

Science Communication and Citizen Science

Marc van Oostendorp
Meertens Instituut &
Radboud University Nijmegen

Lorentz Workshop

Citizen Science as Science Communication

- There is (allegedly) a crisis in
the humanities

This is partly a crisis of confidence
→ people don't know what we are doing
and they cannot know.
There is very little beyond the
fun and the introductory.

It may also partly be a matter of a
different emerging structure of
society.

There is a lot of potential

Many people with higher education and curiosity
language is very interesting to many people (child language)

Citizen Science

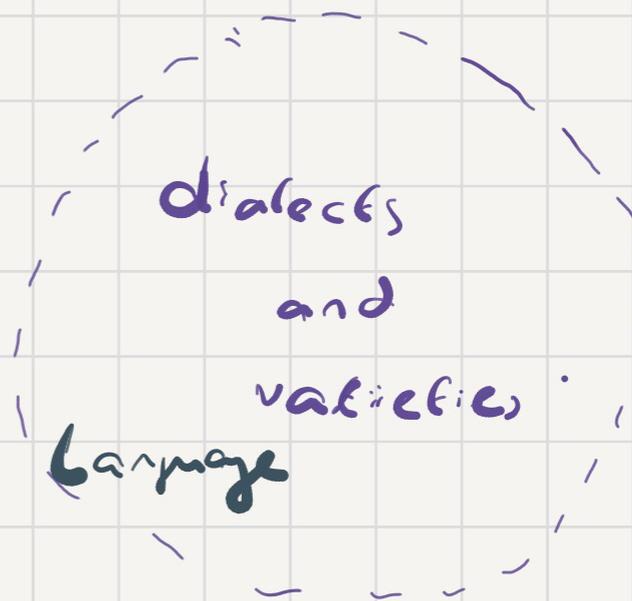
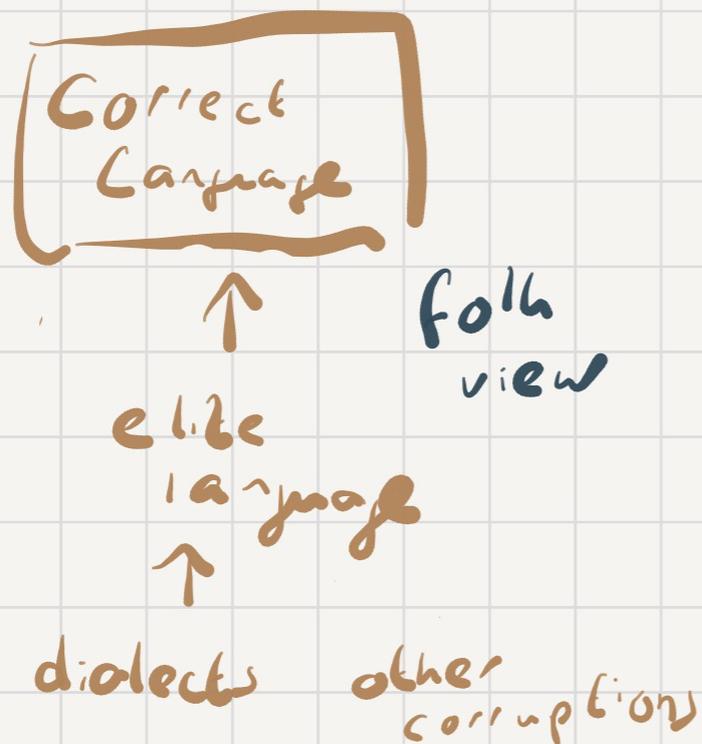
Scientific work in which non-scientists participate.

Folk Linguistics

Getting a view on the language ideology of non-linguists.
(What does 'language' mean to a non-linguist.)

Views on variation

(Preston 1989)



The view of language influences language (change)

- if some feature is salient,
that might affect rate of change

- if a feature gets stigmatized,
that might affect social stratification

- what is the time span between a phenomenon
coming up and that phenomenon
being noticed?

→ what is the time span between a phenomenon
being criticized and disappearing?

"Meldpunt Taal" (Reporting Point Language)

- Started in 2010
- what do people notice of language change?
- cooperation of several institutes
primarily
 - Meertens Institute
 - Institute for Dutch Language

Some Problems

- Name suggests negative attitude
- Needs constant attention