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**Acoustical analysis of Canadian and Parisian French word-final  
vowel productions in varying phonetic contexts**

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Dialects can differ greatly in their phonetics and phonology, and can diverge to a great degree in vowel production. This study explores the acoustic nature of Canadian French (CF) vowels in word-final position, relative to those of Standard Parisian French (PF). CF and PF male participants were recorded producing minimal sets of words, differing in the final vowels /i y e "epsilon" a "o-bar" o u/, embedded in carrier phrases. Real-word minimal sets were constructed using words with final vowels preceded by labial, coronal, and back stops and fricatives. (Monosyllabic CV words were used whenever possible; VCV and CCV words were used when no CV word was available.) Nonsense disyllabic minimal sets were also recorded with vowels preceded by labial, coronal, and back stops in the following context: /gisCV/. Of particular interest was the stability of the /e - "epsilon" / distinction in word-final position for Parisian French, which was maintained in preliminary results. Across-syllable boundary coarticulatory effects are also discussed. This is the first part of a larger study investigating second-language lexical and morphosyntactic CF vowel perception by English learners of French. [Work supported by NIH F31DC008075]