the words [wə:dz] we pick it up from the other side of the border; 0:14:11 it's like people from Nottingham and Derby they've got a similar accent to us but it's sort of more Yorkshire because that you're getting further [fə:ðə] north but they speak slower so they sound a bit more dense than say, like, people from Leicester; 0:33:23 well they'll stand on the street corners smoking their fags (yeah) and with their skirts [skə:ts] up to their arses (yeah))*

*her (0:28:18 (I call it 'small' now though it's six years old but I call it 'small') you call you call it you call it 'it' ('it', yeah) and you know, that's what you call her [ɒ] 'it' ('it' it is an 'it'))*

### FLEECE [i:]

*(0:33:41 ca... I can't even [i:vən] think of a cheap [tʃi:p] cosmetic company (you don't want to you daren't say anything so you offend anyone) I don't know I just can't think, no, no (it's cheap [tʃi:p] ones off the market); 0:13:59 if you're from Birmingham and you have an accent and you speak [spi:k] at a normal speed [spi:d] then it's not so bad but the problem is (in a way) is that a lot of people [pi:pʃ] from Birmingham talk slowly so it accentuates the accent; 0:21:10 that's why a lot of left-handed people [pi:pʃ] get diagnosed as being [bi:ɪn] dyslexic because you can do things like that (yeah) so you might put the odd letter backwards and before you know it the the teachers [ti:tʃəz] are hauling you out and calling you a 'thicky'; 0:39:56 (but I was actually jumping up and down at that point cheering and I didn't stop when Steve Walsh<sup>10</sup> [sti:v wɒʃ] poked it in) I think that match was more about relief [ɪli:f] because we'd never won at Wembley<sup>11</sup>)*

*(be)en (0:01:10 (what age did you start liking football?) uh be [bi] from early age when my dad got me into it; 0:08:36 everyone expects a lot from him and he's not been performing [bɪm pəfɔ:mɪn] lately that maybe they've been [bɪn] disappointed with some of the performances lately but he will pick up under the new manager hopefully so we'll see the best of him; 0:24:15 I've noticed they've started using 'mardy' a lot on Coronation Street<sup>4</sup> (yeah, mardy) and that's been [bɪn] our phrase for years and years and years; 0:31:52 I've been, [bɪn] like, recalled to the as a*

<sup>9</sup> This pronunciation is consciously 'performed' to disparage overtly middle-class speakers.

<sup>10</sup> Former Leicester City footballer (b.1964).

<sup>11</sup> Wembley Stadium opened 1927 in North West London as 'Empire Stadium' subsequently rebuilt and re-opened 2007.

*chav and I don't wear cheap clothes (yeah, but you're not, yeah, but you're not a chav you're not wearing Burberry<sup>7</sup> and bloody bling bling); 0:35:15 (I mean if I had to move to another part of the country I would but I'd still go the football) yeah (but like he says you can't do that if you move abroad so) well the thing is, like, you've been [bɪn] to every game for, like, what twelve years is it now or something so to give that up it it'd be like you're giving your life up really, aren't you, you know, I couldn't move away I wouldn't dream of it)*

*we (0:31:24 ('chav') (is that exactly that description?) (yeah, or 'geezer') that is it we [wi] were all using that well before the newspapers picked up on it, weren't we? [wə:nʔwɛ] (oh yes))*

## FACE

[ɛɪ]

*(0:02:37 it is a bit, yes, although they did take [tɛɪk] some of the old um Members Stand when that got knocked down for the Carling Stand but it wasn't the same [sɛɪm]; 0:06:48 places [plɛɪsɪz] like Everton Leeds a lot of the northern towns, isn't it, that that don't have women well i... in such or it doesn't appear to be the the numbers; 0:48:07 do you know going back to taking [tɛɪkɪŋ] kids at the football and I think if I did have children or whatever and took them to games [gɛɪmz] it'd have to I'd take [tɛɪk] them quite probably may... [mɛɪ] maybe [mɛɪbi] eight [ɛɪʔ] or something because I I have to be in the in the ground where the best atmosphere is, you know, 'cause (with the language and that) I I couldn't sit in in a boring seat; 0:52:49 I think they are very much in the minority I just think they're intimidated [ɪntɪmɪdeɪtɪd] when they go to the matches and they don't want to go)*

*ain't (0:16:06 yeah, my little brother he's he says 'ain't you' [ɛɪnʔjʊ] and my dad don't like it when he says that he prefers it 'haven't you'; 0:16:15 we seem seem to miss off quite a lot of words and stuff, you know, 'ain't you' [ɛɪntʃə] it's 'ain't you' [ɛɪnʔjʊ] or 'Leicester' becomes 'Leicester' or, you know what I mean, it's quite lazy; 0:18:20 (believe it or not there's fifteen years between myself and Matt) (really?) (yeah) (my word) he he's the baby of the lot, ain't you? [ɪnʔjʊ]; 0:43:51 I'm not eighteen yet so obviously I ain't [ɛɪnʔ] going to have a tattoo but I al... always want one on my heart, you know, on well on the chest; 0:48:47 (what and they don't like that in the Family Stand?) (no, well it it's) (some of them don't) it's clapping really, ain't it? [ɛɪnɪʔ] (yeah); 0:54:50 (you'll have to support Hinckley Town) yeah, well there on the up, ain't they? [ɪnʔðɛɪ] (Hinckley United Hinckley Town doesn't exist no more))*

*always (0:01:33 we don't use text-speak or 'cause I mean it does get very annoying you can't always [ɔ:wɪz] understand it so it is us all it's always [ɔ:wɛɪz] proper English; 0:03:47 yeah, it's very um rural but you kind of with Leicestershire I think you you look at, like, Newcastle and Liverpool you can always [ɔ:wɪz] tell where different people've ki... come from but Leicester I don't think there's really a distinctive accent; 0:09:05 I think whenever I go to Arsenal their fans always [ɔ:wɪz] seem willing to (they talk sense) talk to you and, you know, (yeah) make they make you feel welcome; 0:43:51 I'm not eighteen yet so obviously I ain't going to have a tattoo but I al... always [ɔ:ɸwɪz] want one on my heart, you know, on well on the chest)*

*<-day> (0:36:28 my mum was looking at buying a house in Bulgaria ear... earlier this year and she was saying, "oh yeah, we'll go up there every month and we can have all these holidays [ɒlədeɪz] and I said, "well, I can't go during the football season there's" and, you know, "I won't be going simple as")*

## PALM

[ɑ:]

*(0:01:33 we don't use text-speak or 'cause I mean it does get very annoying you can't [kɑ:n] always understand it so it is us all it's always proper English; 0:38:52 it felt like five minutes, didn't it, before we everyone realised he'd scored (yeah) it must been, like, half [hɑ:f] a second and then everyone just went mental; 0:52:08 ("it's like a town full of Pakis") ("town full of Pakis") (we get that a lot when we go away) yeah, "town" (really?) um "I'd rather [ɪɑ:ðə] bomb Leicester than Iraq" we've had)*



## THOUGHT

[ɔ:]

(0:06:10 *it is now, isn't it, there's a lot more women who go football* [fʊʔbɔ:ɪ] *now I mean I think women know more about football* [fʊʔbɔ:ɪ] *than men anyway (oh, yeah) because we're the ones who talk* [tɔ:k] *more sense; 0:21:10 that's why a lot of left-handed people get diagnosed as being dyslexic because you can do things like that (yeah) so you might put the odd letter backwards and before you know it the the teachers are hauling* [hɔ:lɪŋ] *you out and calling* [kɔ:lɪŋ] *you a 'thicky'; 0:39:33 I looked at the players then I saw* [sɔ:] *the linesman and the referee running back towards the centre circle and then it was like, "hang on we've just scored" and then it all erupted)*

**ought**<sup>6</sup> (0:56:59 *(they say 'again' quite a lot instead of 'agai...' um 'against' or 'given' instead of 'given' and) yeah (or even 'gave' sometimes) yeah ("oh, he g... he gave him a tenner") yeah (it's like, "you what?" it just seems that that) "yeah, I haven't given him ought" [əʊt] (yeah))*

## GOAT

[əʊ]

(0:03:04 *I think it's because it's so* [səʊ] *close* [kləʊs] *to the border with Warwickshire Nuneaton and that it kind of comes across especially some of the words we pick it up from the other side of the border; 0:24:15 I've noticed* [nəʊtɪst] *they've started using 'mardy' a lot on Coronation Street*<sup>4</sup> *(yeah, mardy) and that's been our phrase for years and years and years; 0:33:23 well they'll stand on the street corners smoking* [sməʊkɪŋ] *their fags (yeah) and with their skirts up to their arses (yeah); 0:35:54 you can't even get radio* [ɹeɪdɪəʊ] *over* [əʊnə] *there so* [səʊ] *you'd just have to check up on the internet wouldn't be the same (no) you wouldn't part-time fan)*

**don't (know)** (0:03:26 *I don't* [dʊnʔ] *think I've got an accent I mean (you never do, do you?) yeah, I don't* [dʊnʔ] *I listen to myself think I sound all right and then people say, "you're from Hinckley" and I'm like, "am I?"; 0:03:47 yeah, it's very um rural but you kind of with Leicestershire I think you you you look at, like, Newcastle and Liverpool you can always tell where different people've ki... come from but Leicester I don't* [dəʊnʔ] *think there's really a distinctive accent; 0:16:06 yeah, my little brother he's he says 'ain't you' and my dad don't* [dəʊnʔ] *like it when he says that he prefers it 'haven't you'; 0:33:37 Elizabeth Duke*<sup>8</sup> *specials and ca... I can't even think of a cheap cosmetic company (you don't* [dʊnʔ] *want to you daren't say anything so you offend anyone) I don't know* [dənəʊ] *I just can't think, no, no (it's cheap ones off the market); 0:36:58 I don't know* [dʊnʔnəʊ] *because I mean I know a lot rugby fans anyway so and I mean they work hard for their money same as us; 0:46:43 reserve matches fair enough but I don't* [dʊnʔ] *think little kids I think about five is about the right age to start taking your kids down (yeah) because before that they get bored; 0:50:08 (now 'cause we meet up as a group and socialise it it makes it a lot better, doesn't it, you kind of really forget about the game) we don't* [dʊnʔ] *tend to talk about the match much after (no) (no) afterwards)*

**go(ing) (to)** (0:05:28 *um I first started going when I was about sixteen that was when mum I think my mum realised then that there was no way she was going to* [gənə] *stop me from going* [gəʊɪŋ] *'cause I was old enough to make my own choice; 0:06:10 it is now, isn't it, there's a lot more women who go* [gʊ] *football now I mean I think women know more about football than men anyway (oh, yeah) because we're the ones who talk more sense; 0:08:16 sort of you couldn't connect with the players (you can't get attached to them) you can't get attached to them because you don't know if they're going* [gəʊɪŋ] *to stay or if they're going* [gəʊɪŋ] *to go* [gəʊ] *and the players have got that same attitude as well; 0:09:15 there's some clubs where you can go* [gʊu] *and you know it's going to* [gʊnə] *be an absolute nightmare; 0:09:27 I think that had a lot to do with the police attitude (yeah) as well they kept us inside for fifteen minutes after the game and all we want do was go* [gʊ] *to the coaches which were right over the road; 0:22:06 (what would be a sentence?) ("she's a right dog, she is") [...] (have you noticed it's always 'she') ('she', I know)*

well, we're not going to [gʊnə] say, "he's a right dog", are we? (you never know); 0:37:56 it's cheaper to go [gʊ] and watch the rugby than it is to go [gʊ] watch the football; 0:41:33 (and we'd we'd been getting a lot of stick off of the Manchester United fans as well who were uh loving it) yeah, with, like, ten minutes to go it's like, "ten minutes till you're going [gʊɪn] down" (yeah) "nine minutes till you're going [gʊɪn] down" stuff like that; 0:43:51 I'm not eighteen yet so obviously I ain't going to [gənə] have a tattoo but I al... always want one on my heart, you know, on well on the chest; 0:50:25 I don't I don't think we do, do we, (no) I mean be... even before the game we don't talk about it much (no) we talk about what we think's going happen [gənəpən] and that and then I think when we're in the pub we're in the pub; 0:52:49 I think they are very much in the minority I just think they're intimidated when they go [gʊ] to the matches and they don't want to go [gʊu])  
 so (0:13:59 if you're from Birmingham and you have an accent and you speak at a normal speed then it's not so [sə] bad but the problem is (in a way) is that a lot of people from Birmingham talk slowly so it accentuates the accent; 0:35:54 you can't even get radio over there so [səʊ] you'd just have to check up on the internet wouldn't be the same (no) you wouldn't part-time fan; 0:53:16 again it's mostly it's mostly men with the the blacks not so [sə] many the women you get the young Asian girls going because they tend to be going with the lads)

