Spoken English and Broken English
George Bernard Shaw

Submitted by
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George Bernard Shaw (1856 – 1950) was an Irish dramatist, literary critic. He won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1925 and the Oscar for the best screenplay in 1938.

G.B. Shaw was also an excellent public speaker. In his speeches and talks he dealt with contemporary moral and social problems.
Spoken English and Broken English is a transcript of a radio talk and was recorded in 1927. The talk was broadcast over Manhattan's radio station WNEW. It was a part of series of talks called A Treasury of the Spoken World.

G.B.Shaw, in this talk, proposes his view that even educated native speakers cannot speak perfectly correct English and broken English is more acceptable in day to day life than perfectly correct English.
“There is no such thing as ideally correct English”

The talk is specially for those who are foreign students and wish to study in some English speaking country or native speakers who speak dialect rather than standard English. G.B.Shaw assumes that his listeners wish to learn “correct English”. However, he says there’s no such thing as ideally correct English because no two British subjects speak English alike.
In this talk, G.B. Shaw has addressed his foreign listeners and has advised them not to speak perfectly correct English but speak presentable English that is known as “Good English”.

- He has urged foreign (non-native) speakers to speak with a strong foreign accent, and speak broken: that is English without any grammar when in England.

- Never try to speak foreign languages too well.
  - Thanks - Vipanjeet