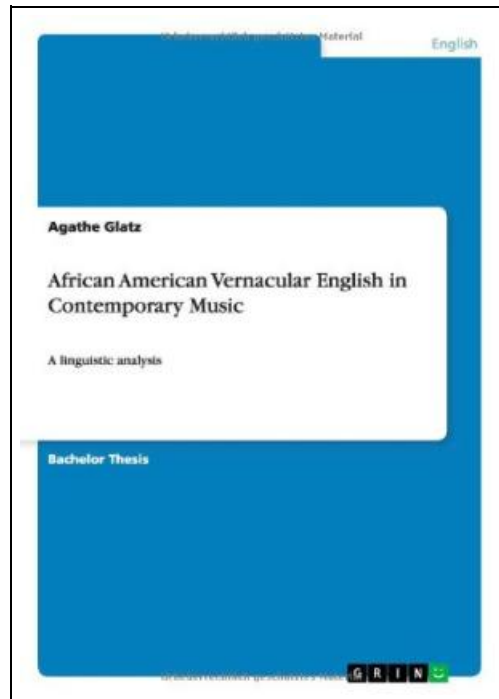


African American Vernacular English in Contemporary Music



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AFRICAN AMERICAN VERNACULAR ENGLISH IN CONTEMPORARY MUSIC



GRIN Verlag GmbH. Paperback. Condition: New. 80 pages. Dimensions: 8.3in. x 5.8in. x 0.2in. Bachelor Thesis from the year 2011 in the subject English Language and Literature Studies - Linguistics, grade: 2, 0, Justus-Liebig-University Giessen, language: English, abstract: This thesis investigates the use of African American Vernacular English in contemporary music. AAVE is an ethnic variety spoken by many, though not all, African Americans living in the United States. This dialect does not have one name only, but is also called Negro dialect, Nonstandard Negro English, Black English, Black Street Speech, Black Vernacular English, Black Vernacular English, or African American English. I would like to add that some terms are historical. It is crucial to know that researchers call it differently because to a large degree it depends on the time heshe conducted research on this topic. Today, the dialect is either called African American Vernacular English or African American English. The words contemporary music in the title refer to Hip Hop. This music genre was chosen to be investigated because out of the music genres African Americans are involved in, it is the one that generates most of the sales and is the most popular one. The rappers which are going to be analyzed in this thesis use many of the features of the African American vernacular. Given the huge number of AAVE features, only one of them will be analyzed, the copula verb to be, which in the following will only be called the copula. According to Wolfram, the copula is one of the most often described structures of AAVE (2008: 517). For this reason, the copula might be an interesting feature to look at. When researchers examined AAVE in the past, they did not necessarily take music as a source of data, but rather spoken language. One has...

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