

Turn	Speaker	Lines
1	BJ	Have you ever heard of Pittsburghese? We-
2	JG	Absolutely. ((Laughs))
3	BJ	Okay. ((Laughs)) When did- When do you think you first heard of Pittsburghese, heard that word?
4	JG	When I was young. There was always T-shirts and...diction-dictionaries and that kind of thing around. You [know], Pittsburghese- Station Square, I can remember, when I was- We'd go there when family was in from out of town and we'd go see the, you know, those () Pittsburghese shirts and postcards and books and all that stuff. So...
5	BJ	[Mm-hmm.] Mm-hmm. So, you- you've pretty much always been aware of it?
6	JG	As- as long as I can remember. [You] know.
7	BJ	[Yeah.] Uh-huh.
8	JG	So...
9	BJ	What is it? I mean...?
10	JG	It's just the way that everybody...talks around here.
11	BJ	Mm-hmm.=
12	JG	=You know, there's certain words- ((Intake of breath)) There's certain words that are...part of it, I guess. "YINZ" is obviously the biggest. And then, "CHIPPED HAM," "GUMBANDS." You know. Um..."POP." That kind of stuff. Um, but also just the accent, I'd say.
13	BJ	Mm-hmm.
14	JG	Huh.
15	BJ	And you said before, about the accent...that "DAHNN" [was] part of it.
16	JG	[Yeah.] Uh-huh.
17	BJ	Anything else?
18	JG	Um..."STILLERS."
19	BJ	Mm-hmm. ((Laughs))
20	JG	Um... ((2 second pause)) "NORTH VERSAILLES." Um...I guess. [Um...]
21	BJ	[How] that's- You mean, how- how that's pronounced?= =How that's pronounced, yeah. ((Mumbles)) How it's...
22	JG	Mm-hmm.
23	BJ	Mm-hmm.
24	JG	Um... Yeah, so.
25	BJ	Yeah. ((2 second pause)) So, do most of the people that you ((2 second pause)) use Pittsburghese, speak Pittsburghese, or...?
26	JG	I- No.=
27	BJ	=So do you- [Do] you know about it from sort of listening people,

		or...?
28	JG	[I-] ((Sighs)) Probably not, actually. It's mostly...a- sort of a joke that...comes from the, uh- Uh, very few people that I know actually use the word "YINZ." Um... I mean... I do use- I do say "GUMBAND," I do say...um, "CHIPPED HAM." You know. But, you know, as far as- ((2 second pause)) There are very few people that I know that really have...serious Pittsburghese.
29	BJ	Mm-hmm.
30	JG	But...
31	BJ	So, mostly you know about it from these books and T-shirts and things like that?
32	JG	I would say. [Yeah], probably.
33	BJ	[Hmm.] Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm. Have you ever, uh, seen any of the internet sites about Pittsburghese?
34	JG	No. I've never looked at them.
35	BJ	Mm-hmm.
36	JG	No.
37	BJ	(Well) there's one ((Intake of breath)) called Pittsburghese.com. ((2 second pause)) Which has thousands and thousands of entries from people who just write in.
38	JG	Hmph.
39	BJ	I mean, it's one of these ones where anyone can sort of...suggest something [and] it'll end up there. It's like a huge dictionary.
40	JG	[Yeah.] Yeah. Interesting.
41	BJ	Yeah, mm-hmm. ((Intake of breath)) So would you say you use Pittsburghese? You...just said you say "GUMBAND," and, um...[(I forget...the "POP")]
42	JG	[A little bit.]
43	BJ	Yeah.
44	JG	Yeah.
45	BJ	A little bit, mm-hmm. ((Intake of breath)) Uh, have you ever heard the term "YINZER"? A "YINZER"?=
46	JG	=Oh yeah. [Yeah.]
47	BJ	[What] is- What does that mean?
48	JG	((Intake of breath)) Um... I'd- It's just sort of, you know, if you've ever watched...like a Steelers tailgate video, it's the guys who are, you know, who are at the Steelers games drinking the beer before- ((Laughs)) three hours before kickoff. You know. That's- that's who I think of as a "YINZER." [As], you know...
49	BJ	[Mm-hmm.] With their chest painted...gold ((Laughs))=
50	JG	=Yeah, exactly. They- With the hard-hat on, you know. The Steelers hard-hat [on]. And- and, um, you know... It's just the general image of like, you know, the old-time mill-working...
51	BJ	[Mm-hmm.] Mm-hmm.
52	JG	Pittsburgher.

