

# Re: Question about Spanish

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- *From:* "Peter T. Daniels" <[grammatim@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:grammatim@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Fri, 10 Mar 2006 14:12:01 GMT
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Javi wrote:

Peter T. Daniels wrote:

phoglund@xxxxxx wrote:

foggytown wrote:

Peter T. Daniels wrote:

foggytown wrote:

Dear Group,

I am doing  
some  
research for  
a short story  
and perhaps  
I can find  
some  
assistance  
in here.  
Question:  
are there  
countries  
once  
colonized  
by  
Spain where  
the daily  
spoken  
language is  
now a form

Re: Question about Spanish

of Spanish  
which  
has so  
degraded  
that it  
would not  
be  
understood  
by  
Spaniards  
or other  
(former)  
colonies?

Please don't say "degraded."  
It suggests that the language  
is somehow  
inferior or inadequate.  
Whatever the social  
circumstances of its  
speakers, the language is  
fully as expressive as that  
spoken by any  
Castilian.

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I wonder if you were a Castilian you would  
feel the same?

Well, the fact is that even in Spain, Latin American authors  
such as  
Gabriel García Márquez from Colombia and Jorge Luis  
Borges from  
Argentina are held in high esteem. Spanish is not exactly my  
specialty,  
it is just a nice language with an interesting literature I  
wanted to  
read in the original language, but as far as I know, Argentine  
Spanish  
is one of the most divergent – by your token, "degraded" –  
varieties of  
the New World, but it sure does not make Borges  
indigestible for  
Peninsular lovers of good literature.

Re: Question about Spanish

How "degraded" is Chilean in comparison, which has given us Neruda and Isobel Allende? (Who now seems to write in English rather than Spanish, at least sometimes.)

What do you mean with "Chilean"? Informal verbal communication or formal written communication? Or both? Or anyone?

I mean BY "Chilean" exactly what phoglund meant by "Argentine Spanish" or you meant by "Argentinian" -- whatever variety of the language can be unmistakably identified as characteristic of the country it's named for. (I kinda doubt there's such a thing as "Argentinian," simply because Argentina is a pretty big country that's had a lot of immigration from all oer.)

It is one of the less divergent dialects of Spanish, although lately it's being influenced by Argentinian.

Neruda wrote and IsAbel Allende writes standard peninsular Spanish, with some words for lexical items that have no name in Spain.

And Borges didn't?

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Peter T. Daniels [grammatim@xxxxxxx](mailto:grammatim@xxxxxxx)

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