**GOAL****[ɔʊ]**

(0:02:37 it is a bit, yes, although they did take some of the old [ɔʊtɪd] um Members Stand when that got knocked down for the Carling Stand but it wasn't the same; 0:06:29 I think Leicester City's got or they used to have the highest proportion of female season ticket-holders [tɪkɪtɪhɔʊtɪdɪz] of any club in the country; 0:38:05 people argue, "oh, it's a better sport" but I think the whole [ɔʊt] atmosphere round football and the whole [ɔʊt] day out is ten times better than what your rugby is)

**GOOSE****[uː]**

(0:03:47 yeah, it's very um rural but you kind of with Leicestershire I think you you you look at, like, Newcastle [nuːkəsət] and Liverpool [lɪvəpuːt] you can always tell where different people've ki... come from but Leicester I don't think there's really a distinctive accent; 0:08:16 sort of you couldn't connect with the players (you can't get attached to them) you can't get attached to them because you don't know if they're going to stay or if they're going to go and the players have got that same attitude [atrɪfjuːd] as well; 0:35:15 I mean if I had to move [muːv] to another part of the country I would but I'd still go the football (yeah) but like he says you can't do [duː] that if you move [muːv] abroad so (well the thing is, like, you've been to every game for, like, what twelve years is it now or something so to give that up it'd be like you're giving your life up really, aren't you, you know, I couldn't move [muːv] away I wouldn't dream of it))

**you** (0:16:06 yeah, my little brother he's he says 'ain't you' [ɛɪnʔjʊ] and my dad don't like it when he says that he prefers it 'haven't you' [hævənʔjuː]; 0:16:15 we seem seem to miss off quite a lot of words and stuff, you know, 'ain't you' [ɛɪntʃə] it's 'ain't you' [ɛɪnʔjʊ] or 'Leicester' becomes 'Leicester' or, you know what I mean, it's quite lazy; 0:18:20 (believe it or not there's fifteen years between myself and Matt) (really?) (yeah) (my word) he he's the baby of the lot, ain't you? [ɪnʔjʊ]; 0:31:33 'chav' actually describes a s... kind of person, doesn't it? (yeah, 'cause that's what they are) (yeah, 'cause they are a chav) well you could be trendy and be a goth, couldn't you? [kʊdntʃʊ]; 0:35:15 (I mean if I had to move to another part of the country I would but I'd still go the football) yeah (but like he says you can't do that if you move abroad so) well the thing is, like, you've been to every game for, like, what twelve years is it now or something so to give that up it'd be like you're giving your life up really, aren't you, [aːnʔjʊ] you know, I couldn't move

away I wouldn't dream of it; 0:53:50 you [jə] can't stand up without a steward coming up to you [jə] and saying, "sit down" (it's a pain, isn't it?)

**PRICE** [aɪ > aɪ]

(0:03:04 I think it's because it's so close to the border with Warwickshire Nuneaton and that it kind [kaɪnd] of comes across especially some of the words we pick it up from the other side [saɪd] of the border; 0:09:27 I think that had a lot to do with the police attitude (yeah) as well they kept us inside [ɪnsa:d] for fifteen minutes after the game and all we want do was go to the coaches which were right [raɪt] over the road; 0:41:52 (what was it like when you moved from Filbert Street<sup>12</sup> 'cause that must've been) (really emotional, that was, that was awful) (I cried [kɪaɪd]) oh last last match I cried [kɪaɪd] my eyes [aɪz] out I were all right [ɔ:ra:] until Muzzy<sup>13</sup> got subbed because we all thought it was Muzzy's last match)

**I** (0:03:26 I [aɪ] don't think I've [aɪv] got an accent I [a] mean (you never do, do you?) yeah, I [a] don't I [a] listen to myself think I [a] sound all right and then people say, "you're from Hinckley" and I'm [am] like, "am I?" [am])

**my** (0:01:10 (what age did you start liking football?) uh be from early age when my [ma] dad got me into it; 0:12:26 Leicester people sometimes say, "my [mɪ] duck", people don't understand that from up north or st... places like that; 0:16:06 yeah, my [ma] little brother he's he says 'ain't you' and my [ma] dad don't like it when he says that he prefers it 'haven't you'; 0:18:20 believe it or not there's fifteen years between myself [mɒsɛtʃ] and Matt (really?) yeah (my word) (he he's the baby of the lot, ain't you?); 0:23:43 ("she's up the duff, isn't she?") you I thi... you tend to do it to to people that you don't like I mean if it was, like, your best mate that was pregnant you wouldn't say, "oh, my [mɪ] my [ma] best mate's up the duff" you go, "oh, my [maɪ] my [maɪ] best mate's expecting"; 0:27:34 actually to be ho... I I picked that one up off my [mɪ] sister's ex-boyfriend who was from Birmingham and I think that's quite common round there (I've never heard that before) have you not?; 0:28:35 I call my [mɪ] little brother 'little one'; 0:41:15 I mean I can feel the hair standing on the back of my [mɪ] neck now (yeah, yeah, you can) it were just standing there and you were singing it and it were like, "oh my God" but just seeing all them lot in the West Stand stand, you know, in the main stand stand up; 0:41:52 (what was it like when you moved from Filbert Street<sup>12</sup> 'cause that must've been) (really emotional, that was, that was awful) (I cried) oh last last match I cried my eyes [mɒl aɪz] out I were all right until Muzzy<sup>13</sup> got subbed because we all thought it was Muzzy's last match; 0:43:51 I'm not eighteen yet so obviously I ain't going to have a tattoo but I al... always want one on my [mə] heart, you know, on well on the chest; 0:55:32 think the only difference is where we'll probably say 'my duck' [mɪ dʌk] and my [mɪ] nan will say 'my love' [mɪ lʌv] or something like that; 0:56:09 um there's a few people who I wouldn't swear when I'm in their company and I wouldn't swear when I'm with my [mə] gran (no))

**CHOICE** [ɔɪ]

(0:05:28 um I first started going when I was about sixteen that was when mum I think my mum realised then that there was no way she was going to stop me from going 'cause I was old enough to make my own choice [tʃɔɪs]; 0:08:36 everyone expects a lot from him and he's not been performing lately that maybe they've been disappointed [dɪsəpɔɪntɪd] with some of the performances lately but he will pick up under the new manager hopefully so we'll see the best of him; 0:09:45 we had, you know, we had a minutes')

<sup>12</sup> Former Leicester City football stadium opened 1891 and demolished 2003.

<sup>13</sup> Former Leicester City footballer Mustapha 'Muzzy' Izzet (b.1974).

silence for Keith Weller<sup>14</sup> after he died and there was a lot of noise [nɔɪz] made during it, you know, just lack of respect really so that kind of angered quite a lot of fans)

**MOUTH** [aʊ > aɪ]

(0:05:38 but she she doesn't like sport at all and she didn't think football ground [fʊtˌbɔːl ɡraʊnd] was an appropriate place to take a young girl; 0:05:48 um my dad took me to my first game and then I started going with a friend but problem is neither my none of my friends like football very much so in the end I go on my own sounds [saʊndz] quite desperate, doesn't it?; 0:08:49 yeah, he's someone that maybe not a big name but he's done well in Scotland so maybe he can bring it down [da:n] here and get us promotion this season; 0:34:44 I'm proud [pra:d] uh proud [pra:d] of where I come from (yeah, proud [pra:d] of where I come from) but then I wouldn't wouldn't care about [baʊ?] Leicester as so much if I didn't support the football team or anything; 0:36:28 my mum was looking at buying a house [ha:s] in Bulgaria ear... earlier this year and she was saying, "oh yeah, we'll go up there every month and we can have all these holidays and I said, "well, I can't go during the football season there's" and, you know, "I won't be going simple as")

*our* (0:24:15 I've noticed they've started using 'mardy' a lot on Coronation Street<sup>4</sup> (yeah, mardy) and that's been our [a:] phrase for years and years and years)

**NEAR** [ɪ > ie]

(0:10:15 (so what do you say about Derby what's what's the chant?) ("sheepshaggers") "sheepshaggers" (so you just shout that?) (yeah) (and are there songs as well that go with Derby?) (uh, yeah) "what's it like to shag a sheep?" "sing when you're shearing" [ʃɪ:ɪŋ] (it's all quality stuff); 0:18:54 ('throw'?) 'chuck' ('lob') ('chuck') ('throw it') ('chuck') ('lob') (yeah, 'lob') "chuck it here" [ie]; 0:24:15 I've noticed they've started using 'mardy' a lot on Coronation Street<sup>4</sup> (yeah, mardy) and that's been our phrase for years [jɪ:z] and years [jɪ:z] and years [jɪ:z]; 0:39:10 then and my head just went whoop round following the ball and then also the ball disappeared [dɪsəpɪ:d] and I sort of looked and I (it all went silent) I literally heard I heard the ball hitting the net; 0:54:22 Cardiff away there were (it was standing) parts where there was no seats at all you had to stand and the atmosphere [atmɒsfɪ:] was probably the best away game I've been for the last two two years [jɪ:z])

**SQUARE** [ɛɪ]

(0:05:07 (what do you think?) yeah, well they stick it next to the away fans and course the away fans don't know they're next to a family enclosure so they start swearing [swɛɪɪŋ] and then the club gets complaints from parents [peɪənts] because they've had to put up with the away supporters swearing [swɛɪɪŋ]; 0:09:15 there's some clubs where you can go and you know it's going to be an absolute nightmare [naɪtmɛɪ]; 0:46:43 reserve matches fair enough [fɛɪɪ nʊf] but I don't think little kids I think about five is about the right age to start taking your kids down (yeah) because before that they get bored)

**START** [ɑɪ > ɒɪ ~ aɪ]

(0:02:37 it is a bit, yes, although they did take some of the old um Members Stand when that got knocked down for the Carling Stand [ka:lɪŋ stand] but it wasn't the same; 0:05:07 (what do you think?) yeah, well they stick it next to the away fans and course the away fans don't know they're next to a family enclosure so they start [sta:t] swearing and then the club gets complaints from parents because they've had to put up with the away supporters swearing; 0:14:11 it's like people from Nottingham and Derby [da:bi] they've got a similar accent to us but it's sort of more Yorkshire because that you're getting further north but they speak slower so they sound a bit more dense than say, like, people from Leicester; 0:33:37 (Elizabeth Duke<sup>8</sup> specials and ca... I can't even think of a cheap cosmetic company) (you don't want to you daren't say anything so you offend anyone) (I don't know I just can't think, no, no) it's cheap ones off

<sup>14</sup> Former Leicester City footballer (1946-2004).

