

Week 18. Caribbean

1. Creoles and the 'post-creole continuum'



(from Holm, J., 1988. *Pidgins and Creoles*, vol. 1. Cambridge: CUP)

2. Consonants

- TH stopping
- Cluster reduction
- H dropping (Jamaica)
- Undifferentiated /l/
- Rhoticity varies geographically:
 - Barbados rhotic
 - Jamaica semi-rhotic
 - Leewards, Windwards and Trinidad non-rhotic
- /w/ has allophone [ʉ] before front non-open vowels
- c[j]at, g[j]arden, b[w]oy

3. Vowels

- Length important ; tendency towards strong vowels
- Quality of FACE [e:, ie], GOAT [o:, uo]
- Mergers NEAR-SQUARE, CURE-FORCE (*poor=pour*)
- Possible mergers TRAP-LOT, START-NORTH, PRICE-CHOICE
- Non-merger FORCE vs NORTH
- Quality of MOUTH; possible homophones *down-dung*