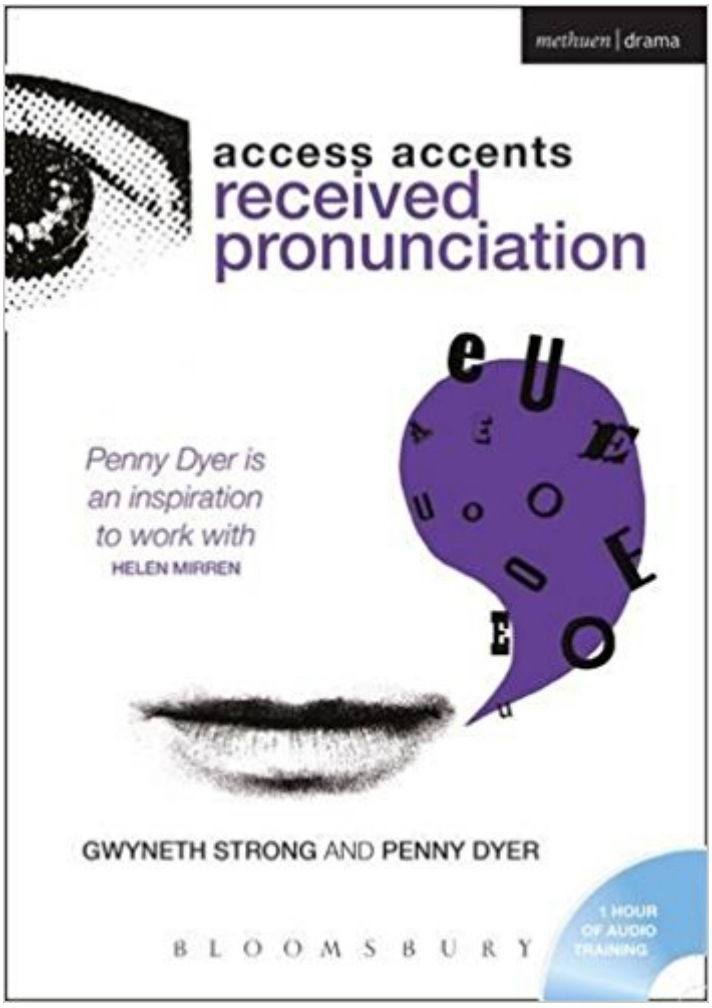
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Access Accents: Received Pronunciations: An Accent Training Resource For Actors (Performance Books)



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Synopsis

"Penny Dyer is an inspiration to work with" Helen Mirren"An indispensible aid for actors" Bill Nighy"Penny takes away the fear of an accent for the actor" David Morrissey"Accurate, specific and enabling, these CDs are as fundamental as the use of voice itself" Michael Attenborough"Invaluable for the modern actor" Michael Sheen"Penny Dyer on a CD. What more could I want" Kelly ReillyAn essential tool for actors needing to develop an accent at a moments notice. Top voice coach, Penny Dyer, voice coach to Helen Mirren on The Queen and who has worked with Nicole Kidman, Reece Witherspoon and Cate Blanchett and Gwyneth Strong (Cassandra, Only Fools and Horses) present an hour long voice coaching session on CD. The audio contains examples of the accent from a locally born and bred person; a short history of the accent/dialect; a voice coaching lesson between an actor and Penny Dyer who will explain the phonetics, rhythm etc with numerous examples to listen to and then try; a short extract from a play. A small booklet will include some phonetic notes, transcripts of the accent examples, the play example, the background on the accent and an Introduction. An invaluable resource for every actor’s library.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

’Dyer makes what could be an austere and actorly subject come to life. As well as explaining the more techniqual aspects of how to produce a particular accent, she looks at its history and explains her environmental theory of accent formation.’ Guardian (January 2008) ’Providing masterclasses in various dialects’ The Stage (October 2007)

Penny Dyer is one of the most respected film and theatre voice coaches internationally and has worked with many famous actors such as Nicole Kidman and Reece Witherspoon. Gywneth Strong is an actress, known especially for her role as Cassandra in Only Fools and Horses and with a wide range of contemporary theatre and tv work to her CV.

I was extremely disappointed with the Access Accents Received Pronunciation CD. When I ordered it I envisioned something akin to a foreign language type CD, where a person models the speech, then you repeat it. This does occur on the CD, but out of about one hour of recorded audio, this amounts to five and a half minutes. The rest of the CD, about half of it, consists of (partly) an RP instructor talking about the history of RP, talking about problems actors have with RP, and partly--and this being the majority of the half of this section--and I think rather inappropriately--is the RP instructor trying to guide a student in pronouncing RP, and her imperfect pronunciation of it (she is Irish, and the Irish comes through the RP quite badly)--and there are quite long excerpts of her reading various things, such as Shakespeare, in this imperfect accent, with the instructor attempting to bring her closer to a proper pronunciation. I feel for this woman trying to work through her perfection of RP with the instructor, but exactly why the makers of this CD felt this should be included on the CD is not clear. Additionally, there are three recordings of actual RP speakers--i.e., speakers in natural settings, talking about some aspect of their lives, about one minute each--two being "marked" RP, the other "unmarked," with a transcription of this speech in the booklet, which I found helpful, as I have been working with those texts to perfect my pronunciation. What I ended up doing, however, because of the scantiness of recorded and transcribed RP on the CD, is transcribing the instructor's comments about the history of RP (etc.)--she speaks in flawless RP--and using THAT text to work on my RP, so as to not make the CD almost a complete waste. I understand the rationale of the makers of the CD as to why they thought listening to an instructor work with a amateur actor to perfect her pronunciation--i.e. listening to someone work through problems with an instructor will benefit another person--but I don't this is effective. However, the CD is only twenty dollars, and what I have gotten from it, especially with my transcriptions of the instructor's speech, has made it worth the small amount of money invested.

I bought the Cockney accent cd with booklet quite a while ago. They come in a cd case. After learning, I was able to hold at least an entire hour of constant reading important information over the phone before enrolling prospect into a plan we were selling. I absolutely love this cd and if you

practice it often, you will learn it fast. Also any revelant movies ,may be of help such as "East enders".

It didn’t help me much at all actually. I ended up buying $120 complete accent system that I’ve been using ever since. I should’ve just purchased the more expensive one in the beginning.

I agree with the first reviewer. This audio is really quite bad. The vast majority of it is spent with us listening to a "lesson" in Received Pronunciation. Much of the lesson is poorly planned and developed--it just meanders. The "student" is an actress with a native Irish accent. Her RP accent is mediocre at best and very poor at worst. You will spend just as much time listening to her speak with an Irish accent as you will spend listening to words, phrases, and sentences in RP. I think that and Audible ought to pull this audio recording because it is so low in quality. I have to say that it is the most disappointing audio recording I have ever encountered, and I am something of an audio addict.

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