

## Topic Page: [Gullah](#)

Definition: **Gullah** from *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate(R) Dictionary*

 [pronunciation](#)

(1822) **1** : a member of a group of blacks inhabiting the sea islands and coastal districts of So. Carolina, Georgia, and northeastern Florida **2** : an English-based creole spoken by the Gullahs that is marked by vocabulary and grammatical elements from various African languages

Summary Article: **Gullah**

From *The Columbia Encyclopedia*

(gŭl'ə), a creole language formerly spoken by the Gullah, an African-American community of the Sea Islands and the Middle Atlantic coast of the United States. The word is probably a corruption of the African *Gola* or *Gora*, names of African tribes living in Liberia, but it may also be derived from Angola, whence many of the Gullahs' ancestors came. The Gullah dialect, spoken now by only a few hundred people, is a mixture of 17th- and 18th-century English and of a number of West African languages (among them Hausa, Igbo, and Yoruba). The African influence on Gullah can be seen in the phonology, vocabulary, and grammar. Some African words in Gullah have entered American English, including *goober* ("peanut"), *gumbo* ("okra"), and *voodoo* ("witchcraft"). Du Bose Heyward's novel *Porgy* (1925), upon which Gershwin's opera is based, was written in the Gullah dialect.

See Crum, M. , Gullah (1940);.

Turner, L. D. , Africanisms in the Gullah Dialect (1973).

### **APA**

Chicago

Harvard

MLA

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Gullah. (2018). In P. Lagasse, & Columbia University, *The Columbia encyclopedia* (8th ed.). New York, NY: Columbia University Press. Retrieved from <https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/gullah>

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## APA

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## Chicago

"Gullah." In *The Columbia Encyclopedia*, by Paul Lagasse, and Columbia University. 8th ed. Columbia University Press, 2018. <https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/gullah>

## Harvard

Gullah. (2018). In P. Lagasse & Columbia University, *The Columbia encyclopedia*. (8th ed.). [Online]. New York: Columbia University Press. Available from: <https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/gullah> [Accessed 14 October 2019].

## MLA

"Gullah." *The Columbia Encyclopedia*, Paul Lagasse, and Columbia University, Columbia University Press, 8th edition, 2018. *Credo Reference*, <https://search.credoreference.com/content/topic/gullah>. Accessed 14 Oct. 2019.