

highest ranked.

words. Definetly not posh but not so slang.”

- “Queen's when needed, 'Sarf London' when appropriate.”

- “Cumbria has a distinctive accent of its own with regional words like yan for one and yeat for gate.”

Languages other than English

56% of respondents think that speaking another language is a bonus when it comes to getting a good job, but 20% don't think being multilingual is an advantage. Although most people say they hear more languages around them nowadays than previously, 22% say they don't like hearing languages other than English. 22% think that in general we are becoming less tolerant of hearing languages other than English.

The UK's opinions on accents

Respondents voted the Standard accent of English as their most pleasant accent and the accent most likely to help you obtain a good job. The Queen's English was voted the most prestigious accent. After respondents' own accents, the Southern Irish, Scottish (in general), Edinburgh, New Zealand and Queen's English accents were their next most pleasant accents, outranking a list of nearly 20 other UK accents and 10 other accents of English from around the world.

END OF SUMMARY

Results statistics follow toward the end of the document.

Part 2

VOICES – NATIONAL RESULTS

Question 17: I like hearing a range of accents

78% of agree

6% disagree

16% are undecided.

31% neither disagree or agree

Q35: With which o

Q41: To what extent do you think speaking a language other than English is helpful in getting a good job in the British Isles?

56% agree

20% disagree

24% neither disagree or agree

Q42: I am glad I speak languages other than English (answered by multilingual respondents)

84% agree

4% disagree

12% neither disagree or agree

Q13: How pleasant do you think each accent listed below sounds?

Q14: How much prestige do you think is associated with each accent listed?

Q15: How much do you think each of these accents would help someone trying to get a good job?

Table 1 ranks accents in decreasing order of pleasantness, prestige and helpfulness in getting a good job across the entire UK sample of the poll. Shaded cells are those where a majority of respondents rated the accent as more pleasant than unpleasant, more prestigious than unprestigious and more helpful career-wise than unhelpful, respectively. Unshaded cells are those where the reverse was true.

Table 1: UK average rankings for accent pleasantness, prestige and career helpfulness

| RANK | PLEASANTNESS | PRESTIGE | HELPFUL CAREER-WISE |
|-------------|--|--|--|
| 1. | Standard accent of English (like that of many newsreaders) | Queen's English | Standard accent of English (like that of many newsreaders) |
| 2. | An accent identical to your own | Standard accent of English (like that of many newsreaders) | Queen's English |
| 3. | Southern Irish | [REDACTED] your own | |