

# *VISUAL ACCENT DIALECT ARCHIVE*

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LEIGH WILSON SMILEY



# *VISUAL ACCENT DIALECT ARCHIVE*

- ▶ THE STORY ARTIST - DIALECTS/ACCENTS TODAY
- ▶ THE VISUAL ACCENT DIALECT ARCHIVE
- ▶ HOW VADA WORKS
- ▶ RESEARCH POTENTIALITIES
- ▶ HOW PEOPLE CONTRIBUTE



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# International Phonetic Alphabet

► a æ e ã ß b v c ç ð d z q d ə ə ʊ ɐ ɛ ɜ ʒ ˈ ɓ ɡ ɔ ɕ  
h ħ h H I İ ï j k f t † ‡ L l ʒ m ŋ n r ɳ ɔ œ ø ɒ ÷ æ φ r  
ʁ ɹ ɽ s θ t ʃ t s t ʊ ü ʉ ʌ ʎ ɥ ɯ ɸ x ʎ γ ʏ ʐ  
z ʑ ʔ ʎ ɤ ʒ | || ' , ∴ ⦿ ( ʘ ) ʘ ər hw ʝ  
↑ ↑ ↑  
↑



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## Welcome to VADA!

The Visual Accent & Dialect Archive (VADA) will be an archive of video clips from around the world, providing both aural and visual information about an accent or dialogue.



Performance today holds the mirror up to a diverse and changing world. English speaking performers must have the skill and ability to acquire any accent or dialect (a regional variety of an accent) with the specific lilt, rhythms, intonations and sound changes intrinsic to each individual region a character represents. In order to do this, the performer must have access to authentic sources for hearing and seeing the gestural aspects of accent and dialect. This archive provides such access by giving actors and scholars access to a collection of contributed video clips from around the world.

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## About the Project

VADA is a video archive of English-language accents and dialects gathered from around the globe, providing visual information on language sound pronunciation for the theater community.

## Contribute a Video or Comment

We need you! [Learn how to submit a video or contribute your expertise to the Visual Accent and Dialect Archive.](#)

## Create videos

- [Record a Story](#)
- [Record a List of Words](#)
- [Record the Rainbow Passage](#)

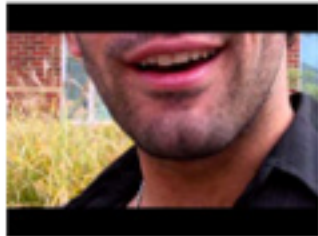


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## Peruvian: Story



Dialects: **Peru**

Male from Peru. Taught english language by German teacher. Has a British accent primarily.

## Paris, France: Story



Dialects: **France**

This donor spent his childhood in Paris France and is fluent in English.

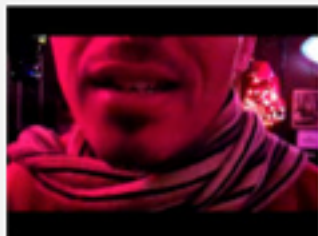
## Dominican Republic: Dr. Seuss



Dialects: **Dominican Republic**

Woman, from Dominican Republic who has lived in US for over 18 years reads Dr. Seuss. Very noisy video

## Argentina: Story



Dialects: **Argentina**

Noisy video! Argentinian student from StonyBrook in Long Island.

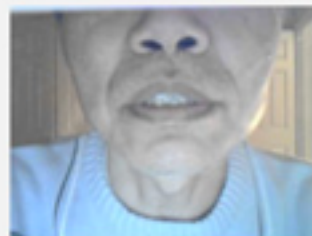
## Mexico City and Philadelphia: Story



Dialects: **Mexico, Mexico City, Pennsylvania, Philadelphia Area**

The speaker has lived in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania for 13 years. He grew up in Mexico City.

## Taiwan: Rainbow Passage



Dialects: **Taiwan**

Man from Taiwan. Has been in US for over 30 years.

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## Dialects

Choose a geographic region from the list below.



