

1. Sierra Leone Krio (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Dfn7HSnS1w>. Thanks to John V. Singler for gloss, and transcript in orthography of Fyle and Jones, 1980, *A Krio-English Dictionary*):

a nem ruben em kɔrɔma. mi na salonman. a wan gi yu na wan krio parebul dis monin. no memba usay yu go fɔl dawn, bɔt memba usay yu bɔk yu fut.

2. Excerpt from Courtroom Testimony of Rachel Jeantel [RJ], 6/26/13 (Prosecutor Bernie de la Rionda [BR] questioning), transcribed by court reporter Shelly Coffey, corrected by Sharese King & JRR)

RJ: He said he Ø from—he—I asked him where he Ø at. An he told me he Ø at the back of his daddyØ fiancéeØ house, like in the area where his daddy fiancée—BY his daddyØ fiancéeØ house. Like—I said, “Oh, you better keep running.” He said, naw, he lost him.

BR: Okay. Let me stop you a second. This—this lady has got to take everything down, so you make sure you’re-- Okay. So after he said he lost him, what happened then?

RJ: And he say he—he Ø by—ahm—the area that his daddyØ house is, his daddyØ fiancéeØ house is, and I told him “Keep running.” He—and he said, “Naw,” he’ll just walk faster. I’m like, “Oh-oh.” And I—I ain’t complain ‘cause he was breathing hard, so I understand why. Soo--

BR: What—what happened after that?

RJ: And then, secondØ later—ah—Trayvon come and say, “Oh, shit!”

COURT REPORTER: [Unintelligible—requesting clarification] “Second later?”

RJ: A couple secondØ later, Trayvon come and say, “Oh, shit!”

BR: Okay. Let me interrupt you a second. When you say, the words, “Oh, shit,” pardon my language, who said that?

RJ: Trayvon.

BR: He said it to YOU?

RJ: Yes.

BR: Okay. And after he used, pardon my language, he said, “Oh, shit,” what happened then?

RJ: The nigga Ø behind me.

COURT REPORTER: I’m sorry, what?

RJ: [Slowly, deliberately] The nigga’s behind—the nigga Ø behind me.

BR: Okay. He used the N word again and said the nigga is behind me?

3. Rachel Jeantel in Piers Morgan television Interview after trial, 7/15/13 (Note: % of plural –s suffixes increase, but % of possessive and third singular present –s suffixes do not)

Rachel Jeantel: My mother birthday, his mother birthday, i’s a lot of birthdays up in there. and so on. So, death—creep me out. I don’t—don’t do death at all. I even told my parents—don’t—I’m not going to they funeralØ. I’m not doing none of that. I don’t like funerals.

Piers Morgan: It’s a little—

4. Excerpt from pre-trial deposition of Rachel Jeantel, 3/13/13, here featuring Zimmerman defense attorney Don West, as transcribed by Court Reporter Jeana Ricciuti (w corrections by JRR)

DW: Okay. How about you, are you employed?

RJ: No, I live under my mother.

DW: What do you mean by that?

RJ: She support my habit.

DW: Well when you say she supports your habit—

RJ: She give me what I wants.
DW: Can you be a little more specific?
RJ: She support me.
DW: I see. Okay. I see, she pays for you to do what you—everything.

5. Excerpt from Interview with Juror B37 (B37, identity hidden) on Anderson Cooper [AC] AC360 show, CNN, 7/16/13, after trial concluded with “Not Guilty” verdict for Zimmerman.

AC: Did you find it hard, at times, to understand what she was saying?
B37: A lot of the times. Because a lot of the times she was using phrases I have never heard before, and what they meant.
AC: When she used the phrase, uh, “creepy-ass cracker,” what did you think of that?
B37: I thought it was—probably the truth. I think Trayvon probably said that.
AC: And did you see that as a negative statement, or a racial statement, as, as the defense suggested?
B37: I don’t think it’s really racial. I think it’s just everyday life. The type of life that they—they live, and how they’re living, in the environment that they’re living in.
AC: So you didn’t find her credible as a witness?
B37: No.

6. Excerpt from a transcript by Keith Cross (Stanford) of a Facebook video showing 2 African American “antagonists” engaged in verbal battle with an older, apparently homeless African American male on a train in Chicago, with lots of verbal insults including *nigga*, and complex *-ass* constructions:

Older man, incense seller/ 0:00:25.4/

10 Y’all ridin’ on the train tryin’na get some facebook hits-ass niggas
11 I get a dolla fa every hit you get ass niggas
12 You oilin’ my bank account baby. I’m flyin’ away-ass niggas
13 I stuck up Santa Clause and went to Jamaica-ass nigga
14 Ru Paul-ass , gangsta-ass , fly-ass nigga

Younger Antagonist:

15. You ol’ weird-ass nigga

7. Excerpt from Courtroom Testimony of Rachel Jeantel, 6/26/13 (Prosecutor Bernie de la Rionda [BR] questioning, unidentified juror asking for clarification, Judge Debra Nelson responding), transcribed by court reporter Shelly Coffey, corrected by Sharese King & JRR)

RJ: Yeah, now following him.
BR: Now following him. Okay. What I want you to do, Rachel Jeantel --
THE COURT [Judge Nelson]: Just one second, please. Yes, ma'am?
A JUROR: He is now following me or -- I'm sorry. I just didn't hear.
THE COURT [Judge Nelson]: Okay. Can we one more time, please, give that answer again.
RJ: He said, he told me now that a man is starting following him, is following him.
A JUROR: Again or is still?
THE COURT [Judge Nelson]: Okay. You can't ask questions.
A JUROR: Okay.
THE COURT [Judge Nelson]: If you can't understand, just raise your hand.

Two references (others will be on website later: www.johnrickford.com)

- Bloom, Lisa. 2014. *Suspicion Nation: The Inside Story of the Trayvon Martin Injustice and Why We Continue to Repeat it*. Counterpoint.
Brown-Blake, Celia, and Paul Chambers. 2007. The Jamaican Creole speaker in the UK criminal justice system. *International Journal of Speech, Language and the Law* 14.2:269-94.