

Age Everybody knows that younger people speak differently from older people. might be pronounced in a careful way as (in pho- nemic transcription) wnts da pant av gaon ta sku: I if daz nao sof laif, but a young speaker talking to a friend might (in the area of England where I live) say it in a way that might be transcribed phonetically as s por?skofs neo seof lf. There is an aspect of intonation that has often been quoted in relation to age differences: this is the use of rising intonation in making statements, a style of speaking that is sometimes called "upspeak" or "uptalk". Here is a little invented example: I was in Marks and Spencer's. In the food section. They had this chocolate cake. I just had to buy some. A typical adult pronunciation would be likely to use a sequence of falling tones, like this: I was in 'Marks and Spencers I In the food section I They had this vchocolate cake I I just 'had to buy some I But the "upspeak" version would sound like this: I was in 'Marks and Spencers It is widely believed that this style of intonation ?arose from copying young actors in Australian and American soap operas.geu