

“It tastes *horsey, bready, and fruity*: Analyzing aspects of beer talk”
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Examples of Beer Descriptions

Below you can find some examples for what I call beer talk, which has some similar structural elements with *oinoglossia* (Silverstein 2003).

Example 1: American Barley Wine

American barley wine ranges from amber to deep red/copper-garnet in color. A caramel and/or toffee aroma and flavor are often part of the malt character along with high residual malty sweetness. Complexity of alcohols is evident. Fruity-ester character is often high. As with many American versions of a style, this barley wine ale is typically more hop-forward and bitter than its U.K. counterpart. Low levels of age-induced oxidation can harmonize with other flavors and enhance the overall experience. Sometimes sold as vintage releases.

Example 2: Specialty Beer

Ingredients used in the specialty beer style should be distinctive and evident in either the aroma, flavor or overall balance of the beer. This style category is a catch-all. Any specialty beer that does not fit other specialty beer styles would be appropriately considered here. Examples can include sahti, steinbier, white IPA, session IPA and more.

Example 3: Belgian-style Witbier

Belgian-style witbier is brewed using unmalted wheat, sometimes oats and malted barley. Witbiers are spiced with coriander and orange peel. A style that dates back hundreds of years, it fell into relative obscurity until it was revived by Belgian brewer Pierre Celis in the 1960s. This style is currently enjoying a renaissance, especially in the American market. “Wit” means “white.”

Key references

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