



Speaking American: A History of English in the United States

Richard W. Bailey

Download now

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

Speaking American: A History of English in the United States

Richard W. Bailey

Speaking American: A History of English in the United States Richard W. Bailey

When did English become American? What distinctive qualities made it American? What role have America's democratizing impulses, and its vibrantly heterogeneous speakers, played in shaping our language and separating it from the mother tongue?

A wide-ranging account of American English, Richard Bailey's *Speaking American* investigates the history and continuing evolution of our language from the sixteenth century to the present. The book is organized in half-century segments around influential centers: Chesapeake Bay (1600-1650), Boston (1650-1700), Charleston (1700-1750), Philadelphia (1750-1800), New Orleans (1800-1850), New York (1850-1900), Chicago (1900-1950), Los Angeles (1950-2000), and Cyberspace (2000-present). Each of these places has added new words, new inflections, new ways of speaking to the elusive, boisterous, ever-changing linguistic experiment that is American English. Freed from British constraints of unity and propriety, swept up in rapid social change, restless movement, and a thirst for innovation, Americans have always been eager to invent new words, from earthy frontier expressions like "catawampus" (vigorously) and "bung-nipper" (pickpocket), to West African words introduced by slaves such as "goober" (peanut) and "gumbo" (okra), to urban slang such as "tagging" (spraying graffiti) and "crew" (gang). Throughout, Bailey focuses on how people speak and how speakers change the language. The book is filled with transcripts of arresting voices, precisely situated in time and space: two justices of the peace sitting in a pumpkin patch trying an Indian for theft; a crowd of Africans lounging on the waterfront in Philadelphia discussing the newly independent nation in their home languages; a Chicago gangster complaining that his pocket had been picked; Valley Girls chattering; Crips and Bloods negotiating their gang identities in LA; and more.

Speaking American explores--and celebrates--the endless variety and remarkable inventiveness that have always been at the heart of American English.



[Download Speaking American: A History of English in the Uni ...pdf](#)



[Read Online Speaking American: A History of English in the U ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Speaking American: A History of English in the United States

Richard W. Bailey

From reader reviews:

Lillie Moreland:

Nowadays reading books become more than want or need but also become a life style. This reading behavior give you lot of advantages. Associate programs you got of course the knowledge even the information inside the book which improve your knowledge and information. The data you get based on what kind of guide you read, if you want have more knowledge just go with education books but if you want sense happy read one with theme for entertaining for example comic or novel. Typically the Speaking American: A History of English in the United States is kind of reserve which is giving the reader unforeseen experience.

John Dinwiddie:

The e-book untitled Speaking American: A History of English in the United States is the guide that recommended to you to study. You can see the quality of the reserve content that will be shown to an individual. The language that writer use to explained their ideas are easily to understand. The author was did a lot of study when write the book, so the information that they share for you is absolutely accurate. You also might get the e-book of Speaking American: A History of English in the United States from the publisher to make you considerably more enjoy free time.

Anna Bailey:

A lot of people always spent their particular free time to vacation or go to the outside with them household or their friend. Were you aware? Many a lot of people spent many people free time just watching TV, or perhaps playing video games all day long. If you would like try to find a new activity honestly, that is look different you can read some sort of book. It is really fun for you personally. If you enjoy the book you read you can spent all day every day to reading a guide. The book Speaking American: A History of English in the United States it doesn't matter what good to read. There are a lot of individuals who recommended this book. These were enjoying reading this book. If you did not have enough space to create this book you can buy often the e-book. You can more easily to read this book through your smart phone. The price is not to cover but this book has high quality.

Dale Eich:

Reading a book for being new life style in this calendar year; every people loves to learn a book. When you read a book you can get a wide range of benefit. When you read guides, you can improve your knowledge, mainly because book has a lot of information onto it. The information that you will get depend on what forms of book that you have read. If you wish to get information about your review, you can read education books, but if you want to entertain yourself you are able to a fiction books, this sort of us novel, comics, along with soon. The Speaking American: A History of English in the United States provide you with new experience in studying a book.

Download and Read Online Speaking American: A History of English in the United States Richard W. Bailey #G7LY91JKFW2

Read Speaking American: A History of English in the United States by Richard W. Bailey for online ebook

Speaking American: A History of English in the United States by Richard W. Bailey Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Speaking American: A History of English in the United States by Richard W. Bailey books to read online.

Online Speaking American: A History of English in the United States by Richard W. Bailey ebook PDF download

Speaking American: A History of English in the United States by Richard W. Bailey Doc

Speaking American: A History of English in the United States by Richard W. Bailey MobiPocket

Speaking American: A History of English in the United States by Richard W. Bailey EPub