

## English 23.2.21

Wednesday, February 10, 2021 7:45 PM

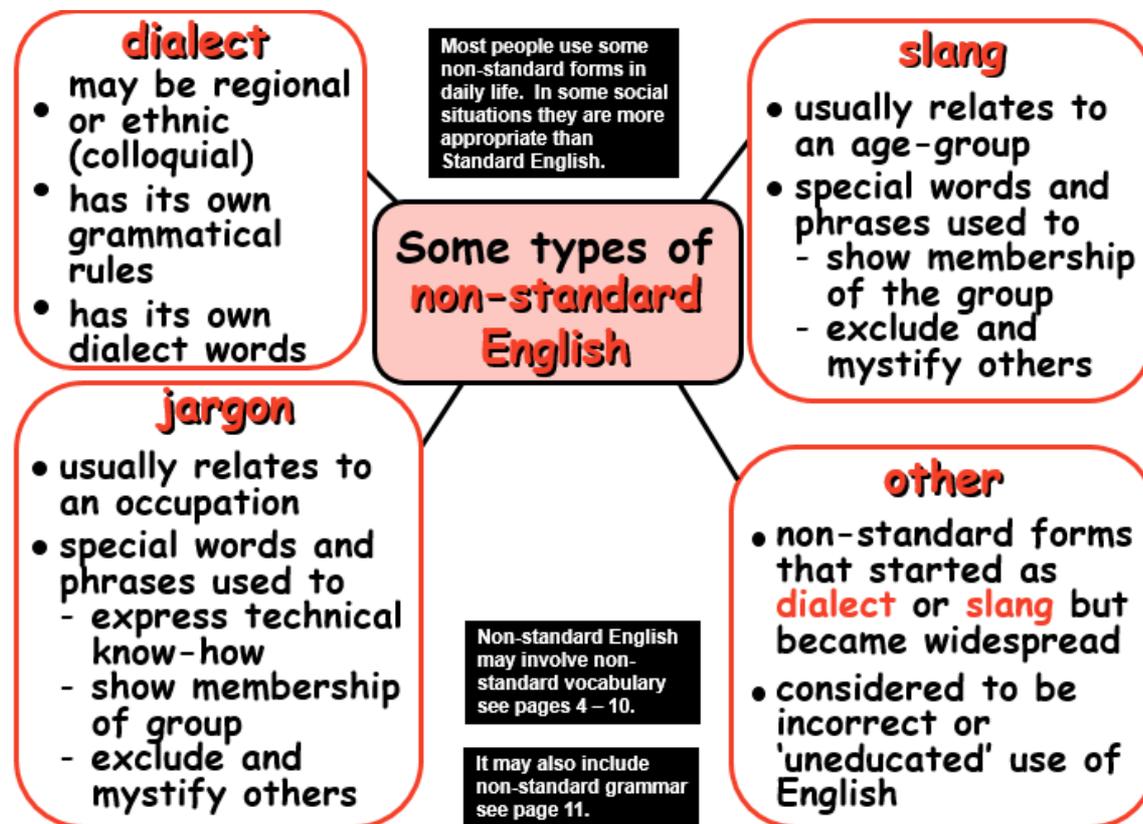
### TBQ: Can I write using different levels of formality?

Today's lesson focusses on the difference between formal and informal language.

Read all the information and **complete ALL THREE tasks.**



What is informal language (also known as non-standard English)?



First read and then listen to the poem.

### What d'ya want to be? By Wilf

What d'ya want to be?

Hey listen kid you don't have to tell me

I'm just here to read some poetry.

You can leave now if you want

you are completely free you see,

but before you go let me tell you  
that today I don't want to talk  
about birds and bees and trees  
and things,  
this poem's a question  
and  
I want to see what you dream and feel  
and things.

You see maybe  
you wanna be famous.  
Maybe you wanna be an astronaut and  
explore Uranus.

Maybe you wanna be the craziest  
stunt man Hollywood's ever seen.  
Maybe you wanna buy some flashy  
mansion, spend all your time keeping it clean.  
Maybe you're a dancer and Bollywood's  
more your scene.

Maybe you're a natural.  
Maybe you're gonna have to work hard  
at it.  
Maybe you're a punk singer and you're gonna  
smash it  
up.  
Maybe you like nice stuff.  
Maybe to get it  
you're gonna act all tough,  
maybe you're gonna be sweet  
maybe you're gonna meet  
and greet.

Maybe you wanna help people.  
Maybe you just want success  
or you wanna prove that you're the best.

