

Accents

Not all Black and People of Colour in Canada have accents. However, accents are common and should be normalized and not used to signal character traits. If you are going to have a character with an accent, get it right.

"I worked with a company looking for voiceover actors and they wanted to ensure they had diversity in casting so it had to be obvious, they wanted people with accents. But I'm brown and I don't have an accent."



"There's this weird expectation from casting and from directors that we're all interchangeable East Asians, same for South Asians. You want a South Asian accent? Which one?"



21.4% of Canadians have a language other than English or French as their first language.



26.0% of Canadians were not born here.

If a specific cultural or ethnic heritage is required for a role, research the range of what that means and particularly pay attention to the range of skin tones, eye colour and hair types and the kinds or lack of accent (i.e., are they a recent immigrant? Do they need to be?)

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