53	BJ	And would they be more likely to have a local accent than...?
54	JG	Probably.
55	BJ	Yeah.
56	JG	Probably. But I think, you know, it's hard to get away from a local accent...around here. ((Laughs))
57	BJ	Yeah.
58	JG	You know.
59	BJ	((Intake of breath)) Um, is it a compliment or an insult to call somebody a "YINZER"?
60	JG	That depends on the context, I think.
61	BJ	Mm-hmm.
62	JG	And how- And who says it. It can go either way.
63	BJ	Would- Do people use that term in...in high-school to characterize other kids?
64	JG	((Sighs)) Not that I can remember. ((2 second pause)) Not that I can remember. [Um...] ((3 second pause)) Nah, I don't think so.
65	BJ	[Mm-hmm.] Yeah. Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm. ((2 second pause)) ((Intake of breath)) ((Papers shuffling)) So, but would- You wouldn't call yourself a "YINZER"?
66	JG	I don't think so. But...hmm, [somebody else- somebody else might, but I don't-] I don't think so.
67	BJ	(((Papers shuffling))) Do you think maybe other people would, or...? Yeah, they might?] I don't- Yeah, you don't think so?
68	JG	Yeah. ((Laughs))
69	BJ	Uh-huh. Uh-huh. ((Intake of breath)) Okay, I'm just going to, um... get- Um, this is the last thing I want do in...on this- in this interview part, just tell you a couple of words and...see if you've ever used them yourself, if you've heard people use them...
70	JG	Okay.
71	BJ	Um, if you know people who use them.
72	JG	Okay.
73	BJ	First one's "YINZ."
74	JG	No.=
75	BJ	=You said, you hardly ever...hear people use it.
76	JG	Yeah. I- I don't use it, and it- there aren't many people that I know that use it. No one in my family does, for sure. Most of my friends...
77	BJ	Have you ever heard it?
78	JG	I've heard it... I've heard it. Um... Rarely, though.
79	BJ	Mm-hmm. ((2 second pause)) What about "YINZ GUYS"? Is that- is that a local...? ((3 second pause)) It seems kind of redundant, so that's the reason I'm asking [about that.]
80	JG	[It is.] Um... ((Sighs)) There are- there are people who say it. I mean, I've heard it...you know, at Wal-Mart, for example, um... That comes to mind, I don't know why. [But], um... ((Intake of

		breath)) But, yeah, I mean, I've heard it, but not...
81	BJ	[Mm-hmm.] Yeah.
82	JG	A lot.
83	BJ	Mm-hmm. ((Intake of breath)) About these...construction that people use when they say things like, "These leftovers need eating," or "The lawn needs mowed," or the...?
84	JG	Oh yeah. ((Laughs))
85	BJ	Um... ((Laughs))
86	JG	Yeah, there is no "to be"...around here. That's for sure. Um...
87	BJ	When did you become aware of that? ((1 second pause)) Did- Can you remember, or, you know...?
88	JG	Uh- uh, vaguely, in I guess...high-school English that, you know, I'd have teachers correct and- and insert a "to be" here and there. [But] mostly at, um...in school, at- at college.
89	BJ	[Yeah.] At college?
90	JG	At college. Because, you know, like I said, there was...um, a lot of comparison about- And my roommate was from...New York, right outside New York city, so...um, she...would correct my "to be's" a lot. ((Laughs))
91	BJ	((Laughs)) So you just sort of automatically...[do that?]
92	JG	[Yeah, I-] I- I'd cut it out, all the time. Just don't even- Just skip right over it. So...
93	BJ	Mm-hmm. Mm-hmm.
94	JG	I'm more conscious of it now. That, you know, that I've had it pointed out to me a lot. But...
95	BJ	Yeah. But you probably still do it, or...? [When you're not thinking. Mm-hmm.]
96	JG	[Oh, I definitely still do it.] Yeah. Yeah.
97	BJ	((Intake of breath)) What about "REDD UP"? ((3 second pause)) Did people in you family use that...[expression?]
98	JG	[Yeah.] My grandmas both- both say that. Um... I don't really think that I use that too much, though. Um... I don't know why. But- but both my grandmas do. My mom does, once in awhile.
99	BJ	Mm-hmm.
100	JG	Um... ((3 second pause)) But, yeah.
101	BJ	Yeah. ((1 second pause)) And then when, uh...people say things like, "I like swimming N'AT." Uh...
102	JG	((Laughs))
103	BJ	((Laughs)) It's another thing that gets in those dictionaries [and] all those T-shirts a lot. Do people actually do that?
104	JG	[Yeah.] Um... ((4 second pause)) Once in awhile. Some- It- it- The context is not usually like it is in the dictionaries that I've seen, anyway. Um, it just sort of ((2 second pause)) it- you know, they- it- it is used. It is [used.] But...not that much, not as much as you might think.

105	BJ	[Mm-hmm.] Mm-hmm. ((2 second pause)) Have you ever heard of a “GRINNY”?
106	JG	((2 second pause)) No.
107	BJ	Yeah, that’s an old... That’s an old regional word, um...
108	JG	Yeah?
109	BJ	It’s an old Scotch-Irish word...
110	JG	Oh, okay.
111	BJ	For a chipmunk.
112	JG	Oh yeah?
113	BJ	And I’m just kind of curious about how much Pittsburghers know about the kind of older region- rural words.
114	JG	Yeah, no I’ve never [heard that.]
115	BJ	[Almost no-] Almost no Pittsburghers know that word.
116	JG	Hmm. That’s [interesting.]
117	BJ	[A- a couple] do and it’s really... I’m really intrigued [by], you know, why just one or two people would know that word when nobody else does. ((Laughs)) You know?
118	JG	[Hmm.] ((Laughs))
119	BJ	((Intake of breath)) Uh, what about when people say “PICKSBURGH”? Have you ever actually- Have you ever heard people say that? “PICKSBURGH,” instead of “Pittsburgh”?
120	JG	Only in jest.
121	BJ	Mm-hmm.
122	JG	That I- that I kind of. Um...
123	BJ	((3 second pause)) Hmm.
124	JG	Yeah, I can’t think of a... You know, I can’t think of a time when anybody used it...you know, just in normal conversation.
125	BJ	Mm-hmm.
126	JG	So...