

## “Prestige” Southern Dialect - General Characteristics

<http://web.ku.edu/~idea/northamerica/usa/georgia/georgia2.mp3>

Melodic variations - This dialect is very musical --- it uses a wide variety of pitches especially for emphasis.

It also uses elongated vowels, for emphasis and/or character choice

This dialect draws upon the Southern propensity (probably derived linguistically from the Irish influence) and love for story telling. Therefore the wide variety of pitch and rhythmic variations is central to the cultural sound.

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*)

### Vowel Substitutions:

Liquid ju                      new, stew, students

Many phonemes go to diphthongs, and many diphthongs go to triphthongs

æ = æjə                      bath, ran, fair, past

ɑɪ = ɑ or æ (open)        time, ride, why

i = əɪ                        see, we, she's

ɜ = ɜ                        bird, word, worth

ɛ = eɪjə                    instead, when, said

eɪ = ɑəɪ                    came, decade, they

ɑu = æu                    how, now, brown, cow

ɛə = eɪə                    where, there, care

o = ɛu                      go, over, sofa

u = ɪu                      you, soon, Tupelo