Maybe you want to meet celebrities  
and all the important politicians  
shake the hand of the mayor  
then maybe you don't care  
maybe you want to be there  
just for the money -  
now that's a sweet honey,  
people don't find anything funny  
when they are racing to be rich.  
Maybe you want to be surrounded  
by iPods and quick fixes.  
Maybe your heart tremors and twitches  
round diamond rings and bling.  
Maybe you wanna collect  
every precious thing  
that eBay can bring  
buy so many jewels that you look  
like a king.  
Maybe you just wanna sing  
when you're naked in the shower  
and that's what  
makes you feel free.  
Maybe all you need is a field and tree  
to feel happy.

Maybe you're a natural.  
A doctor, a tinker, a tailor  
or an architect of bad behaviour.  
You could be a soldier or a spy.  
Maybe you're the kind of guy  
who wonders why  
the plane can stay in the sky.  
Maybe you're an expert  
at stopping a baby crying.  
Maybe you'll be found frying  
a rich man's breakfast  
in a gourmet restaurant.

Maybe you're a killer chef  
or an amazing painter.  
You don't have to know now  
you can find out later  
what it is you really want to be.

Maybe you want to see the world  
and live out of your  
backpack.

Maybe you wanna be a goth  
wearing nothing but black.  
Maybe blue  
just ain't you.

Maybe you just have  
to find out what's true  
and what's a lie  
in the newspaper  
then maybe you reckon  
that can wait till later.  
Maybe you'd be a kick-ass  
journalist.  
Maybe all that writing  
would make you a  
mentalist.

Maybe you want to make your  
own zombie movie  
spray ketchup  
on your mate's face  
for fake blood.  
Maybe you want  
to be a dirt biker covered in mud.  
A rescue woman saving the people  
in a flood,  
a boxer landing punches with a thud.  
Maybe you wanna be a rapper

"Do you get me blood?"

Maybe you wanna do very little  
live life chilled on a beach some place  
or stay up all night staring into space.  
Maybe you just wanna  
raise a family.  
Maybe you want to devote your life  
to a god.  
Maybe you want work  
in a caravan on the sea  
serving cod  
and chips.  
Then maybe you're ok  
if you can just kiss  
a sweet pair of lips.

Whatever your dream  
I just wanna remind you that you're  
free to be whatever you want to be  
and you can have anything you see  
and if you're like me you're gonna want it  
all for free  
but like me  
and like lots of other people like me  
in the end you are going to see  
that to be what you want to be  
you will have to be-  
lieve and work real hard  
unless you just want to be a nobody  
which is real easy.

But don't worry!  
Because this crazy game is not a race  
and it's not up to me  
or school  
or teevee

to tell you your place.

We don't know your dream  
or even what you really mean  
when you say what you want to be.

You gotta decide for yourself  
you see?

Now  
tell me  
what do you really want to be?

**Now listen to the poem.**

<https://hamiltontrust-live-b211b12a2ca14cbb94d6-36f68d2.divio-media.net/documents/track1-whatdyawanttobe-wilf.mp3>

**Is it better to read the poem, or listen to it? Which is more enjoyable?**

**\*If you do not have the internet, read it in your head and read it out loud.**

### **Task 1**

Look at the language that has been used in this poem - it is informal. It is written as if *Wilf* is talking to the reader.

Look at the word **d'ya**.

How would you say it more formally? ***do you***

When we use an apostrophe to replace a missing letter or letters we call it a **contraction** - this is **informal** or **colloquial**.

**Go through the poem and change the informal language to red.**

### **Task 2**

Can you **write the formal version of each of these words**. The first two are completed for you. If you are unsure, use the internet to help you.

d'ya (Do you)

gerrof (Get off)

you're  
'ere  
ain't  
't isn't  
you've  
that'd  
don't  
you'd  
shouldn't've  
what's  
who's  
you'll  
we'd  
won't  
gonna  
she'd've  
innit  
ma'am  
dunno  
spose  
gotcha  
how'd  
it'd  
praps

### **Task 3**

#### **Chilli Challenge**

Play the word sort game. Choose one, or work your way through all 3.  
Write your score after the link to the game.

**\*If you do not have internet access, complete the attached matching task.**

#### **Mild**

<https://wordwall.net/resource/3533888/formal-informal-language>

**Hot**

<https://wordwall.net/resource/7492608/english/level-1-formal-informal-match-no-2>

**Flaming Hot**

<https://wordwall.net/resource/6668217/english/be10-unit-1-ls-formal-informal-verbs>