*the market* [ma:kɪ?]; 0:35:54 *you can't even get radio over there so you'd just have to check up on the internet wouldn't be the same (no) you wouldn't part-time* [pɔ:ʔta:m] *fan*)

**NORTH-FORCE** [ɔ:]

(0:03:04 *I think it's because it's so close to the border* [bɔ:də] *with Warwickshire Nuneaton and that it kind of comes across especially some of the words we pick it up from the other side of the border* [bɔ:ðɔ]; 0:05:38 *but she she doesn't like sport* [spɔ:ʔ] *at all and she didn't think football ground was an appropriate place to take a young girl*; 0:14:11 *it's like people from Nottingham and Derby they've got a similar accent to us but it's sort of* [sɔ:ʔəv] *more* [mɔ:] *Yorkshire* [jɔ:kʃɪ:] *because that you're getting further north* [nɔ:θ] *but they speak slower so they sound a bit more* [mɔ:] *dense than say, like, people from Leicester*; 0:39:33 *I looked at the players then I saw the linesman and the referee running back towards* [təwɔ:dz] *the centre circle and then it was like, "hang on we've just scored"* [skɔ:d] *and then it all erupted*; 0:46:43 *reserve matches fair enough but I don't think little kids I think about five is about the right age to start taking your kids down (yeah) because before* [bɪfɔ:] *that they get bored* [bɔ:d])

**CURE** [ɔ:]

(0:03:47 *yeah, it's very um rural* [ɹɔ:ɹəʃ] *but you kind of with Leicestershire I think you you you look at, like, Newcastle and Liverpool you can always tell where different people've ki... come from but Leicester I don't think there's really a distinctive accent*; 0:09:45 *we had, you know, we had a minutes' silence for Keith Weller<sup>14</sup> after he died and there was a lot of noise made during* [dʒɔ:ɹɪŋ] *it, you know, just lack of respect really so that kind of angered quite a lot of fans*)

**happy** [ɪ > ε ~ i]<sup>15</sup>

(0:03:26 *I don't think I've got an accent I mean (you never do, do you?) yeah, I don't I listen to myself think I sound all right and then people say, "you're from Hinckley"* [ɪŋklɛ] *and I'm like, "am I?"*; 0:03:47 *yeah, it's very* [vɛ:i] *um rural but you kind of with Leicestershire I think you you you look at, like, Newcastle and Liverpool you can always tell where different people've ki... come from but Leicester I don't think there's really* [ɹɪ:lɪ] *a distinctive accent*; 0:08:36 *everyone expects a lot from him and he's not been performing lately* [lɛɪʔlɪ] *that maybe* [mɛɪbɪ] *they've been disappointed with some of the performances lately* [lɛɪʔlɪ] *but he will pick up under the new manager hopefully* [həʊpfəlɪ] *so we'll see the best of him*; 0:10:06 *fifty-fifty* [fɪftɪfɪftɪ] *with the chants fifty per cent* [fɪftɪ pəsɛnʔ] *is chants getting behind the team and then the other fifty* [fɪftɪ] *we're, you know, mocking the other fans and local rivals and stuff*; 0:14:11 *it's like people from Nottingham and Derby* [da:bi] *they've got a similar accent to us but it's sort of more Yorkshire because that you're getting further north but they speak slower so they sound a bit more dense than say, like, people from Leicester*; 0:33:37 *Elizabeth Duke<sup>8</sup> specials and ca... I can't even think of a cheap cosmetic company* [kʊmpnɪ] *(you don't want to you daren't say anything so you offend anyone) I don't know I just can't think, no, no (it's cheap ones off the market)*; 0:39:56 *(but I was actually* [akʃəli] *jumping up and down at that point cheering and I didn't stop when Steve Walsh<sup>10</sup> poked it in) I think that match was more about relief because we'd never won at Wembley<sup>11</sup>* [wɛmblɛ]; 0:36:58 *I don't know because I mean I know a lot rugby* [ɹʊgbɪ] *fans anyway so and I mean they work hard for their money* [mʊnɛ] *same as us*; 0:45:00 *('narrow walkway between buildings?') 'jitty'* [dʒɪtɪ] *or 'alley'* [ali] *('alley'* [alɪ]) *('entry'* [ɛntɪ] *you get those in, like, some houses, don't you?) (yeah, 'entry'* [ɛntɪ])

**letter** [ə > ɒ]

(0:03:04 *I think it's because it's so close to the border* [bɔ:də] *with Warwickshire Nuneaton and that it kind of comes across especially some of the words we pick it up from the other* [ʊðə] *side of the border*

<sup>15</sup> One speaker (Lisa) varies between [i > ɪ]; the other three speakers vary between [ɪ > ε > i].

[bɔːdɒ]; 0:14:11 *it's like people from Nottingham and Derby they've got a similar accent [sɪmɪlə aksən?] to us but it's sort of more Yorkshire because that you're getting further [fəːðə] north but they speak slower [sləʊ<sup>w</sup>ə] so they sound a bit more dense than say, like, people from Leicester [lɛstə]; 0:16:15 we seem seem to miss off quite a lot of words and stuff, you know, 'ain't you' it's 'ain't you' or 'Leicester' [lɛstə] becomes 'Leicester' [lɛstə] or, you know what I mean, it's quite lazy; 0:21:10 that's why a lot of left-handed people get diagnosed as being dyslexic because you can do things like that (yeah) so you might put the odd letter [lɛtə] backwards [bakwədz] and before you know it the the teachers [tiːtʃəz] are hauling you out and calling you a 'thicky'; 0:36:42 and it's, "well you'd go in the summer" [sʊmp] I'd be like, "yeah, but then I'd miss all the transfer news"; 0:43:36 I would never [nɛvə] get a tattoo of someone's name or something like that because obviously (no, 'cause it can leave you, can't it?) well stuff like that I mean I'd only ever [ɛvə] get a tattoo of something that I love and I'll always love Leicester [lɛstə] so (yeah) just made sense to me)*

**<-shire>** (0:03:04 *I think it's because it's so close to the border with Warwickshire [wɔːɪkʃɪː Nuneaton and that it kind of comes across especially some of the words we pick it up from the other side of the border; 0:03:47 yeah, it's very um rural but you kind of with Leicestershire I [lɛstəʃɪː a] think you you you look at, like, Newcastle and Liverpool you can always tell where different people've ki... come from but Leicester I don't think there's really a distinctive accent; 0:14:11 it's like people from Nottingham and Derby they've got a similar accent to us but it's sort of more Yorkshire [jɔːkʃɪː] because that you're getting further north but they speak slower so they sound a bit more dense than say, like, people from Leicester)*

**comma** [ə > ɒ]

(0:30:32 *(what about 'grandfather'?) ('grandad') (yeah, just 'grandad') no, I call mine 'papa' [pɒpə]; 0:36:28 my mum was looking at buying a house in Bulgaria [bʊɪgɛːɪə] ear... earlier this year and she was saying, "oh yeah, we'll go up there every month and we can have all these holidays and I said, "well, I can't go during the football season there's" and, you know, "I won't be going simple as")*

**nana** (0:27:07 *('grandmother'?) ('grandma') ('grandma') ('nana' [nanə]) ('nana' [nanə]) 'nana' [nanaː] (I use 'nan') 'nana' [nanaː] I use)*

**horses** [ɪ]

(0:06:48 *places [pleɪsɪz] like Everton Leeds a lot of the northern towns, isn't it, that that don't have women well i... in such or it doesn't appear to be the the numbers; 0:33:23 well they'll stand on the street corners smoking their fags (yeah) and with their skirts up to their arses [ɑːsɪz] (yeah); 0:46:43 reserve matches [matʃɪz] fair enough but I don't think little kids I think about five is about the right age to start taking your kids down (yeah) because before that they get bored)*

**started** [ɪ > ə]

(0:05:48 *um my dad took me to my first game and then I started [stɑːɪd] going with a friend but problem is neither my none of my friends like football very much so in the end I go on my own sounds quite desperate, doesn't it?; 0:21:10 that's why a lot of left-handed [lɛfthandɪd] people get diagnosed as being dyslexic because you can do things like that (yeah) so you might put the odd letter backwards and before you know it the the teachers are hauling you out and calling you a 'thicky'; 0:40:58 when we played Man United [mæn jənəɪtəd] (yeah) (everyone stood up together) normally you know which bits of the ground sing it was the Kop<sup>16</sup> some of the East Stand Double Decker<sup>17</sup> (yeah) would but that match for about five minutes the whole ground stood up, didn't they?; 0:52:49 I think they are very much in the minority I just think they're intimidated [ɪntɪmɪdeɪtɪd] when they go to the matches and they don't want to go)*

<sup>16</sup> Nickname for 'Spion Kop', common name for several terraces at British football grounds and of south end stand at Filbert Street – see note 12 above.

<sup>17</sup> Nickname for south end stand at Filbert Street – see note 12 above.

**morNING** [ɪ]

(0:04:28 *I love it I th... it's um think it's a working-class [wə:kɪŋklas] game, football is, and and it is very passionate people who get quite het up about it so, you know, there is a lot of strong language down there; 0:05:07 (what do you think?) yeah, well they stick it next to the away fans and course the away fans don't know they're next to a family enclosure so they start swearing [swɛ:ɪŋ] and then the club gets complaints from parents because they've had to put up with the away supporters swearing [swɛ:ɪŋ]; 0:21:10 that's why a lot of left-handed people get diagnosed as being [bi:ɪn] dyslexic because you can do things like that (yeah) so you might put the odd letter backwards and before you know it the the teachers are hauling [hɔ:lɪŋ] you out and calling [kɔ:lɪŋ] you a 'thicky'; 0:32:36 I used to wear quite a bit of Burberry<sup>7</sup> a couple of years ago and it were just it weren't really a known make and it was more of a posh make than anything [ɛnɪfɪŋ] and it weren't till they started copying [kɒpɪɪŋ] it and there was loads of fakes and you could, you know, if you brought a Burberry scarf or something [sʊmɪn] it could be worth sixty quid or something [sʊmɪŋk] and then you go and get a fake off the market for two quid and that kind of really devalued it a bit)*

**ZERO RHOTICITY****PLOSIVES****T**

**frequent word final T-glottaling** (e.g. 0:02:37 *it is a bit, [bɪʔ] yes, although they did take some of the old um Members Stand when that [ðəʔ] got [gɒʔ] knocked down for the Carling Stand but it [ɪʔ] wasn't [wɒzŋʔ] the same; 0:04:28 I love it [ɪʔ] I th... it's um think it's a working-class game, football is, [fʊʔbɔ:lɪz] and and it [ɪʔ] is very passionate people who get [gɛʔ] quite [kwɑɪʔ] het up about it [ɪʔ] so, you know, there is a lot [lɒʔ] of strong language down there; 0:09:45 we had, you know, we had a minutes' silence for Keith Weller<sup>14</sup> after he died and there was a lot [lɒʔ] of noise made during it, [ɪʔ] you know, just lack of respect really so that [ðəʔ] kind of angered quite [kwɑɪʔ] a lot [lɒʔ] of fans; 0:08:49 yeah, he's someone that [ðəʔ] maybe not [nɒʔ] a big name but [bəʔ] he's done well in Scotland [skɒʔlənd] so maybe he can bring it [ɪʔ] down here and get [gɛʔ] us promotion this season; 0:13:15 sometimes I try and put [pʊʔ] on an accent [aksɛnʔ] try to pretend to be from Birmingham or something, you know; 0:43:51 I'm not [nɒʔ] eighteen yet so obviously I ain't [ɛɪnʔ] going to have a tattoo but I al... always want one on my heart, [hɑ:ʔ] you know, on well on the chest; 0:46:43 reserve matches fair enough but [bəʔ] I don't [dʌnʔ] think little kids I think about [ba:ʔ] five is about [əbaʊʔ] the right [ɪɑɪʔ] age to start [stɑ:ʔ] taking your kids down (yeah) because before that [ðəʔ] they get [gɛʔ] bored; 0:50:08 now 'cause we meet up as a group and socialise it [ɪʔ] it [ɪʔ] makes it [ɪʔ] a lot [lɒʔ] better, doesn't it, [ɪʔ] you kind of really forget [fəgɛʔ] about [əbaʊʔ] the game (we don't [dʌnʔ] tend to talk about the match much after (no) (no) afterwards))*

