Language, Society and Power
An Introduction

Edited by: Linda Thomas, Shân Wareing, Ishtla Singh, Jean Stilwell Peccei, Joanna Thornborrow and Jason Jones

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'Undoubtedly the best activity-based and most reader-friendly introduction to central issues in sociolinguistics currently available.' - Jean Jacques Weber, Luxembourg University

'Address a wide range of topics, including, but not limited to, the debates surrounding the use of Standard English, the relationship between language and particular social groups, and the use of language in the media.' - Linguistics and Language Behavior Abstracts

'Language, Society and Power is written throughout in a very lucid and student-friendly way.' - Language and Literature

This is the book for anyone who has ever wondered how language influences thought, how language impacts on our daily life, and how power is perpetuated through language. Written in a lively way and drawing on examples from everyday life, each chapter provides an introduction to a social or political issue in language study, such as:
* language use in politics and the media
* language use according to gender, ethnicity, age and class
* how language affects and constructs our identities
* the significance of our attitudes toward language use and our notions of correctness.

The book contains numerous exercises, end of chapter summaries and a glossary of key terms. The authors encourage the reader to look beyond language as a form of information exchange and to consider the wider issues of the relationship between language and culture. Highly interdisciplinary, it will be essential for students of English language and linguistics from introductory or A-level upward. It is also of great relevance to students of media, communication, cultural studies, sociology and psychology.

Contents

Author Biography
The authors are very much a team, all based at Roehampton Institute and all teaching the course that the book is based on.