
When you hear that sentence, what does that mean to you? Is there value in that string of words that resonates with you, or is it a string of nonsense? All the words or phrases used above are part of a specific English vernacular: African American Vernacular English (AAVE).

African American Vernacular English, also known as Black English or formerly known as

AAVE has been studied and proven. There are particular rules to AAVE, which function just as opposite has been studied and proven. There are particular rules to AAVE, which function just as black and brown people) are stigmatized, ridiculed, and degraded for using such language. This addressing myths and misconceptions.

There are plenty of versions of African American Vernacular English that exist within the United States. In the Bay Area, there are various slang terms that come from innercity communities heavily populated by Black Americans. One famous term is heffa.

This word is said to stem from Oakland, CA with its first recorded use dating back to the late 1970s (Nunberg, rfd. in Eghan). The word has gained popularity among Southern Californians, Southerners, Mideasteners, and even on the East Coast. Functioning as a noun and modifier, heffa is a version used as a safer, less gar option is heffa

Actor One: ³ < R LI WKLV GRFWRU NH ~~go's catch hands, on gang~~ V R&K U H D G K

Catch hands (phrase) to start a physical altercation, often used by the person wanting to initiate

On gang (phrase) emphasizing or hyperbolizing the truth of a statement

Actor Two:

3, ¶ PPD ILQQD JR WR WKH VWRUH´ LV D UHGXQGDQW VWDWH
spelled differently)

8 VH FRQWH[W FOXHV WR FKRRVH WKH VHQWHQFH V WGDW
Vernacular English.

1. :RZ KH EH GULEEOLQ¶ WGDW EDOO DOO GD\ WRGD\
2. Lord knows what she be doing at that schoolhouse.
3. :KR VKH WDONLQ¶ WR OLNH WGDW" &RXOGQ¶W EH PH Q
4. +RZ DP , JRQ¶ EH WKHUH ZKHQ WKH\ DLQ¶W WHOO PH W
5. , GRQ¶ What she be doing to that food, but it be real good.
6. Did you hear that Diane be making candles for the county fair?

Answer Key for Activity

1. Not habitual
2. Habitual
3. Not habitual
4. Not habitual
5. Habitual
6. Habitual

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