**frequent word medial & syllable initial T-glottaling** (e.g. 0:06:19 *we have to know more about the game 'cause otherwise we get belittled by men telling us that we don't know anything, "oh, you don't know what offside is" (yeah) so if you can rattle [ɪɑʔt] the offside rule off then you're all right; 0:10:06 fifty-fifty with the chants fifty per cent is chants getting [gɛʔɪn] behind the team and then the other fifty we're, you know, mocking the other fans and local rivals and stuff; 0:16:06 yeah, my little [ɪʔt] brother he's he says 'ain't you' and my dad don't like it when he says that he prefers it 'haven't you'; 0:28:35 I call my little [ɪʔt] brother 'little one' [ɪʔlən]; 0:32:36 I used to wear quite a bit of Burberry<sup>7</sup> a couple of years ago and it were just it weren't really a known make and it was more of a posh make than anything and it weren't till they started [stɑ:ʔɪd] copying it and there was loads of fakes and you could, you know, if you brought a Burberry scarf or something it could be worth sixty quid or something and then you go*

and get a fake off the market for two quid and that kind of really devalued it a bit; 0:38:05 people argue, “oh, it’s a better [bɛʔə] sport” but I think the whole atmosphere round football and the whole day out is ten times better than what your rugby is; 0:44:53 (‘long soft seat in the main room’?) (‘settee’) ‘settee’ [sɛʔi:] (‘sofa’) (‘settee’) ‘settee’ [sɛʔi:] or ‘sofa’; 0:46:43 reserve matches fair enough but I don’t think little [lɪʔʊ] kids I think about five is about the right age to start taking your kids down (yeah) because before that they get bored; 0:50:08 now ‘cause we meet up as a group and socialise it it makes it a lot better, [bɛʔə] doesn’t it, you kind of really forget about the game (we don’t tend to talk about the match much after (no) (no) afterwards))

**T-tapping** (0:43:58 ‘cause you can have no end as many wives or husbands or whatever as [wɒʁɛvɪz əz] you want but I think a football club is for life really)

**T-voicing** (0:02:37 it is a bit, yes, although they did take some of the old um Members Stand when that got knocked down for the Carling Stand but [bəd] it wasn’t the same; 0:06:10 it [ɪd] is now, isn’t it, there’s a lot more women who go football now I mean I think women know more about football than men anyway (oh, yeah) because we’re the ones who talk more sense; 0:14:11 it’s like people from Nottingham and Derby they’ve got a similar accent to us but [bəd] it’s sort of more Yorkshire because that you’re getting further north but they speak slower so they sound a bit more dense than say, like, people from Leicester; 0:41:24 they’d only ever stood up before when, you know, someone’s got [gɒd] up to go toilet or something and honestly, yeah, that was an amazing game, that was)

**T to R** (0:48:07 do you know going back to taking kids at the football and I think if I did have children or whatever and [wɒʁɛvɪz ən] took them to games it’d have to I’d take them quite probably may... maybe eight or something because I I have to be in the in the ground where the best atmosphere is, you know, ‘cause (with the language and that) I I couldn’t sit in in a boring seat)

## NASALS

### NG

**velar nasal plus** (0:13:15 sometimes I try and put on an accent try to pretend to be from Birmingham [bə:mɪŋgʊm] or something, you know)

**frequent NG-fronting** (e.g. 0:02:37 it is a bit, yes, although they did take some of the old um Members Stand when that got knocked down for the Carling Stand [kɑ:lɪn stænd] but it wasn’t the same; 0:09:05 I think whenever I go to Arsenal their fans always seem willing [wɪlɪŋ] to (they talk sense) talk to you and, you know, (yeah) make they make you feel welcome; 0:09:45 we had, you know, we had a minutes’ silence for Keith Weller<sup>14</sup> after he died and there was a lot of noise made during [dʒɔ:ɪŋ] it, you know, just lack of respect really so that kind of angered quite a lot of fans; 0:10:06 fifty-fifty with the chants fifty per cent is chants getting [gɛʔɪŋ] behind the team and then the other fifty we’re, you know, mocking [mɒkɪŋ] the other fans and local rivals and stuff; 0:30:18 my uncle says that and all a lot when he’s speaking [spi:kɪŋ] (‘and all’?) no, when he when he’s speaking [spi:kɪŋ] he’ll say ‘whatchacallit’ and stuff like that; 0:48:47 (what and they don’t like that in the Family Stand?) (no, well it it’s) (soem of them don’t) it’s clapping [klapɪŋ] really, ain’t it? (yeah))

**<-thing> with NK** (0:13:15 sometimes I try and put on an accent try to pretend to be from Birmingham or something, [sʊmfɪŋk] you know; 0:32:36 I used to wear quite a bit of Burberry<sup>7</sup> a couple of years ago and it were just it weren’t really a known make and it was more of a posh make than anything and it weren’t till they started copying it and there was loads of fakes and you could, you know, if you brought a Burberry scarf or something it could be worth sixty quid or something [sʊmfɪŋk] and then you go and get a fake off the market for two quid and that kind of really devalued it a bit; 0:48:07 do you know going back to taking kids at the football and I think if I did have children or whatever and took them to games it’d have to I’d take them quite probably may... maybe eight or something [sʊmfɪŋk] because I I have to



*be in the in the ground where the best atmosphere is, you know, 'cause (with the language and that) I I couldn't sit in in a boring seat; 0:56:19 my grandad he's very um "eh, you bugger" kind of person, you know (yeah) yeah (is yours as well?) and he'll eff and blind every other word but I don't think it's him being rude or anything [ɛnɪfɪŋk] it's just in his nature, you know [...] "oh, you bugger" and that's all he ever says, "you bugger, that were a good 'un" or he's, "you bugger, it's cold")*

## N

**frequent syllabic N with nasal release** (e.g. 0:03:04 *I think it's because it's so close to the border with Warwickshire Nuneaton [nəni:tŋ] and that it kind of comes across especially some of the words we pick it up from the other side of the border; 0:08:16 sort of you couldn't [kɒdŋt] connect with the players (you can't get attached to them) you can't get attached to them because you don't know if they're going to stay or if they're going to go and the players have got that same attitude as well; 0:31:33 'chav' actually describes a s... kind of person, doesn't it? (yeah, 'cause that's what they are) (yeah, 'cause they are a chav) well you could be trendy and be a goth, couldn't you? [kʊdŋtjə]; 0:32:12 and then all of a sudden [sʊdŋ] (all all the posh nobs) and then all of a sudden [sʊdŋ] all the sort of [...] can't trying not to be nasty now but the, you know, people that are not from those backgrounds are now buying it and especially a lot of fake; 0:36:03 I tried it to go to university but I think it was just down to the place where I ended up and I just didn't [dɪdŋt] like it so I came back but I don't know, you know, to be honest whether it was just down to the place or just being away from the football I couldn't [kʊdŋt] honestly answer that; 0:39:56 but I was actually jumping up and down at that point cheering and I didn't [dɪdŋt] stop when Steve Walsh<sup>10</sup> poked it in (I think that match was more about relief because we'd never won at Wembley<sup>11</sup>); 0:51:31 (what about, like, they're talking a lot in Leicester about racist language and stuff have you heard that?) (well every single game there's there's) there's certain [sə:tŋ] overtones, isn't there?; 0:56:09 um there's a few people who I wouldn't [wʊdŋt] swear when I'm in their company and I wouldn't [wʊdŋt] swear when I'm with my gran (no))*

**syllabic N with epenthetic schwa** (0:06:48 *places like Everton [ɛvətən] Leeds a lot of the northern towns, isn't it, that that don't have women well i... in such or it doesn't appear to be the the numbers; 0:35:15 (I mean if I had to move to another part of the country I would but I'd still go the football) yeah (but like he says you can't do that if you move abroad so) well the thing is, like, you've been to every game for, like, what twelve years is it now or something so to give that up it it'd be like you're giving your life up really, aren't you, you know, I couldn't [kʊdən?] move away I wouldn't dream of it; 0:48:07 do you know going back to taking kids at the football and I think if I did have children or whatever and took them to games it'd have to I'd take them quite probably may... maybe eight or something because I I have to be in the in the ground where the best atmosphere is, you know, 'cause (with the language and that) I I couldn't [kʊdən?] sit in in a boring seat)*

## FRICATIVES

### H

**frequent H-dropping** (e.g. 0:03:26 *I don't think I've got an accent I mean (you never do, do you?) yeah, I don't I listen to myself think I sound all right and then people say, "you're from Hinckley" [ɪŋkle] and I'm like, "am I?"; 0:04:28 I love it I th... it's um think it's a working-class game, football is, and and it is very passionate people who [u:] get quite het up [ɛt ʊp] about it so, you know, there is a lot of strong language down there; 0:24:59 um well, "he's he's radgy again, isn't he?" speaking about the other half, [ʊðə ɑ:f] "what's up with him?" "oh, he's got he's just radgy"; 0:25:13 (yeah) 'got the hump', [gɒ? ði ʊmp] yeah, without the aitch on it ("he's gone off on one") without the aitch 'got the hump' [gɒ? ði ʊmp] (I'd say 'mard-arse') ('having a paddy') (what did you say 'got the age?') no, we say it without the aitch*

so it's 'got the hump' [gɒ? ði ʊmp]; 0:36:28 my mum was looking at buying a house in Bulgaria ear... earlier this year and she was saying, "oh yeah, we'll go up there every month and we can have all these holidays [plədɛz] and I said, "well, I can't go during the football season there's" and, you know, "I won't be going simple as"; 0:38:05 people argue, "oh, it's a better sport" but I think the whole [ɔʊt] atmosphere round football and the whole [ɔʊt] day out is ten times better than what your rugby is; 0:41:15 I mean I can feel the hair [ɛ:] standing on the back of my neck now (yeah, yeah, you can) it were just standing there and you were singing it and it were like, "oh my God" but just seeing all them lot in the West Stand stand, you know, in the main stand stand up; 0:42:22 and uh I was just going across and the chief steward who who sort of stood in front of us, you know, for all these years'd been, like, telling us to sit down and behave [bi'ɛɪv] he was he was crying as well and that just set me off again; 0:47:47 whenever we get a penalty I always phone my mate up so she can hear it [ɪ:ɪ ɪ?] [...] I always text her when we score because she'll get the score before it comes up on the TV and that; 0:50:25 I don't I don't think we do, do we, (no) I mean be... even before the game we don't talk about it much (no) we talk about what we think's going happen [gə'nəpən] and that and then I think when we're in the pub we're in the pub)

**hypercorrect H** (0:25:13 (yeah) 'got the hump', yeah, without the aitch [ɛɪtʃ] on it ("he's gone off on one") without the [ɛɪtʃ] aitch 'got the hump' (I'd say 'mard-arse') ('having a paddy') (what did you say 'got the age?') no, we say it without the aitch [hɛɪtʃ] so it's 'got the hump')

**frequent TH-fronting** (e.g. 0:04:28 I love it I th... [f] it's um think [fɪŋk] it's a working-class game, football is, and and it is very passionate people who get quite het up about it so, you know, there is a lot of strong language down there; 0:09:45 we had, you know, we had a minutes' silence for Keith Weller<sup>14</sup> [ki:f wɛlə] after he died and there was a lot of noise made during it, you know, just lack of respect really so that kind of angered quite a lot of fans; 0:25:13 (yeah) 'got the hump', yeah, without the aitch on it ("he's gone off on one") without [wɪvə:ʔ] the aitch 'got the hump' (I'd say 'mard-arse') ('having a paddy') (what did you say 'got the age?') no, we say it without the aitch so it's 'got the hump'; 0:28:35 I call my little brother [bɪʊvə] 'little one'; 0:25:39 (just 'clothes') (somebody's vibrating) 'clothes', [kləʊvz] yeah ('rags') ('rags?') (yeah) yeah (to describe your clothes?) yeah (not me) 'clothes' [kləʊvz] 'gear' (what would you say then?) ('gear' suppose); 0:31:33 'chav' actually describes a s... kind of person, doesn't it? (yeah, 'cause that's what they are) (yeah, 'cause they are a chav) well you could be trendy and be a goth, [gɒf] couldn't you?; 0:42:51 we thought [fɔ:ʔ] we was going places with Micky Adams<sup>18</sup> and then everything [ɛvɪθɪŋ] went bad after the s... the first season in the Premiership<sup>19</sup>; 0:32:36 I used to wear quite a bit of Burberry<sup>7</sup> a couple of years ago and it were just it weren't really a known make and it was more of a posh make than anything [ɛnɪfɪn] and it weren't till they started copying it and there was loads of fakes and you could, you know, if you brought a Burberry scarf or something it could be worth sixty quid or something [sʊmfɪŋk] and then you go and get a fake off the market for two quid and that kind of really devalued it a bit)

## LIQUIDS

### R

**approximant R** (0:03:04 I think it's because it's so close to the border with Warwickshire [wɒɪkʃɪ:] Nuneaton and that it kind of comes across [əkɪɒs] especially some of the words we pick it up from [fɪəm] the other side of the border; 0:03:47 yeah, it's very [vɛɪɪ] um rural [ɹɔ:ɪə] but you kind of with

<sup>18</sup> Former Leicester City manager (b.1961).

