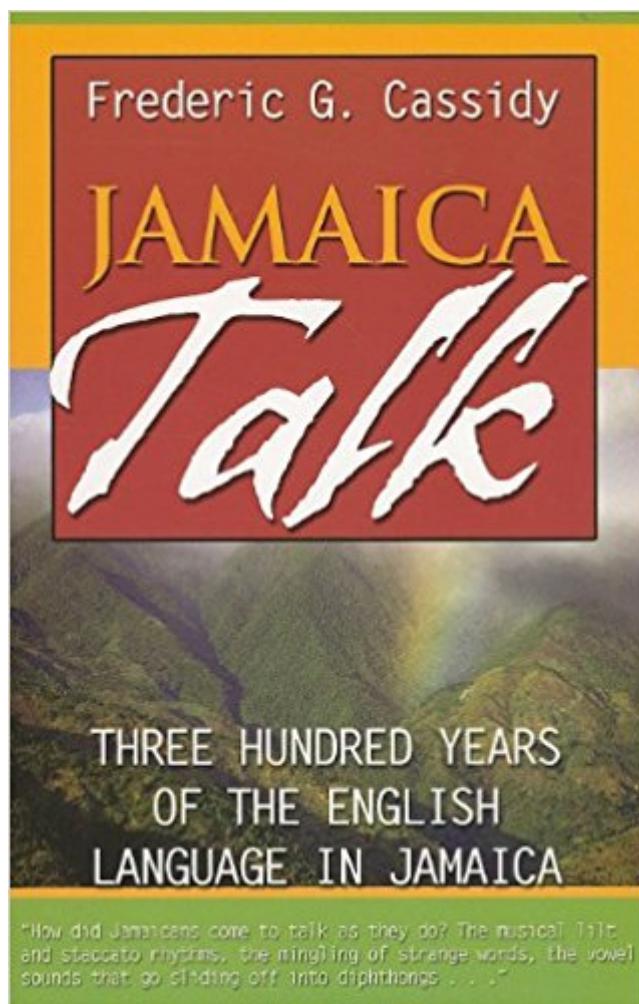


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Jamaica Talk: Three Hundred Years Of The English Language In Jamaica



Synopsis

First published in 1961, *Jamaica Talk* is a thorough study of the English spoken in Jamaica and, although intended for the general educated reader rather than the linguistic specialist, has a foundation of sound scholarship.

Book Information

Paperback: 468 pages

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Customer Reviews

"How did Jamaicans come to talk as they do? The musical lilt and staccato rhythms, the mingling of strange words, the vowel sounds that go sliding off into diphthongs, the cheerful defiance of many niceties of traditional English grammar, the salty idioms, the wonderfully compressed proverbs, the pungent imagery of nicknames and epithets in the bestowal of which these islanders appear to be peculiarly adept - where do all these hail from and how did they come to be?"

Frederic G. Cassidy was Professor of English, University of Wisconsin - Madison, and Chief Editor, *Dictionary of American Regional English*. He received the Musgrave Silver Medal from the Institute of Jamaica for *Jamaica Talk*.

Great book. I especially love the style of writing. There are not many books about the Caribbean out there and this is a must read for anyone interested in studying the evolution of language in the Caribbean. I plan to use this as a personal reference book and continue to flip through it over the next few months. It's a bit heavy reading but all around worth it. I'm learning a lot about the Caribbean that I might not have otherwise known. Before long, books like this will become a rarity

so I'm glad I purchased this now.

I know this book from many years back and think that it is an expressive description of Jamaica talk which I have heard since childhood.

A superb and wonderful look at the beautiful language of the people of Jamaica.....I treasure this book which I bought in the sixties in Jamaica and which I am pleased to see has been published once again. Deep insights into a rich Creole language and its relationship to other Creoles in the Caribbean and Suriname....

I thought the book was very interesting. It allowed me to not only embrace Patois as a uniquely cultural language, it also allowed me to feel the spirit and cultural dignity of Jamaican people. I've learned that this historical language cannot be and should not be described as a "broken-language" but a "nation-language" that brings me closer to my ancestors as an African-American woman. Reading this language's origins helped me see more clearly the bonds that tie many of us to the same people as well as the same land. "OUT OF MANY, ONE PEOPLE" my life has been forever changed. Thank you.

Cassidy's book on Jamaican Creole, continues to be a source of valuable information for those persons interested in the roots of this Creole Language. It is written so that not only linguists but even persons without a solid linguistics background can read, understand and appreciate the value of the language. I would recommend it as a must read for all those persons who continue to hold the view that JC is haphazard and structureless, and definitely for those who have a genuine interest in the Creole, whether for academic reasons, national, or just plain old information.

The book was offered at an attractive price, it arrived quickly, and was in great condition! I could not ask for more out of this experience.

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