Subject: Why do artists lose their accent . . .
Posted by Leot55 on Tue, 10 Jun 2025 07:01:43 GMT
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while they're singing? We were talking about this at work. Has anyone else noticed that most popular artists sing with a fairly generic Americanized voice?

For example, Adele's English accent comes across rather thickly when she's giving an interview, but it disappears when she's belting out one of her love ballads. Another example is the Gallagher brothers. They are darn near impossible to understand when they're speaking, so much so that producers usually show a transcript of what they're saying during interviews, yet they magically become understandable when they're performing as Oasis.

Does this phenomenon have a name? It's almost as though the entire recording industry decided that an Americanized voice is what sells the most.

Subject: Re: Why do artists lose their accent . . .
Posted by Madison on Wed, 11 Jun 2025 07:02:58 GMT
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I've noticed that, too. I wonder if it's the act of singing phrases to match the song's rhythm and beat, rather than using their natural speaking cadence, that throws it all off. It doesn't seem to happen with Jamaican rappers, like Sean Kingston and Sean Paul, though.

Subject: Re: Why do artists lose their accent . . .
Posted by Leot55 on Sun, 15 Jun 2025 02:44:41 GMT
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Huh, I never thought about it before, but I think you're right about Jamaican rappers still sounding Jamaican. Maybe some accents are harder to overcome than others.

Subject: Re: Why do artists lose their accent . . .
Posted by Wayne Parham on Mon, 16 Jun 2025 00:22:13 GMT
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I was driving today, listening to the Moody Blues and thought about this thread 'cause their accents are obvious, every one of the performers in that band. Made me think about others too, like the Beatles.

So I thought to myself how some accents are apparent while some do seem to kind of lose theirs.

An example of a singer that really loses her accent is Adele. First time I heard her speaking at a concert recording, I was shocked. That gal really cracks me up. Great singer too.

Subject: Re: Why do artists lose their accent . . .
Posted by Rusty on Mon, 16 Jun 2025 13:18:37 GMT
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My only guess is that the pulmonary effort to sing is much greater than speaking. Its more a projection of language into an elongated form of words. But many country singers have that distinctive "drawl" to their singing as is their speaking.

Subject: Re: Why do artists lose their accent . . .
Posted by Becky on Mon, 06 Oct 2025 16:21:57 GMT
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I do notice it when the artists are been interviewed. Their accent became so thick that I can't understand what they are saying but the songs are more understandable. There are great singers but I don't know why they change accent when speaking.

Subject: Re: Why do artists lose their accent . . .
Posted by Prince on Tue, 03 Mar 2026 19:37:09 GMT
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Becky wrote on Mon, 06 October 2025 11:21I do notice it when the artists are been interviewed. Their accent became so thick that I couldn't understand what they are saying but the songs were more understandable. There are great singers but I don't know why they change accent when speaking.
To be able to sing, they most times have to dig deeper with the way that they speak. It is quite different when they are talking normally with others. The energy to use the same voice when they are talking is quite different, and I understand why it is so.

Subject: Re: Why do artists lose their accent . . .
Posted by Wayne Parham on Tue, 03 Mar 2026 23:08:16 GMT
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I remember when I first heard Adele speak between songs on one of her concert Blu-rays.

She sounds completely different when she talks than she does when she sings. Totally cracks me up!

Subject: Re: Why do artists lose their accent . . .

Posted by Bercle on Fri, 12 Jun 2026 10:03:55 GMT
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Wayne Parham wrote on Tue, 03 March 2026 17:08
I remember when I first heard Adele speak between songs on one of her concert Blu-rays.

She sounds completely different when she talks than she does when she sings. Totally cracks me up!

One of the reasons for such is appeal to audience. Most musicians know that most of the songs will sell unless they speak in a different way, which is quite different when they are signing. It is something that is gaining popularity since most artists such as Adele that you mentioned became popular through that way.