

Reduction in negative contracted forms and variation in *because* in Lancashire (Bolton) English

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ROADMAP

1 Aims

2 *because*

2.1 Variant pronunciations

2.2 Semantics and discourse

2.3 Age-grading

2.4 The PAC Lancashire data

3 Contracted negative forms

AIMS

1/ When do we use disyllabic and monosyllabic forms of *because*?

2/ Is there age-grading in the use of the variants?

3/ What about traces of /dɪnt/ /kʊnt/ /wʊnt/?

BECAUSE

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LCf 02:36 **yes... [bʊ'kɒz] my brother was even brighter than I was**

LCf 11:56 **while I was with Mother, it was a wonderful escape... [bʊ'kɒz] the people in theatre are very interesting**

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LBf 13:37 **so all the things that happen at night in theme parks..were cancelled...and...because [bikəz] it was absolutely horrendous**

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DKi 19:40 **It's just rubbish anyway, it's not 'coz**
[kəz] it's just automatically generated code

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- 2/ LC (77) and MC (71) do use [kɒz]**
- 3/ younger speakers use both full and various reduced forms**

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continuous link (no pauses around *because*)

LBi 01:09 without realizing.. that I was going to actually miss the end **because [bikəz] I'd be in America**

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MDf 03:05 **that was strange 'coz [kəz] I didn't know
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MOi 31:27 and somebody objected and she got stopped...*because* [bɪ'kɒz] it is a turnaround

LBf 08:08 he preferred my brother...'*coz* [kəz] my brother is four years older than myself and he...

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MDi 18:24 **it might just be worth it *because* [bɪkəz]...
then you can do your essay**

LBf 06:27 **they are very good... to work for *because*
[bɪ'kɒ:z]... they did let me leave**

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non-continuous link: *because* in 'isolation'

JMi 04:06 **it's quite funny. It is weird and... **Because** **[bɪkəz]**.... we are not even in our own office so we can't hide away from people....**

JMi 01:20 **oh you said...**because** **[bɪkəz]** ...what is it that you/you**

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**DKf 4:35 and wanted somebody there to ...operate
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A – because.... – so A' (Passot 2007)

MDf 03:05 **that was strange 'coz [kəz] I didn't know anybody 'ks [ks] I'd gone to primary school in Bolton so it was completely different**

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MDi 04:40 **as soon as I got out on to A64 it was fine...
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JMi 13:23 **is that what you?....'coz [kɒz] your Master's
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parenthetical because clause

LCf 16:11 and it had eight..half-page sepia pictures they didn't go in for full colours in those days 'cos [kɒz] that would be about 1931...and just then I was beginning to realize that I was called....

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Reading passage

didn't mean

SCt [dɪnt]

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further isolated examples

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-some evidence for age-grading

-older speakers use fewer forms of *because*

-older speakers still use [dɪnt]

**THANK YOU FOR
YOUR ATTENTION!**

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