<sup>19</sup> Previous name for FA Premier League (highest division in English professional football league pyramid).

*Leicestershire I [lɛstəʃɪː a] think you you you look at, like, Newcastle and Liverpool you can always tell where different [dɪfɪənt] people've ki... come from [fɪɒm] but Leicester I [lɛstə a] don't think there's really [ɹiːli] a distinctive accent; 0:05:07 (what do you think?) yeah, well they stick it next to the away fans and course the away fans don't know they're next to a family enclosure so they start swearing [swɛɪɪŋ] and then the club gets complaints from parents [pɛɪənts] because they've had to put up with the away supporters swearing [swɛɪɪŋ]; 0:06:19 we have to know more about [mɔː əbaʊ] the game 'cause otherwise we get belittled by men telling us that we don't know anything, "oh, you don't know what offside is" (yeah) so if you can rattle [ɹaʔt] the offside rule [ɹuːt] off then you're all right [jə ɔːt ɹaɪ?]; 0:39:33 I looked at the players then I saw the linesman and the referee [ɹɛfəɪː] running [ɹʌŋɪŋ] back towards the centre circle then it was like, "hang on we've just scored" and then it all erupted [ɹɹʌptɪd])*

## L

**clear onset L** (0:03:26 *I don't think I've got an accent I mean (you never do, do you?) yeah, I don't I listen [lɪsən] to myself think I sound all right and then people say, "you're from Hinckley" [ɪŋklɛ] and I'm like, [laɪk] "am I?"*; 0:04:28 *I love [lʌv] it I th... it's um think it's a working-class [wɜːkɪŋklas] game, football is, and and it is very passionate people who get quite het up about it so, you know, there is a lot [lɒt] of strong language [lɑŋwɪdʒ] down there*; 0:21:10 *that's why a lot [lɒt] of left-handed [lɛfthændɪd] people get diagnosed as being dyslexic [dɪslɛksɪk] because you can do things like [laɪk] that (yeah) so you might put the odd letter [lɛtə] backwards and before you know it the the teachers are hauling [haʊlɪŋ] you out and calling [kɔːlɪŋ] you a 'thicky')*

**dark coda L** (0:02:37 *it is a bit, yes, although [ɔːθəʊ] they did take some of the old [ɔʊtɪd] um Members Stand when that got knocked down for the Carling Stand but it wasn't the same*; 0:03:47 *yeah, it's very um rural [ɹɹʌl] but you kind of with Leicestershire I think you you you look at, like, Newcastle [nuːkəsət] and Liverpool [lɪvəpuːt] you can always tell where different people've [pɪːpʔəv] ki... come from but Leicester I don't think there's really a distinctive accent*; 0:05:38 *but she she doesn't like sport at all and she didn't think football ground [fʊʔbɔːt ɡraʊnd] was an appropriate place to take a young girl [ɡəːt]; 0:06:19 we have to know more about the game 'cause otherwise we get belittled [bɪlɪtɪd] by men telling us that we don't know anything, "oh, you don't know what offside is" (yeah) so if you can rattle [ɹaʔt] the offside rule [ɹuːt] off then you're all right [ɔːt ɹaɪ?]; 0:24:06 (what about uh 'insane?) ('mental' [mɛntʔ]) yeah, 'mental' [mɛntʔ] 'mad' ('loony'))*

**frequent L-vocalisation** (e.g. 0:03:47 *yeah, it's very um rural but you kind of with Leicestershire I think you you you look at, like, Newcastle and Liverpool you can always tell [tɛv] where different people've ki... come from but Leicester I don't think there's really a distinctive accent*; 0:05:38 *but she she doesn't like sport at all [at ɔːv] and she didn't think football ground was an appropriate place to take a young girl*; 0:12:07 *I suppose I do when I speak to other people [pɪːpʊ] from other cities 'cause uh I'm in the building [bɪʊdɪŋ] trade so I travel a lot*; 0:28:35 *I call [kɔːv] my little [lɪʊ] brother 'little one'*; 0:39:33 *I looked at the players then I saw the linesman and the referee running back towards the centre circle [sɛntə səːkʊ] and then it was like, "hang on we've just scored" and then it all erupted*; 0:46:43 *reserve matches fair enough but I don't think little [lɪʊ] kids I think about five is about the right age to start taking your kids down (yeah) because before that they get bored*; 0:50:34 *because we know each other so well [wɛv] now (yeah) we talk about everything else [ɛv] (yeah) apart from the football [fʊʔbɔːv])*

**syllabic L with lateral release** (0:06:19 *we have to know more about the game 'cause otherwise we get belittled [bɪlɪtɪd] by men telling us that we don't know anything, "oh, you don't know what offside is" (yeah) so if you can rattle the offside rule off then you're all right*; 0:24:06 *(what about uh 'insane?) ('mental') yeah, 'mental' [mɛntʔ] 'mad' ('loony'))*

**syllabic L with epenthetic schwa** (0:38:52 *it felt like five minutes, didn't it, before we everyone realised he'd scored (yeah) it must been, like, half a second and then everyone just went mental* [məntəʃ])

## GLIDES

### J

**yod dropping with N, T** (0:03:47 *yeah, it's very um rural but you kind of with Leicestershire I think you you look at, like, Newcastle* [nu:kəsəʃ] *and Liverpool you can always tell where different people've ki... come from but Leicester I don't think there's really a distinctive accent*; 0:08:36 *everyone expects a lot from him and he's not been performing lately that maybe they've been disappointed with some of the performances lately but he will pick up under the new* [nu:] *manager hopefully so we'll see the best of him*; 0:26:13 [...] *people say 'football kit' if you're getting new* [nu:] *shorts and long socks*; 0:36:42 *and it's, "well you'd go in the summer" I'd be like, "yeah, but then I'd miss all the transfer news"* [nu:z]; 0:42:22 *and uh I was just going across and the chief steward* [tʃi:f stu:əd] *who who sort of stood in front of us, you know, for all these years'd been, like, telling us to sit down and behave he was he was crying as well and that just set me off again*)

**yod coalescence** (0:08:16 *sort of you couldn't connect with the players (you can't get attached to them) you can't get attached to them because you don't know if they're going to stay or if they're going to go and the players have got that same attitude* [atrɪʃu:d] *as well*; 0:09:27 *I think that had a lot to do with the police attitude* [atrɪʃu:d] *(yeah) as well they kept us inside for fifteen minutes after the game and all we want do was go to the coaches which were right over the road*; 0:09:45 *we had, you know, we had a minutes' silence for Keith Weller<sup>14</sup> after he died and there was a lot of noise made during* [dʒɔ:ɪn] *it, you know, just lack of respect really so that kind of angered quite a lot of fans*; 0:16:15 *we seem seem to miss off quite a lot of words and stuff, you know, 'ain't you'* [ɛɪntʃə] *it's 'ain't you' or 'Leicester' becomes 'Leicester' or, you know what I mean, it's quite lazy*; 0:19:29 *do you* [dʒə] *not use that one ('kip?') 'catch some zeds' do you* [dʒə] *not ever say that? (no)*; 0:33:37 *Elizabeth Duke<sup>8</sup>* [ɪlɪzɪbəθ dʒu:k] *specials and ca... I can't even think of a cheap cosmetic company (you don't want to you daren't say anything so you offend anyone) I don't know I just can't think, no, no (it's cheap ones off the market)*; 0:48:07 *do you know* [dʒənəʊ] *going back to taking kids at the football and I think if I did have children or whatever and took them to games it'd have to I'd take them quite probably may... maybe eight or something because I I have to be in the in the ground where the best atmosphere is, you know, 'cause (with the language and that) I I couldn't sit in in a boring seat*; 0:53:50 *you can't stand up without a steward* [stʃu:əd] *coming up to you and saying, "sit down" (it's a pain, isn't it?)*)

## ELISION

### prepositions

**frequent of reduction** (e.g. 0:03:04 *I think it's because it's so close to the border with Warwickshire Nuneaton and that it kind of* [ə] *comes across especially some of* [ə] *the words we pick it up from the other side of* [ə] *the border*; 0:09:45 *we had, you know, we had a minutes' silence for Keith Weller<sup>14</sup> after he died and there was a lot of* [ə] *noise made during it, you know, just lack of* [ə] *respect really so that kind of angered quite a lot of* [ə] *fans*; 0:18:20 *(believe it or not there's fifteen years between myself and Matt) (really?) (yeah) (my word) he he's the baby of* [ə] *the lot, ain't you?*; 0:21:10 *that's why a lot of* [ə] *left-handed people get diagnosed as being dyslexic because you can do things like that (yeah) so you might put the odd letter backwards and before you know it the the teachers are hauling you out and calling you a 'thicky'*; 0:40:58 *when we played Man United (yeah) (everyone stood up together) normally*)

*you know which bits of [ə] the ground sing it was the Kop<sup>16</sup> some of [ə] the East Stand Double Decker<sup>17</sup> (yeah) would but that match for about five minutes the whole ground stood up, didn't they?)*

**to reduction** (0:35:15 *(I mean if I had to move to another part of the country I would but I'd still go the football) yeah (but like he says you can't do that if you move abroad so) well the thing is, like, you've been to every [tɛvɪ] game for, like, what twelve years is it now or something so to give that up it it'd be like you're giving your life up really, aren't you, you know, I couldn't move away I wouldn't dream of it)*)

**with reduction** (0:03:04 *I think it's because it's so close to the border with [wɪ] Warwickshire Nuneaton and that it kind of comes across especially some of the words we pick it up from the other side of the border; 0:10:06 *fifty-fifty with [wɪ] the chants fifty per cent is chants getting behind the team and then the other fifty we're, you know, mocking the other fans and local rivals and stuff; 0:53:50 you can't stand up without [wɪəʊ?] a steward coming up to you and saying, "sit down" (it's a pain, isn't it?)*)*)

## negation

**frequent secondary contraction** (e.g. 0:05:38 *but she she doesn't like sport at all and she didn't [dɪnʔ] think football ground was an appropriate place to take a young girl; 0:07:51 we haven't [amt] got any characters at the club any more, have we (we've not, no) not how we used to have like ten years ago where you used to have a song for Walshy<sup>20</sup> and Tommy Wright<sup>21</sup> and and Kevin Russell<sup>22</sup> and that there's nobody like that there now so you haven't got anything to sing to them; 0:23:43 ("she's up the duff, isn't she?" [ɪntʃɪ]) you I thi... you tend to do it to to people that you don't like I mean if it was, like, your best mate that was pregnant you wouldn't [wʊnt] say, "oh, my my best mate's up the duff" you go, "oh, my my best mate's expecting"; 0:34:24 or if you're going in the pub and he's like, "the pub?" and he's like, "it's a pub, isn't it?" [ɪnɪʔ] he always says that though, doesn't he? [dʊni]; 0:35:15 (I mean if I had to move to another part of the country I would but I'd still go the football) yeah (but like he says you can't do that if you move abroad so) well the thing is, like, you've been to every game for, like, what twelve years is it now or something so to give that up it it'd be like you're giving your life up really, aren't you, you know, I couldn't move away I wouldn't [wʊnʔ] dream of it; 0:35:54 you can't even get radio over there so you'd just have to check up on the internet wouldn't [wʊnʔ] be the same (no) you wouldn't [wʊnʔ] part-time fan; 0:38:52 it felt like five minutes, didn't it, [dɪnɪʔ] before we everyone realised he'd scored (yeah) it must been, like, half a second and then everyone just went mental; 0:40:58 when we played Man United (yeah) (everyone stood up together) normally you know which bits of the ground sing it was the Kop<sup>16</sup> some of the East Stand Double Decker<sup>17</sup> (yeah) would but that match for about five minutes the whole ground stood up, didn't they? [dɪnʔðɛ]; 0:54:50 (you'll have to support Hinckley Town) (yeah, well there on the up, ain't they?) Hinckley United Hinckley Town doesn't [dʊn] exist no more)*)

## simplification

**frequent word final consonant cluster reduction** (e.g. 0:01:33 *we don't use text-speak or 'cause I mean it does get very annoying you can't [kɑ:n] always understand it so it is us all it's always proper English; 0:05:48 um my dad took me to my first game and then I started going with a friend but problem is neither my none of my friends like football very much so in the end I go on my own sounds quite desperate, doesn't it? [dʊzənɪʔ]; 0:06:10 it is now, isn't it, [ɪzɪʔ] there's a lot more women who go football now I mean I think women know more about football than men anyway (oh, yeah) because we're the ones who talk more sense; 0:08:36 everyone expects [ɛkspeks] a lot from him and he's not been performing lately that maybe they've been disappointed with some of the performances lately but he will pick up under the*)

<sup>20</sup> Former Leicester City footballer Steve Walsh (b.1964).

