

Dictionary *of* American Regional English

Introduction

DARE, the Dictionary of American Regional English, documents the way the English language is used across the United States. Entries detail regional variations in pronunciation and usage, and are based both on interviews carried out in all fifty states and on analysis of written materials from the colonial period to the present.

The DARE publishing program has so far produced four of the planned six volumes. Alongside the continuing print program, we are about to commence work on publishing the full DARE database as an online reference resource. As we plan this website, we would welcome your input on how DARE should be presented and used online.

DARE Online is scheduled for launch in 2013.

General Questions

In what context do you or your students use print DARE volumes?

How, if at all, do you use the DARE maps?

Which language reference websites do you use?

What about those sites do you like or dislike?

Do you usually use advanced search, or quick search?

If you use advanced search, when and why do you use it?

Digital DARE Questionnaire

American Dialect Society

January 6, 2012

Consent

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I hereby grant full permission to Harvard University Press to record my comments during today's discussion of the digital Dictionary of American Regional English project.

I understand that other Harvard University Press employees and agents involved with the project may listen to the audio/video recording and review the notes.

I understand that, my name, address, phone number and e-mail address, as well as notes from today's session will NOT be shared with external third parties.

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Date: _____

May we contact you at a later date about the input you provide today?

- Yes. I prefer to be contacted by
- Email: _____
 - Phone: _____
- No

Would you be interested in trying out DARE Online ahead of its launch?

- Yes.
- No

Key screens demonstration

1. Home page

CIRCLE THE ANSWER THAT BEST APPLIES IN EACH BOX:

LOOK OF THE PAGE	FUNCTIONALITY/USEFULNESS TO ME AND MY WORK	ANYTHING MISSING?	ANYTHING CONFUSING?
Clear Layout	YES: USEFUL	WHAT?	WHAT?
Cluttered	NO: NOT USEFUL		
Disorganized			

Should DARE Online's homepage focus be:

1. On information about DARE?
2. On browsing content?
3. On searching?

How would you like to be able to browse DARE?

Comments and questions:

2. Search results page-default search

LOOK OF THE PAGE	FUNCTIONALITY/USEFULNESS TO ME AND MY WORK	ANYTHING MISSING?	ANYTHING CONFUSING?
Clear Layout	YES: USEFUL	WHAT?	WHAT?
Cluttered	NO: NOT USEFUL		
Disorganized			

Are the filters by which browsing and searching may be refined useful? What further or different filtering options or features, if any, would be useful?

If you did a quick search for a headword with an entry in DARE, would you expect to see search results, or to be taken straight to that entry?

Comments and questions:

3. Search results page-definition search

LOOK OF THE PAGE	FUNCTIONALITY/USEFULNESS TO ME AND MY WORK	ANYTHING MISSING?	ANYTHING CONFUSING?
Clear Layout	YES: USEFUL	WHAT?	WHAT?
Cluttered	NO: NOT USEFUL		
Disorganized			

What further or different advanced search options or features, if any, would be useful?

Comments and questions:

4. Entry page

LOOK OF THE PAGE	FUNCTIONALITY/USEFULNESS TO ME AND MY WORK	ANYTHING MISSING?	ANYTHING CONFUSING?
Clear Layout	YES: USEFUL	WHAT?	WHAT?
Cluttered	NO: NOT USEFUL		
Disorganized			

Should a DARE entry viewed online look like a DARE entry in a published volume? If not, what should be different? Should abbreviations used in DARE entries be expanded online?

Would you expect to print out full DARE entries from the website? Should maps be included?

Comments and questions:

5. Overall Features

What are the best features of digital version of the digital DARE, and why?

What features, if any, are missing?

Rank the importance of the following features, from 1-10:

___ Definitions

___ Etymology

___ Usage

___ Synonyms and related words

___ Regions (and visualization of word usage in maps)

___ DARE informant information (demographics, etc.)

___ DARE quotations (and audio)

___ Other quotations (bibliographic references)

___ Serendipitous discovery

___ Other: _____

6. Overall Potential Use

Would you be willing to use this digital version?

Would you be willing, if able, to advocate for its adoption by libraries?

Would use of this digital version of the DARE make you more or less likely to use the print version of the DARE, or would it have no effect on your use of the print version?

What features of the digital DARE would it be useful to access on:

- a. a desktop or laptop computer?
- b. a smartphone?
- c. a tablet?
- d. other devices?

Further comments and questions: