CHAPTER 5

LANGUAGE
Language

- A system of communication through the use of speech, a collection of sounds understood by a group of people to have the same meaning.
- Can also be written or non-verbal
- Example:
  - English, French, Arabic, etc.
  - Language of music, basketball and football.
## EQ: WHERE ARE LANGUAGES DISTRIBUTED?

Top 10 Languages with approximate population (2016):

1. Mandarin  
   1.30 Billion
2. English  
   942 Million
3. Spanish  
   570 Million
4. Hindi  
   390 Million
5. Arabic  
   385 Million
6. Russian  
   260 Million
7. Bengali  
   259 Million
8. Portuguese  
   250 Million
9. Malay  
   250 Million
10. French  
    245 Million
ENGLISH

• Native speakers (2010): 360 million / Non-native speakers: 603 million
• Widely spoken: All over the world:
  • Lingua franca
    – A language mutually understood and commonly used in trade by people who have different native languages.
    – Example:
      • English is the language used for business worldwide.
      • Swahili was traditionally used for trade in Africa.
MANDARIN CHINESE

• Native speakers (2010): 955 million / Non-Native speakers: 194 million
• Widely spoken in: China, Taiwan, and Singapore
• How to say hello – Now write hello in Mandarin.
• Ideograms
  – The systems of writing used in China and other East Asian countries in which each symbol represents an idea or a concept rather than a specific sound as is the case with letters in English.
  – Example:
    • Chinese Writing

Hello = 你好
Ní hao!
SPANISH

• Native speakers (2015): 427 million / Non-native speakers: 91 million
• Widely spoken in: South America, Central America and Spain.
• How to say Hello – now write hello in Spanish.
• Spanglish
  – Combination of Spanish and English, spoken by Hispanic-Americans.
  – Example:
    • Spanglish words: Wal-Marto.
    • Marketa: supermarket. The correct word is el supermercado.
HINDI

- Native speakers (2010): 310 million / Non-native speakers: 120 million
- Widely spoken in: India, Nepal, Fiji, and Pakistan
- How to say hello – Now write hello in Hindi
- Official language
  - The language adopted for use by the government for the conduct of business and publication of documents.
  - Example:
    - English is the official language in 54 countries including India.
    - India was as British Colony (independence in 1947). Hindi is most common language in India, but English on of the 22 Official Languages.
ARABIC

- Widely spoken in: Middle East, North Africa and Western Asia.
- How to say hello – Now write hello in Arabic
- Many Dialects of Arabic.

Dialect

- A regional variety of a language distinguished by vocabulary, spelling, and pronunciation.
  - Example:
    - North African Arabic and Iraqi Arabic
    - British Received Pronunciation (BRP) - The dialect of English associated with upper-class Britons living in the London area and now considered standard in the United Kingdom.
FRENCH


• Widely spoken in: Europe (France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Monaco, Switzerland), Africa (spoken in over 26 countries), Caribbean and Canada.

• How to say Hello — now write hello in French.
  ◦ Franglais
    ◦ A term used by the French for English words that have entered the French language, a combination of franfais and anglai. "the French words for "French" and "English," respectively.
      – Example:
        • Le Hot Dog, Le Soccer. Speaking Canadian.
RUSSIAN

- Native speakers (2010): 171 million / Non-native speakers: 30 million
- Widely spoken in: Russia and countries that occupy the former Soviet Union
- How to say Hello – now write hello in Russian.
GERMAN

- Native speakers (2010): 89 million / Non-native speakers: 52 million
- Widely spoken in: Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Belgium and Luxembourg
- How to say Hello — now write hello in German.
  - Denglish
    - Combination of German and English
    - Example:
      - Kindergarten and Fahrvergnügen
        - Video
**HOW HAVE LANGUAGES DIFFUSED:**

- **Conquest – Colonialism**
  - **Creole or creolized language**
    - A language that results from the mixing of a colonizer's language with the indigenous language of the people being dominated.
    - Example:
      - French Creole in Haiti—Very different than the French spoken in France

- **Trade - Lingua Franca**
- **Migration of peoples**
- **Human interaction**
  - **Pidgin language**
    - A form of speech that adopts a simplified grammar and limited vocabulary of a lingua franca, used for communications among speakers of two different languages.
    - Example:
      - Local Hawaiians language. - Video

- **Print distribution**
- **Media**
HOW HAVE LANGUAGES DIFFUSSED?

- **Origin and diffusion of English**
  - Invasions 5th - 11th Centuries from the Jutes, Angles, Saxons, and Vikings.
  - The Normans later brought French vocabulary to English.
  - **Language convergence** - The collapsing of two or more languages into one resulting from the consistent spatial interaction of peoples with different languages.
  - Example:
    - Several languages came together to form the English language.
    - A well-studied example of language convergence is in the Balkans where different languages (such as Greek, Albanian, Romania, Bulgarian) all share certain features of grammar.
HOW HAVE LANGUAGES DIFFUSED?

- **Language Divisions**
  - Language Families
  - Languages Branches
  - Languages Groups
  - Languages
  - Dialects
  - Accents

- **Language divergence**
  - New languages are formed when a language breaks into dialects due to a lack of spatial interaction among speakers of the language and continued isolation eventually causes the division of the language into discrete new languages.
  - Example:
    - Spanish and Portuguese both evolved out of Latin (Roman Empire). They split into dialects and eventually separate languages.
How have languages diffused? - Language Trees

* All Languages are the Forest - Common Seeds
* Language Family (Tree)
  * A collection of languages related to each other through a common ancestor long before recorded history.
  * Example:
    * Indo-European Language Family
* Language Branch
  * A collection of languages related through a common ancestor that existed several thousand years ago. Differences are not as extensive or as old as with language families, and archaeological evidence can confirm that the branches derived from the same family.
  * Example:
    * Germanic Branch of Indo-European Language Family
* Language Group (Twig)
  * A collection of languages within a branch that share a common origin in the relatively recent past and display relatively few differences in grammar and vocabulary.
  * Example:
    * West Germanic Group of the Germanic Branch of the Indo-European Language Family
HISTORICAL LINKAGES AMONG LANGUAGES
Get into your Culture groups:

Each Group is Assigned a Language Family / Branch
  - Germanic
  - Balto-Slavic
  - Romance
  - Indo-Iranian
  - Sino-Tibetan
  - African
  - Altaic and Uralic and Afro-Asiatic

Research your family / Branch
  - List all languages associated / common characteristics

Build your tree – big / colorful / accurate
HOW DO LANGUAGES INTERACT?

• Dialects exist in almost all languages.
  They are separated by an Isogloss.

• **Isogloss**
  – A boundary that separates regions in which different languages usages predominate.
  – Example:
    • British English and American English are separated by the Pacific Ocean.
BRITISH SLANG WORDS
Below are a few slang words commonly used in Britain.

- **Bloke** - man.
  'John is a nice bloke to know.'

- **Botched** - poor quality repairs.
  'He made a botched job of fixing the television.'

- **Bottle** - courage.
  'He doesn't have the bottle to ask her.'

- **Cheesed Off** - fed up

- **Chuck it down** - to rain, often heavily.
  'It is going to chuck it down soon.'

- **Chuffed** - If you are chuffed, you are happy with something.
  'I was chuffed to win a medal!'

- **Daft** - Crazy / stupid

- **Dosh** - Money / cash
  'I haven't got much dosh to give you.'

- **Gobsmacked** - Incredibly amazed.
  'I was gobsmacked when I saw my birthday presents.'

- **Gutted** - Not happy because of an event that has occurred that didn't go your way.
  'I was gutted when I didn't win the race'

- **Jammy** - Used in place of lucky when describing someone else.
  'He was very jammy winning the lottery'.

- **Scrummmy** - Delicious. Shortened from scrumptious.
  'The food was very scrummy'

- **Skint** - Broke. No money.
  'I'm skint, I wont be able to buy the DVD today.'

- **to Snog** - to long kiss

- **Telly** - Television
  'I watched the news on the telly last night.'
Speaking American - Major differences in dialects occur today.

Exist because of differences in dialects among the original settlers.

- **Ebonics**
  - Dialect spoken by some African-Americans.

- Example:
  - Ebony and Phonics "She be at Home“ / “can I ax you a question?” - [Video](#)

- What kind of American English do you speak? – [Website](#)
  - US Dialects - Accent [Website](#)
  - Pop —v- Soda [Website](#)
  - Tangier island Article – [Video](#)
HOW DO LANGUAGES INTERACT?

- **Polyglot** – Multilingual; containing more than one language.
  - Example:
    - Canada has 2 official languages – French and English – Video Video 2
      - Oh Canada – Bilingual Anthem
    - Belgium – Flemmings and Walloons – Video
    - Switzerland has 4 official Languages and India has 22.
HOW DO LANGUAGES INTERACT?

- **Extinct language**
  - A language that was once used by people in daily activities but is no longer used.
  - Example:
    - East Germanic – Gothic last spoken in the Crimea in Russia in 16th Century. Began speaking Latin with conversion to Christianity.

- **Revived Languages**
  - Hebrew – Was extinct but revived when Israel was established in 1948
    - Diminished in daily use in the 4th century BC
    - Had to invent 4000 new words.
  - Celtic – Revived in the UK.
**HOW DO LANGUAGES INTERACT?**

- **Isolated language**
  
  - A language that is unrelated to any other languages and therefore not attached to any language family.
  
  - Example:
    
    - Icelandic & Japanese – Isolated Islands
    - Basque - Spoken by 1 million people in the Pyrenees Mts. - [Video](#)