<sup>21</sup> Former Leicester City footballer (b.1966).

<sup>22</sup> Former Leicester City footballer (b.1966).

new manager hopefully so we'll see the best of him; 0:11:32 we want to [wɒnə] see our club doing well and how we were five or six years ago; 0:21:46 (and someone else said 'caggy' 'caggy-handed' but that must be the same) that's the that'll be the same as 'cack', won't it? [wəʊnɪ?] (yeah, same kind of thing); 0:25:39 just 'clothes' [kləʊz] (somebody's vibrating) ('clothes', yeah) 'rags' ('rags?') yeah (yeah) (to describe your clothes?) (yeah) (not me) ('clothes' 'gear') (what would you say then?) 'gear' suppose; 0:31:52 I've been, like, recalled to the as a chav and I don't wear cheap clothes [kləʊz] (yeah, but you're not, yeah, but you're not a chav you're not wearing Burberry<sup>7</sup> and bloody bling bling); 0:33:37 Elizabeth Duke<sup>8</sup> specials and ca... I can't [kɑ:n] even think of a cheap cosmetic company (you don't want to [wɒnə] you daren't say anything so you offend anyone) I don't know [dənəʊ] I just can't think, no, no (it's cheap ones off the market); 0:34:24 or if you're going in the pub and he's like, "the pub?" and he's like, "it's a pub, isn't it?" [ɪnɪ?] he always says that though, doesn't he? [dʊni]; 0:38:52 it felt like five minutes, didn't it, [dɪnɪ?] before we everyone realised he'd scored (yeah) it must been, like, half a second and then everyone just went mental; 0:48:47 (what and they don't like that in the Family Stand?) (no, well it it's) (some of them don't) it's clapping really, ain't it? [εɪnɪ?] (yeah); 0:50:08 now 'cause we meet up as a group and socialise it it makes it a lot better, doesn't it, [dʊzənɪ?] you kind of really forget about the game (we don't tend to talk about the match much after (no) (no) afterwards); 0:52:49 I think they are very much in the minority I just think they're intimidated when they go to the matches and they don't want to [wɒnə] go; 0:53:50 (you can't stand up without a steward coming up to you and saying, "sit down") it's a pain, isn't it? [ɪzənɪ?]; 0:54:50 (you'll have to support Hinckley Town) (yeah, well there on the up, ain't they?) Hinckley United Hinckley Town doesn't [dʊn] exist no more)

**word medial consonant cluster reduction** (0:32:36 I used to wear quite a bit of Burberry<sup>7</sup> a couple of years ago and it were just it weren't really a known make and it was more of a posh make than anything and it weren't till they started copying it and there was loads of fakes and you could, you know, if you brought a Burberry scarf or something [sʊmɪn] it could be worth sixty quid or something and then you go and get a fake off the market for two quid and that kind of really devalued it a bit; 0:35:15 (I mean if I had to move to another part of the country I would but I'd still go the football) yeah (but like he says you can't do that if you move abroad so) well the thing is, like, you've been to every game for, like, what twelve years is it now or something [sʊmɪn] so to give that up it it'd be like you're giving your life up really, aren't you, you know, I couldn't move away I wouldn't dream of it; 0:55:32 think the only difference is where we'll probably say 'my duck' and my nan will say 'my love' or something [sʊmɪn] like that)

**word initial syllable reduction** (0:34:44 I'm proud uh proud of where I come from (yeah, proud of where I come from) but then I wouldn't wouldn't care about [baʊ?] Leicester as so much if I didn't support the football team or anything; 0:46:43 reserve matches fair enough but I don't think little kids I think about [baʊ?] five is about [əbaʊ?] the right age to start taking your kids down (yeah) because before that they get bored)

**syllable deletion** (0:03:04 I think it's because it's so close to the border with Warwickshire Nuneaton and that it kind of comes across especially [əspɛɪli] some of the words we pick it up from the other side of the border; 0:05:07 (what do you think?) yeah, well they stick it next to the away fans and course the away fans don't know they're next to a family enclosure [fɑmli ɪŋkləʊzə] so they start swearing and then the club gets complaints from parents because they've had to put up with the away supporters swearing; 0:09:27 I think that had a lot to do with the police [plɪ:s] attitude (yeah) as well they kept us inside for fifteen minutes after the game and all we want do was go to the coaches which were right over the road; 0:25:39 just 'clothes' (somebody's vibrating) ('clothes', yeah) 'rags' ('rags?') yeah (yeah) (to describe your clothes?) (yeah) (not me) ('clothes' 'gear') (what would you say then?) 'gear' suppose [spəʊz]; 0:33:37 Elizabeth Duke<sup>8</sup> specials and ca... I can't even think of a cheap cosmetic company [kʌmpɒni] (you don't want to you daren't say anything so you offend anyone) I don't know I just can't think, no, no (it's cheap ones off the market); 0:40:58 when we played Man United (yeah) (everyone stood up together)

normally [nɔ:mle] you know which bits of the ground sing it was the Kop<sup>16</sup> some of the East Stand Double Decker<sup>17</sup> (yeah) would but that match for about five minutes the whole ground stood up, didn't they?; 0:48:07 do you know going back to taking kids at the football and I think if I did have children or whatever and took them to games it'd have to I'd take them quite probably [pɔ:bli] may... maybe eight or something because I I have to be in the in the ground where the best atmosphere is, you know, 'cause (with the language and that) I I couldn't sit in in a boring seat; 0:55:32 think the only difference is where we'll probably [pɔ:bli] say 'my duck' and my nan will say 'my love' or something like that)

**L-deletion** (0:01:33 we don't use text-speak or 'cause I mean it does get very annoying you can't always [ɔ:wɪz] understand it so it is us all it's always [ɔ:wɛɪz] proper English; 0:03:47 yeah, it's very um rural but you kind of with Leicestershire I think you you you look at, like, Newcastle and Liverpool you can always [ɔ:wɪz] tell where different people've ki... come from but Leicester I don't think there's really a distinctive accent; 0:09:05 I think whenever I go to Arsenal their fans always [ɔ:wɪz] seem willing to (they talk sense) talk to you and, you know, (yeah) make they make you feel welcome; 0:26:24 (would you say 'slacks'?) only [əʊni] because, like, members of the family've used it; 0:55:32 think the only [əʊni] difference is where we'll probably say 'my duck' and my nan will say 'my love' or something like that)

**TH-deletion with them** (0:48:07 do you know going back to taking kids at the football and I think if I did have children or whatever and took them [əm] to games it'd have to I'd take them [ʊm] quite probably may... maybe eight or something because I I have to be in the in the ground where the best atmosphere is, you know, 'cause (with the language and that) I I couldn't sit in in a boring seat)

**v-deletion** (0:16:50 (things like 'give' [gɪv] you don't say 'give', [gɪv] do you, you say 'give it' [gi: ɪt] or) yeah, "give it here" [gi: ɪt ɪ:] ("give it here" [gi: ɪt ɪ:]); 0:19:46 (what about 'to play a game'?) ('to play') "give us [gɪz] a game on that"; 0:49:57 when was it, like, last season after uh Man City when we should've [ʃʊdə] won and we drew (yeah); 0:56:59 they say 'again' quite a lot instead of 'agai...' um 'against' or 'given' [gɪn] instead of 'given' [gɪvən] and (yeah) or even 'gave' [gɛn] sometimes (yeah) "oh, he g... he gave [gɛn] him a tenner" (yeah) it's like, "you what?" it just seems that that ("yeah, I haven't given [gɛn] him aught") yeah)

## LIAISON

**frequent linking R** (e.g. 0:01:33 we don't use text-speak or 'cause I mean it does get very annoying you can't always understand it so it is us all it's always proper English [pɔ:pə ɪŋɡlɪʃ]; 0:03:47 yeah, it's very um rural but you kind of with Leicestershire I [lɛstəʃɪ: a] think you you you look at, like, Newcastle and Liverpool you can always tell where different people've ki... come from but Leicester I [lɛstə a] don't think there's really a distinctive accent; 0:06:19 we have to know more about [mɔ:n əbaʊt] the game 'cause otherwise we get belittled by men telling us that we don't know anything, "oh, you don't know what offside is" (yeah) so if you can rattle the offside rule off then you're all right [jə ɔ:kɪ ɔaɪ?]; 0:14:11 it's like people from Nottingham and Derby they've got a similar accent [sɪmɪlə aksən?] to us but it's sort of more Yorkshire because that you're getting further north but they speak slower so they sound a bit more dense than say, like, people from Leicester; 0:24:59 um well, "he's he's radgy again, isn't he?" speaking about the other half, [ʊðə ɑ:f] "what's up with him?" "oh, he's got he's just radgy"; 0:33:23 well they'll stand on the street corners smoking their fags (yeah) and with their skirts up to their arses [ðə ɑ:sɪz] (yeah); 0:34:44 I'm proud uh proud of where I come from (yeah, proud of where I come from) but then I wouldn't wouldn't care about Leicester as [lɛstə əz] so much if I didn't support the football team or anything [ə ɛnɪfɪŋ]; 0:46:43 reserve matches fair enough [fɛ: ɪnʊf] but I don't think little kids I think about five is about the right age to start taking your kids down (yeah) because before that they get bored; 0:43:58 'cause you can have no end as many wives or husbands or whatever as [wɔ:revə əz] you

want but I think a football club is for life really; 0:47:47 whenever we get a penalty I always phone my mate up so she can hear it [ɪːɪ ɪʔ] [...] I always text her when we score because she'll get the score before it comes up on the TV and that; 0:48:07 do you know going back to taking kids at the football and I think if I did have children or whatever and [wəɪɛvə əŋ] took them to games it'd have to I'd take them quite probably may... maybe eight or something because I I have to be in the in the ground where the best atmosphere is, [aʔməsfɪːɪ ɪz] you know, 'cause (with the language and that) I I couldn't sit in in a boring seat; 0:56:49 neither of [naɪðə əv] them swear but they've got s... much thicker accents [θɪkə əksənts])

**zero linking R** (0:34:44 I'm proud uh proud of where I [wɛː ə] come from (yeah, proud of where I [wɛː ə] come from) but then I wouldn't wouldn't care about Leicester as so much if I didn't support the football team or anything; 0:47:47 whenever we get a penalty I always phone my mate up so she can hear it [...] I always text her when we score because she'll get the score before it [bɪfɔː ɪʔ] comes up on the TV and that)

**intrusive R** (0:09:05 I think whenever I go to Arsenal their fans always seem willing to (they talk sense) talk to you and, [jəv əŋ] you know, (yeah) make they make you feel welcome; 0:27:27 I don't as if call her 'my goose' but you refer to her as [tɪə əz] your 'goose'; 0:41:52 (what was it like when you moved from Filbert Street<sup>12</sup> 'cause that must've been) (really emotional, that was, that was awful) (I cried) oh last last match I cried my eyes [mɛ əɪz] out I were all right until Muzzy<sup>13</sup> got subbed because we all thought it was Muzzy's last match)

## +/- VOICE

**Asian** (0:52:37 yeah, considering how many Asians [ɛɪzənz] there are in Leicester there's still not many who go the games; 0:53:16 again it's mostly it's mostly men with the the blacks not so many the women you get the young Asian girls [ɛɪzəŋ ɡəːtɪz] going because they tend to be going with the lads)

**bus** (0:33:58 they reckon I say 'bus' [bʊz] different as well but ('bus' [bʊs]) bus [bʊz] (you say 'bus' [bʊz] with a 'Z'))

**wife + <-s>** (0:43:58 'cause you can have no end as many wives [waɪfs] or husbands or whatever as you want but I think a football club is for life really)

## WEAK-STRONG CONTRAST

**vowel strengthening** (0:07:51 we haven't got any characters at the club any more, have we (we've not, no) not how we used to have like ten years ago where you used to have a song for Walshy<sup>20</sup> and Tommy Wright<sup>21</sup> and and Kevin Russell<sup>22</sup> and that there's nobody like that there now so you haven't got anything to sing to them [ðʊm]; 0:09:05 I think whenever I go to Arsenal their fans always seem willing to (they talk sense) talk to you and, you know, (yeah) make they make you feel welcome [wɛtʃkʊm]; 0:13:15 sometimes I try and put on an accent try to pretend to be from Birmingham [bɛːmɪŋɡʊm] or something, you know; 0:27:34 actually to be ho... I I picked that one up off my sister's ex-boyfriend who was from Birmingham [bɛːmɪŋɡʊm] and I think that's quite common round there (I've never heard that before) have you not?; 0:48:07 do you know going back to taking kids at the football and I think if I did have children or whatever and took them [əŋ] to games it'd have to I'd take them [ʊŋ] quite probably may... maybe eight or something because I I have to be in the in the ground where the best atmosphere is, you know, 'cause (with the language and that) I I couldn't sit in in a boring seat)

## LEXICALLY SPECIFIC VARIATION



**again(st)** (0:24:59 *um well, “he’s he’s radgy again, [əɡɛn] isn’t he?” speaking about the other half, “what’s up with him?” “oh, he’s got he’s just radgy”*; 0:42:22 *and uh I was just going across and the chief steward who who sort of stood in front of us, you know, for all these years’d been, like, telling us to sit down and behave he was he was crying as well and that just set me off again [əɡɛn]*; 0:53:16 *again [əɡɛn] it’s mostly it’s mostly men with the the blacks not so many the women you get the young Asian girls going because they tend to be going with the lads*; 0:56:59 *they say ‘again’ [əɡɪn] quite a lot instead of ‘agai...’ [əɡɛɪ] um ‘against’ [əɡɛnst] or ‘given’ instead of ‘given’ and (yeah) or even ‘gave’ sometimes (yeah) “oh, he g... he gave him a tenner” (yeah) it’s like, “you what?” it just seems that that (“yeah, I haven’t given him aught”) yeah*)

**because** (0:03:04 *I think it’s because [bɪkʊz] it’s so close to the border with Warwickshire Nuneaton and that it kind of comes across especially some of the words we pick it up from the other side of the border*; 0:05:07 *(what do you think?) yeah, well they stick it next to the away fans and course the away fans don’t know they’re next to a family enclosure so they start swearing and then the club gets complaints from parents because [bɪkəz] they’ve had to put up with the away supporters swearing*; 0:14:11 *it’s like people from Nottingham and Derby they’ve got a similar accent to us but it’s sort of more Yorkshire because [bɪkəz] that you’re getting further north but they speak slower so they sound a bit more dense than say, like, people from Leicester*; 0:47:47 *whenever we get a penalty I always phone my mate up so she can hear it [...] I always text her when we score because [bɪkʊz] she’ll get the score before it comes up on the TV and that*; 0:50:34 *because [bɪkʊz] we know each other so well now (yeah) we talk about everything else (yeah) apart from the football*)

**neither** (0:05:48 *um my dad took me to my first game and then I started going with a friend but problem is neither [naɪðə] my none of my friends like football very much so in the end I go on my own sounds quite desperate, doesn’t it?*; 0:56:49 *neither of [naɪðə əv] them swear but they’ve got s... much thicker accents*)

**says** (0:16:06 *yeah, my little brother he’s he says [sɛz] ‘ain’t you’ and my dad don’t like it when he says [sɛz] that he prefers it ‘haven’t you’*; 0:30:18 *my uncle says [sɛɪz] that and all a lot when he’s speaking (‘and all?’) no, when he when he’s speaking he’ll say ‘whatchacallit’ and stuff like that*; 0:34:24 *or if you’re going in the pub and he’s like, “the pub?” and he’s like, “it’s a pub, isn’t it?” he always says [sɛz] that though, doesn’t he?*; 0:56:19 *my grandad he’s very um “eh, you bugger” kind of person, you know (yeah) yeah (is yours as well?) and he’ll eff and blind every other word but I don’t think it’s him being rude or anything it’s just in his nature, you know [...] “oh, you bugger” and that’s all he ever says, [sɛɪz] “you bugger, that were a good one” or he’s, “you bugger, it’s cold”*)

## GRAMMAR

### DETERMINERS

**zero indefinite article** (0:01:10 *(what age did you start liking football?) uh be from \_ early age when my dad got me into it*; 0:05:38 *but she she doesn’t like sport at all and she didn’t think \_ football ground was an appropriate place to take a young girl*)

**demonstrative them** (0:41:15 *I mean I can feel the hair standing on the back of me neck now (yeah, yeah, you can) it were just standing there and you were singing it and it were like, “oh my God” but just seeing all them lot in the West Stand stand, you know, in the main stand stand up*)

### PRONOUNS

**singular object us** (0:19:46 *(what about ‘to play a game?’) (‘to play’) “gie us a game on that”*)

**frequent possessive *me*** (e.g. 0:12:26 *Leicester people sometimes say, “me duck”, people don’t understand that from up north or st... places like that*; 0:23:43 (“*she’s up the duff, isn’t she?*”) *you I thi... you tend to do it to to people that you don’t like I mean if it was, like, your best mate that was pregnant you wouldn’t say, “oh, me my best mate’s up the duff” you go, “oh, my my best mate’s expecting”*; 0:27:34 *actually to be ho... I I picked that one up off me sister’s ex-boyfriend who was from Birmingham and I think that’s quite common round there (I’ve never heard that before) have you not?*; 0:28:35 *I call me little brother ‘little one’*; 0:41:15 *I mean I can feel the hair standing on the back of me neck now (yeah, yeah, you can) it were just standing there and you were singing it and it were like, “oh my God” but just seeing all them lot in the West Stand stand, you know, in the main stand stand up*; 0:55:32 *think the only difference is where we’ll probably say ‘me duck’ and me nan will say ‘me love’ or something like that*)

**unbound reflexive** (0:18:20 *believe it or not there’s fifteen years between myself and Matt (really?) yeah (my word) (he he’s the baby of the lot, ain’t you?)*)

**relative *that*** (0:23:43 (“*she’s up the duff, isn’t she?*”) *you I thi... you tend to do it to to people that you don’t like I mean if it was, like, your best mate that was pregnant you wouldn’t say, “oh, me my best mate’s up the duff” you go, “oh, my my best mate’s expecting”*; 0:32:12 *and then all of a sudden (all all the posh nobs) and then all of a sudden (all all the posh nobs) and then all of a sudden all the sort of [...] can’t trying not to be nasty now but the, you know, people that are not from those backgrounds are now buying it and especially a lot of fake*)

## VERBS

### past

**be – was generalisation** (0:42:51 *we thought we was going places with Micky Adams<sup>18</sup> and then everything went bad after the s... the first season in the Premiership<sup>19</sup>*)

**be – were generalisation** (0:22:36 *(so ‘minging’ I thought that was quite recent but no you’ve been) no, used that since I were a kid (have you?) yeah*; 0:32:36 *I used to wear quite a bit of Burberry<sup>7</sup> a couple of years ago and it were just it weren’t really a known make and it was more of a posh make than anything and it weren’t till they started copying it and there was loads of fakes and you could, you know, if you brought a Burberry scarf or something it could be worth sixty quid or something and then you go and get a fake off the market for two quid and that kind of really devalued it a bit*; 0:41:15 *I mean I can feel the hair standing on the back of me neck now (yeah, yeah, you can) it were just standing there and you were singing it and it were like, “oh my God” but just seeing all them lot in the West Stand stand, you know, in the main stand stand up*; 0:41:52 *(what was it like when you moved from Filbert Street<sup>12</sup> ‘cause that must’ve been) (really emotional, that was, that was awful) (I cried) oh last last match I cried my eyes out I were all right until Muzzy<sup>13</sup> got subbed because we all thought it was Muzzy’s last match*; 0:56:19 *my grandad he’s very um “eh, you bugger” kind of person, you know (yeah) yeah (is yours as well?) and he’ll eff and blind every other word but I don’t think it’s him being rude or anything it’s just in his nature, you know [...] “oh, you bugger” and that’s all he ever says, “you bugger, that were a good ‘un” or he’s, “you bugger, it’s cold”*)

**alternative past** (0:32:36 *I used to wear quite a bit of Burberry<sup>7</sup> a couple of years ago and it were just it weren’t really a known make and it was more of a posh make than anything and it weren’t till they started copying it and there was loads of fakes and you could, you know, if you brought a Burberry scarf or something it could be worth sixty quid or something and then you go and get a fake off the market for two quid and that kind of really devalued it a bit*; 0:56:59 *they say ‘again’ quite a lot instead of ‘agai...’ um ‘against’ or ‘gi’en’ instead of ‘given’ and (yeah) or even ‘gen’ sometimes (yeah) “oh, he g... he gen\* him a tenner” (yeah) it’s like, “you what?” it just seems that that (“yeah, I haven’t gen him aught”) yeah*)

**compounds**

**zero auxiliary have** (0:38:52 *it felt like five minutes, didn't it, before we everyone realised he'd scored (yeah) it must \_ been, like, half a second and then everyone just went mental*)

**frequent invariant there is~was** (e.g. 0:06:10 *it is now, isn't it, there's a lot more women who go football now I mean I think women know more about football than men anyway (oh, yeah) because we're the ones who talk more sense; 0:06:41 there's some clubs where there there are hardly any women at all; 0:09:15 there's some clubs where you can go and you know it's gonna be an absolute nightmare; 0:32:36 I used to wear quite a bit of Burberry<sup>7</sup> a couple of years ago and it were just it weren't really a known make and it was more of a posh make than anything and it weren't till they started copying it and there was loads of fakes and you could, you know, if you brought a Burberry scarf or something it could be worth sixty quid or something and then you go and get a fake off the market for two quid and that kind of really devalued it a bit; 0:38:31 there's that many games to choose from for different reasons (that's it for different reasons whether it's the scoreline or) the atmosphere (the result or the atmosphere or what it meant); 0:51:31 (what about, like, they're talking a lot in Leicester about racist language and stuff have you heard that?) (well every single game there's there's) there's certain overtones, isn't there?; 0:52:37 yeah, considering how many Asians there are in Leicester there's still not many who go the games; 0:54:22 Cardiff away there were (it was standing) parts where there was no seats at all you had to stand and the atmosphere was probably the best away game I've been for the last two two years; 0:56:09 um there's a few people who I wouldn't swear when I'm in their company and I wouldn't swear when I'm with my gran (no))*

**bare infinitive** (0:09:27 *I think that had a lot to do with the police attitude (yeah) as well they kept us inside for fifteen minutes after the game and all we want \_ do was go to the coaches which were right over the road; 0:37:56 it's cheaper to go and watch the rugby than it is to go \_ watch the football; 0:50:25 I don't I don't think we do, do we, (no) I mean be... even before the game we don't talk about it much (no) we talk about what we think's going \_ happen and that and then I think when we're in the pub we're in the pub)*)

