

# UNRAVELLING IDENTITY: SOCIOLINGUISTICS AND FORENSIC LINGUISTICS

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**Abstract:** *The language choices that we, as individuals of a social group or members pertaining to a speech community, make are paramount to the way in which we are perceived by other members. This paper focuses on the manner in which an individual can be identified by others (a sociolinguist or a forensic linguist) through his/her speech patterns. The paper also provides an overview of the tools used in sociolinguistics for speech recognition or acoustic analysis and whether these tools can also be successfully used in forensic linguistics.*

**Keywords:** *forensic linguistics, sociolinguistics, identity, forensic phonetics, acoustic analysis, PRAAT, speaker*