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[Northern](#)  
[Southern](#)  
[Western](#)



### ASIA

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[Eastern](#)  
[Northern](#)  
[Southern](#)  
[Southeastern](#)  
[Western](#)



### OCEANIA / CARIBBEAN

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[Melanesia](#)  
[Micronesia](#)  
[New Zealand](#)  
[Polynesia](#)  
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### EUROPE

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### NORTH AMERICA

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### CENTRAL / SOUTH AMERICA

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## Southern Asia Dialects

AFGHANISTAN

BANGLADESH

BHUTAN

INDIA

MALDIVES

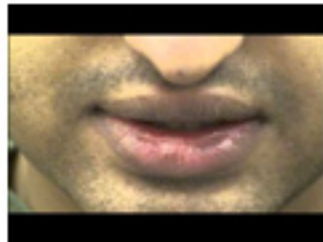
NEPAL

PAKISTAN

SRI LANKA

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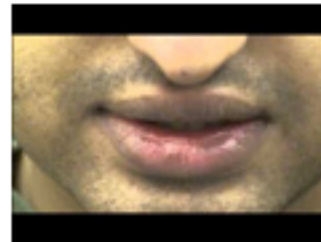
### Bangalore, India: Story



This dialect donor is originally from Bangalore, India and answers questions about his interests and upbringing.

---

### Bangalore, India: Passages



This dialect donor is originally from Bangalore, India and reads two excerpts: *The Rainbow Passage* and *Comma Gets a Cure*.



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## Bangalore, India: Passages



This dialect donor is originally from Bangalore, India and reads two excerpts: *The Rainbow Passage* and *Comma Gets a Cure*.

India

No comments

### Add your comment

Your name:

leigh

Comment: \*

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# SAMPLE READING MATERIAL PROVIDED ON VADA WEBSITE

## The Rainbow Passage ([Download as a PDF](#))

When the sunlight strikes raindrops in the air, they act as a prism and form a rainbow. The rainbow is a division of white light into many beautiful colors. These take the shape of a long round arch, with its path high above, and its two ends apparently beyond the horizon. There is , according to legend, a boiling pot of gold at one end. People look, but no one ever finds it. When a man looks for something beyond his reach, his friends say he is looking for the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. Throughout the centuries people have explained the rainbow in various ways. Some have accepted it as a miracle without physical explanation. To the Hebrews it was a token that there would be no more universal floods. The Greeks used to imagine that it was a sign from the gods to foretell war or heavy rain. The Norsemen considered the rainbow as a bridge over which the gods passed from earth to their home in the sky. Others have tried to explain the phenomenon physically. Aristotle thought that the rainbow was caused by reflection of the sun's rays by the rain. Since then physicists have found that it is not reflection, but refraction by the raindrops which causes the rainbows. Many complicated ideas about the rainbow have been formed. The difference in the rainbow depends considerably upon the size of the drops, and the width of the colored band increases as the size of the drops increases. The actual primary rainbow observed is said to be the effect of super-imposition of a number of bows. If the red of the second bow falls upon the green of the first, the result is to give a bow with an abnormally wide yellow band, since red and green light when mixed form yellow. This is a very common type of bow, one showing mainly red and yellow, with little or no green or blue.

*The Rainbow Passage, a public domain text, can be found on page 127 of the 2nd edition of Grant Fairbanks' Voice and Articulation Drillbook. New York: Harper & Row.*



# How to Contribute

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## South Philadelphia Story part 1.MTS

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0:02 / 6:19

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66 views 

Uploaded by [visualaccent](#) on Aug 23, 2011

Man. Grew up in South Philadelphia Italian Market - talks about growing up.

1 likes, 0 dislikes



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# Contribution comment example:

- ▶ Labial/weak [r]: practice, stressed, mirror, hurry (leaning non-rhotic)
- ▶ voiced medial [t]: letter, a lot of,
- ▶ [ð] towards [d]: there, the
- ▶ [θ] occasionally towards [s]: mouth
- ▶ [v] / [w] blend: working, when, wiped, several, west



# *VISUAL ACCENT DIALECT ARCHIVE* URL

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