**NEGATION**

**multiple negation** (0:54:07 *it's not just that 'cause people start chants and then they, like, slow down when before it used to be non-stop and it's not like that no more, is it?; 0:54:50 (you'll have to support Hinckley Town) (yeah, well there on the up, ain't they?) Hinckley United Hinckley Town doesn't exist no more)*)

**auxiliary contraction** (0:07:42 *we try try and sing player's songs if we can and get behind the players and the manager (we haven't got that many songs at the minute though for players) we've not though, no (because we haven't got anybody there who's, like, any we haven't got any characters at the club any more, have we?) we've not, no; 0:13:59 if you're from Birmingham and you have an accent and you speak at a normal speed then it's not so bad but the problem is (in a way) is that a lot of people from Birmingham talk slowly so it accentuates the accent; 0:22:06 (what would be a sentence?) ("she's a right dog, she is") [...] (have you noticed it's always 'she') ('she', I know) well, we're not gonna say, "he's a right dog", are we? (you never know); 0:32:12 and then all of a sudden (all all the posh nobs) and then all of a sudden all the sort of [...] can't trying not to be nasty now but the, you know, people that are not from those backgrounds are now buying it and especially a lot of fake; 0:52:37 yeah, considering how many Asians there are in Leicester there's still not many who go the games; 0:54:07 it's not just that 'cause people start chants and then they, like, slow down when before it used to be non-stop and it's not like that no more, is it?; 0:55:55 well my gran hasn't she sounds she's n... she's not posh or anything takes care with how she speaks to people and that so she you'd never hear my gran swear at anybody)*)

**zero contraction with interrogative** (0:19:29 *do you not use that one ('kip'?) 'catch some zeds' do you not ever say that? (no)*; 0:27:34 *actually to be ho... I I picked that one up off my sister's ex-boyfriend who was from Birmingham and I think that's quite common round there (I've never heard that before) have you not?*)

**ain't for negative be** (0:18:20 *(believe it or not there's fifteen years between myself and Matt) (really?) (yeah) (my word) he he's the baby of the lot, ain't you?*; 0:43:51 *I'm not eighteen yet so obviously I ain't gonna have a tattoo but I al... always want one on my heart, you know, on well on the chest*; 0:48:47 *(what and they don't like that in the Family Stand?) (no, well it it's) (some of them don't) it's clapping really, ain't it? (yeah)*; 0:54:50 *(you'll have to support Hinckley Town) yeah, well there on the up, ain't they? (Hinckley United Hinckley Town doesn't exist no more)*)

**ain't for negative have** (0:16:06 *yeah, my little brother he's he says 'ain't you' and my dad don't like it when he says that he prefers it 'haven't you'*)

**invariant don't** (0:16:06 *yeah, my little brother he's he says 'ain't you' and my dad don't like it when he says that he prefers it 'haven't you'*)

## PREPOSITIONS

### deletion

**zero of** (0:05:07 *(what do you think?) yeah, well they stick it next to the away fans and \_ course the away fans don't know they're next to a family enclosure so they start swearing and then the club gets complaints from parents because they've had to put up with the away supporters swearing*; 0:36:58 *I don't know because I mean I know a lot \_ rugby fans anyway so and I mean they work hard for their money same as us*)

**zero habitual to** (0:06:10 *it is now, isn't it, there's a lot more women who go \_ football now I mean I think women know more about football than men anyway (oh, yeah) because we're the ones who talk more sense*; 0:35:15 *I mean if I had to move to another part of the country I would but I'd still go \_ the football (yeah) but like he says you can't do that if you move abroad so (well the thing is, like, you've been to every game for, like, what twelve years is it now or something so to give that up it it'd be like you're giving your life up really, aren't you, you know, I couldn't move away I wouldn't dream of it)*; 0:41:24 *they'd only ever stood up before when, you know, someone's got up to go \_ toilet or something and honestly, yeah, that was an amazing game, that was*; 0:52:37 *yeah, considering how many Asians there are in Leicester there's still not many who go \_ the games*; 0:54:22 *Cardiff away there were (it was standing) parts where there was no seats at all you had to stand and the atmosphere was probably the best away game I've been \_ for the last two two years*)

**preposition deletion – other** (0:23:24 *('drunk'?) ('pissed') 'hammered' ('sloshed') ('wasted') (yeah) 'out \_ his head'*)

### insertion

**off of** (0:41:33 *and we'd we'd been getting a lot of stick off of the Manchester United fans as well who were uh loving it (yeah, with, like, ten minutes to go it's like, "ten minutes till you're going down") yeah ("nine minutes till you're going down" stuff like that)*)

### substitution

**off (of) [= from]** (0:27:34 *actually to be ho... I I picked that one up off my sister's ex-boyfriend who was from Birmingham and I think that's quite common round there (I've never heard that before) have you not?*; 0:32:36 *I used to wear quite a bit of Burberry<sup>7</sup> a couple of years ago and it were just it weren't really a known make and it was more of a posh make than anything and it weren't till they started copying it and there was loads of fakes and you could, you know, if you brought a Burberry scarf or something it could be worth sixty quid or something and then you go and get a fake off the market for two*)

*quid and that kind of really devalued it a bit; 0:33:37 (Elizabeth Duke<sup>8</sup> specials and ca... I can't even think of a cheap cosmetic company) (you don't wanna you daren't say anything so you offend anyone) (I dunno I just can't think, no, no) it's cheap ones off the market; 0:41:33 and we'd we'd been getting a lot of stick off of the Manchester United fans as well who were uh loving it (yeah, with, like, ten minutes to go it's like, "ten minutes till you're going down") yeah ("nine minutes till you're going down" stuff like that))*

## ADVERBS

**emphatic so [= that]** (0:13:59 *if you're from Birmingham and you have an accent and you speak at a normal speed then it's not so bad but the problem is (in a way) is that a lot of people from Birmingham talk slowly so it accentuates the accent*)

**emphatic that [= so]** (0:15:44 *they think it's even going further up north so that even there's there's some Geordie kids that've been picked up saying um saying things in in the style of an EastEnders<sup>23</sup> character just because they've been watching it that much; 0:38:31 there's that many games to choose from for different reasons (that's it for different reasons whether it's the scoreline or) the atmosphere (the result or the atmosphere or what it meant))*)

**unmarked manner adverb** (0:14:11 *it's like people from Nottingham and Derby they've got a similar accent to us but it's sort of more Yorkshire because that you're getting further north but they speak slower so they sound a bit more dense than say, like, people from Leicester; 0:33:58 they reckon I say 'bus' different as well but ('bus') bus (you say 'bus' with a 'Z'); 0:57:21 that's probably just how, like, regionally we all speak different because we've all had different dialects and and it it's just getting filtered out throughout the generations)*)

## DISCOURSE

**utterance final and that** (0:03:04 *I think it's because it's so close to the border with Warwickshire Nuneaton and that it kind of comes across especially some of the words we pick it up from the other side of the border; 0:07:51 we haven't got any characters at the club any more, have we (we've not, no) not how we used to have like ten years ago where you used to have a song for Walshy<sup>20</sup> and Tommy Wright<sup>21</sup> and and Kevin Russell<sup>22</sup> and that there's nobody like that there now so you haven't got anything to sing to them; 0:47:47 whenever we get a penalty I always phone my mate up so she can hear it [...] I always text her when we score because she'll get the score before it comes up on the TV and that; 0:55:55 well my gran hasn't she sounds she's n... she's not posh or anything takes care with how she speaks to people and that so she you'd never hear my gran swear at anybody)*)

**frequent utterance internal like** (e.g. 0:03:47 *yeah, it's very um rural but you kind of with Leicestershire I think you you you look at, like, Newcastle and Liverpool you can always tell where different people've ki... come from but Leicester I don't think there's really a distinctive accent; 0:07:42 (we try try and sing player's songs if we can and get behind the players and the manager) we haven't got that many songs at the minute though for players (we've not though, no) because we haven't got anybody there who's, like, any we haven't got any characters at the club any more, have we? (we've not, no); 0:14:11 it's like people from Nottingham and Derby they've got a similar accent to us but it's sort of more Yorkshire because that you're getting further north but they speak slower so they sound a bit more dense than say, like, people from Leicester; 0:23:43 ("she's up the duff, isn't she?") you I thi... you tend to do it to to people that you don't like I mean if it was, like, your best mate that was pregnant you wouldn't say, "oh, me my best mate's up the duff" you go, "oh, my my best mate's expecting"; 0:26:24 (would you say 'slacks?') only because, like, members of the family've used it; 0:35:15 (I mean if I had to move to another part of the*)

<sup>23</sup> Long-running British soap opera broadcast on BBC since 1985 set in fictitious area of Walford, London.

*country I would but I'd still go the football) yeah (but like he says you can't do that if you move abroad so) well the thing is, like, you've been to every game for, like, what twelve years is it now or something so to give that up it it'd be like you're giving your life up really, aren't you, you know, I couldn't move away I wouldn't dream of it; 0:38:52 it felt like five minutes, didn't it, before we everyone realised he'd scored (yeah) it must been, like, half a second and then everyone just went mental; 0:42:22 and uh I was just going across and the chief steward who who sort of stood in front of us, you know, for all these years'd been, like, telling us to sit down and behave he was he was crying as well; 0:49:57 when was it, like, last season after uh Man City when we should've won and we drew (yeah); 0:54:07 it's not just that 'cause people start chants and then they, like, slow down when before it used to be non-stop and it's not like that no more, is it?)*

**intensifier well** (0:18:29 (*uh 'pleased'?*) (*'chuffed'*) (*'chuffed' yeah, definitely*) (*'well made-up'*)

**quotative like** (0:03:26 *I don't think I've got an accent I mean (you never do, do you?) yeah, I don't I listen to myself think I sound all right and then people say, "you're from Hinckley" and I'm like, "am I?"; 0:34:24 or if you're going in the pub and he's like, "the pub?" and he's like, "it's a pub, isn't it?" he always says that though, doesn't he?; 0:36:42 and it's, "well you'd go in the summer" I'd be like, "yeah, but then I'd miss all the transfer news"; 0:39:33 I looked at the players then I saw the linesman and the referee running back towards the centre circle and then it was like, "hang on we've just scored" and then it all erupted; 0:41:15 I mean I can feel the hair standing on the back of me neck now (yeah, yeah, you can) it were just standing there and you were singing it and it were like, "oh my God" but just seeing all them lot in the West Stand stand, you know, in the main stand stand up; 0:41:33 (and we'd we'd been getting a lot of stick off of the Manchester United fans as well who were uh loving it) yeah, with, like, ten minutes to go it's like, "ten minutes till you're going down" (yeah) "nine minutes till you're going down" stuff like that; 0:56:59 they say 'again' quite a lot instead of 'agai...' um 'against' or 'gi'en' instead of 'given' and (yeah) or even 'gen' sometimes (yeah) "oh, he g... he gen him a tenner" (yeah) it's like, "you what?" it just seems that that ("yeah, I haven't gen him aught") yeah)*

**quotative go** (0:23:43 (*"she's up the duff, isn't she?"*) *you I thi... you tend to do it to to people that you don't like I mean if it was, like, your best mate that was pregnant you wouldn't say, "oh, me my best mate's up the duff" you go, "oh, my my best mate's expecting"*)

**form of address me duck** (0:12:26 *Leicester people sometimes say 'me duck' people don't understand that from up north or st... places like that; 0:55:32 think the only difference is where we'll probably say 'me duck' and me nan will say 'me love' or something like that*)

**form of address love** (0:55:32 *think the only difference is where we'll probably say 'me duck' and me nan will say 'me love' or something like that*)

**otiose what** (0:38:05 *people argue, "oh, it's a better sport" but I think the whole atmosphere round football and the whole day out is ten times better than what your rugby is*)

© Robinson, Herring, Gilbert

*Voices of the UK, 2009-2012*

A British Library project funded by The Leverhulme Trust