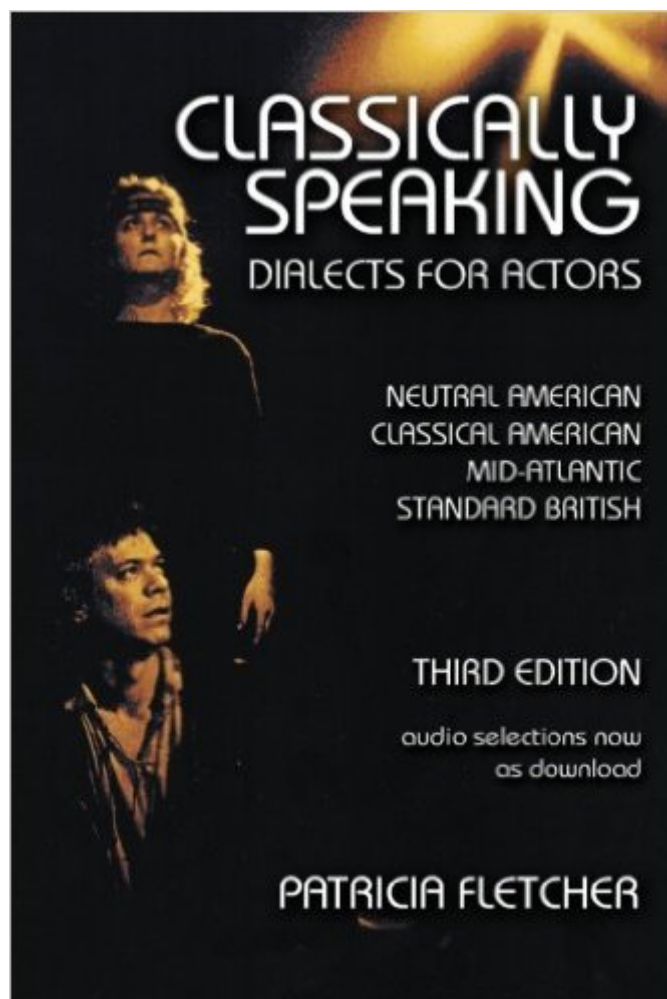


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# Classically Speaking



## Synopsis

Classically Speaking offers an approach for actors who wish to learn Neutral American Speech, and develop the skills necessary to adjust their speech to the particular demands of a wider range of characters and texts. The extensive Neutral American section could serve English speakers from countries other than the Us, including those from Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Ireland and Great Britain, as well as advanced speakers of English as a Second Language (Esl) from around the globe. Classical American, Mid-Atlantic and Standard British dialects are also covered. An audio download link to more than 300 sound demonstrations and a dozen monologues recorded by professional actors is also included.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (16 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #74,943 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #78 in [Books > Reference >](#)

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## Customer Reviews

Classically Speaking is a very smart and comprehensive guide to language, speech, and dialect training. As an actor, I know that I will keep returning to this book and companion CD for years to come. As a teacher, I can appreciate its clear organization, easy-to-follow formatting, and detailed approach. The book is full of helpful explanations and exercises, and it's a reference I will always keep handy.

Having had the great advantage of Ms. Fletcher's tutelage - which I absolutely recommend if one has the financial opportunity - I highly value her "Classically Speaking" as a standalone text, having already used it multiple times beyond the classroom in order to help myself and other actors on various projects. In a foolproof, easy-to-understand manner, she teaches you the elementals and

brings you on up to be able to master the key features of these dialects. However, true mastery - the ability to not only articulate properly for specific types of characters, but set oneself up to fully project with warmth and resonance, required in hearty, substantial theatre work - can only be achieved through practice, methods of which Ms. Fletcher advocates and expands upon in the book. Her sly, subtle wit and humor - evident in her one-on-one teaching - is very much evident (I.E. a Neutral American diphthong example on pg. 167, "Shall we wine and dine in Wyoming or Thailand, Ryan?") in the text, so there is no need to worry about "Classically Speaking" being stuffy or inaccessible. If one is not able to learn one-on-one with Ms. Fletcher, the book is the very best next thing. Those seeking to learn proper neutral and classical American dialects, and the basics of Standard British, will be very well-served by both the book itself and the accompanying compact disc (and/or easy to download MP3 files, depending upon your edition), with recorded examples spoken by Fletcher and several of her students. A smart, savvy investment for the aspiring thespian or the longterm professional.

This book is really amazing. It is incredibly easy to use and a must have for any acting student or person who wants to improve their speech. Whether you are using it in school or learning by yourself, this fantastic book will get you where you want to be. The easy to use CD gives examples of everything you learn in the book. Definitely a book I will keep forever!

This book is a must have for actors and anyone who wants to improve their voice and speech overall. Packed with practical lessons, exercises and a CD to double check sounds with it has a lot you can self-teach with in a voice book, which is rare. Useful for learning your IPA, Neutral American, Classical and Standard British!

If you are an acting student this book will be your bible for anything Voice and Speech related. Filled with all the IPA you could ever need, accent training, warm up exercises and much much more - this book is the quintessential guide to helping you reach your full potential in terms of Voice and Speech. I have trained with it and am constantly using it as a reference guide!

One of the best most concise process for teaching IPA and elements of voice in one book. I highly recommend it.

This book is just amazing for anyone who wants to improve their diction and understand the

phonetics of the English language. Delivered on time, covered in cardboard so it doesn't have even a scratch on it.

Highly recommended to actors trying to study neutral american, classical american and British accents. This book presents these dialects in a simplified, organized, and easy to understand manner. Along with the text, you receive access to Pat's site for audible clips to hear examples of each dialect in their corresponding chapters. Great book for self-teaching, but if you can, try to take her Voice and Speech course for even more personal and in-depth voice and speech training

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