

## **Idiolect**

In linguistics, an idiolect is an individual's distinctive and unique use of language, including speech. This unique usage encompasses vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation.

Idiolect is the variety of language unique to an individual. This differs from a dialect, a common set of linguistic characteristics shared among some group of people.

The notion of 'language' is used as an abstract description of the 'language use', and of the abilities of individual speakers and listeners. According to this view, a language is an 'ensemble of idiolects . . . rather than an entity per se.' Linguists study particular languages by examining the utterances produced by the people who speak the language.