

New Orleans Dialect - General characteristics of a “Yat,” - working class dialect. From the idiomatic greeting “Where yat?” (Where are you at,? or how are you?)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tpFDNT04DNg> - This is a great clip of the variations of New Orleans dialects. The last two examples with the two women describing their “Yat” speech, is perfect.

Think of this dialect as slow Brooklynesse!

Non-rhotic - no r coloring when in the medial or final position (unless when linking to a following word beginning with a vowel to avoid a glottal attack, such as: *wherever*)

Often for emphasis, the first syllable of a word is stretched out and the second shortened - New **O**rleans

Sound Substitutions:

ð = d (often) that, without

θ = t (often) with

ɑ̃ = ɔ:ə car, far, hardly (: means to elongate duration of this sound)

ɑɪ = a time, why, right

ɜ̃ = ʌə bird, virgin, birth
and sometimes (“Brooklynese-ish”):

ɜ̃ = əɪ bird, virgin, birth (This is not as extreme as Brooklyn. In other words, NOT əɪ)

ɔ̃ = ɒə bored, tore, for

ɑ = ɔ̃ hot, on, Rhonda (, under a phoneme means more lip rounding)

ɪ̃ = iə here, clear,

ɛ̃ = æ Carrollton, parents, where

ɛ = æ (often) medicine, ready,