Luxembourgish English pronunciation: first forays

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Who is a speaker of Luxembourgish English?
Luxembourgish not first language + do not speak it
Luxembourghish first language
Luxembourgish not first language but born in Luxembourg started speaking Luxembourgish in kindergarten daily user of Luxembourgish
Who are we studying here?

Luxembourgish first language
Luxembourgish not first language but
born in Luxembourg
started speaking Luxembourgish in kindergarten
daily user of Luxembourgish
What are we studying?
Sounds in isolation (phoneme realizations)
Stress and rhythm
Intonation
Connected speech phenomena (e.g. weak forms)
Sounds in isolation (phoneme realizations)

Compared to British non-regional pronunciation (Collins & Mees 2013)
What are we finding?
Consonants
Luxembourghish vs English consonants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONSONANTS (PULMONIC)</th>
<th>© 2005 IPA</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Plosive</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bilabial</td>
<td>p</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labiodental</td>
<td>b</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dental</td>
<td>t</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alveolar</td>
<td>d</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post alveolar</td>
<td>t</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retroflex</td>
<td>d</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palatal</td>
<td>k</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Velar</td>
<td>g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uvular</td>
<td>q</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharyngeal</td>
<td>?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trill</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nasal</td>
<td>m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tap or Flap</td>
<td>n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fricative</td>
<td>z</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lateral fricative</td>
<td>s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approximant</td>
<td>ɛ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lateral approximant</td>
<td>ɪ</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Where symbols appear in pairs, the one to the right represents a voiced consonant. Shaded areas denote articulations judged impossible.

Judith Manzoni 2017, adapted from Gilles & Trouvain 2013
/θ/ - /ð/

<th>: /θ/ (e.g. North) and /ð/ (e.g. that) → [t] and [d]

that, them, the
Inconsistent rhoticity (omission of /r/)

  e.g. North /nɔːθ/ vs hard /hɑːrd/

Deviant /r/ pronunciation as labiodental [ʋ]

  Really, strong, French, very
Word-final ‘devoicing’

/z/ /v/ → [s] [ʃ]
/b/ /d/ /g/ → [p] [t] [k]
/dʒ/ → [tʃ]

Native, word

Around, shined
Clear [l] instead of dark [l]?

*People*
What are we finding?
Vowels
Luxembourgish vs English vowels

Gilles & Trouvain (2013)  
Collins & Mees (2013)
/e/ (dress) - /æ/ (trap)

Similar sounding
Mainly due to more open quality of /e/, resembling /æ/

Many, twelve

‘Confusion of crucial phonemic contrasts’
(Collins & Mees, 2013, p. 215)
/ɪ/ (kit) → [i]

/ɪ/ fronted and raised to [i] (Luxembourghish ‘midd’)

wind
/ɔː/ (thought)

Centralized or no lip rounding (?), resembling /ɜː/ (nurse) or /ʌ/ (strut)

Recording
North
BUT
Warm
/ɑʊ/ (mouth)

More back, resembling Luxembourgish /ɑʊ/ (‘raumen’)

Around
Shortened vowels

Final devoicing of consonants preceded by shortened vowels

*Native*

*Words*

*Gave*
Limitations and complications
Sample
Auditory analysis

Yardstick for comparison
Common non-native speaker issues vs Luxembourgish English
Luxembourgish English
References


