

# The World of the English Language

For the BSc, Degree and Erasmus Students

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**History, background, importance and future  
of English**

**QUESTION:**

Which language is spoken by the highest number of people in the world ?

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### **ANSWER ?**

- It depends what sources of information you use.
  - Many countries do not have accurate population numbers or data on the languages the different sections of the populations speak.
  - And many countries try to emphasise the importance of their own language.
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## The World of the English Language

- So, what is the answer ?
  - Chinese ?
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## The World of English Language

- Strictly speaking, there is no such language as Chinese, just like there is no **Czechoslovakian**, **Belgian** or **Swiss** language.
  - In China they have many languages (called dialects by the Chinese). The only thing they all have in common is the Chinese characters.
  - The most commonly spoken dialects are Chinese **Mandarin** and then Cantonese.
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## The World of the English Language

The only thing which all Chinese have in common is their characters - Chinese characters are difficult to learn but they constitute the oldest continuously-used system of writing in the world



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## The World of the English Language

- **Mandarin Chinese** is spoken by about 750 million to 1 billion people (depending on the source of your information), more than any other language in the world (**not** all Chinese in the population of 1.4 billion can speak Mandarin)
  - But try to see how far “Chinese“ gets you in Rome, Madrid, Prague or Stockholm, or even Buenos Aires or Johannesburg on the other side of the globe.
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- **So, how many people around the world speak English?**
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## The World of the English Language

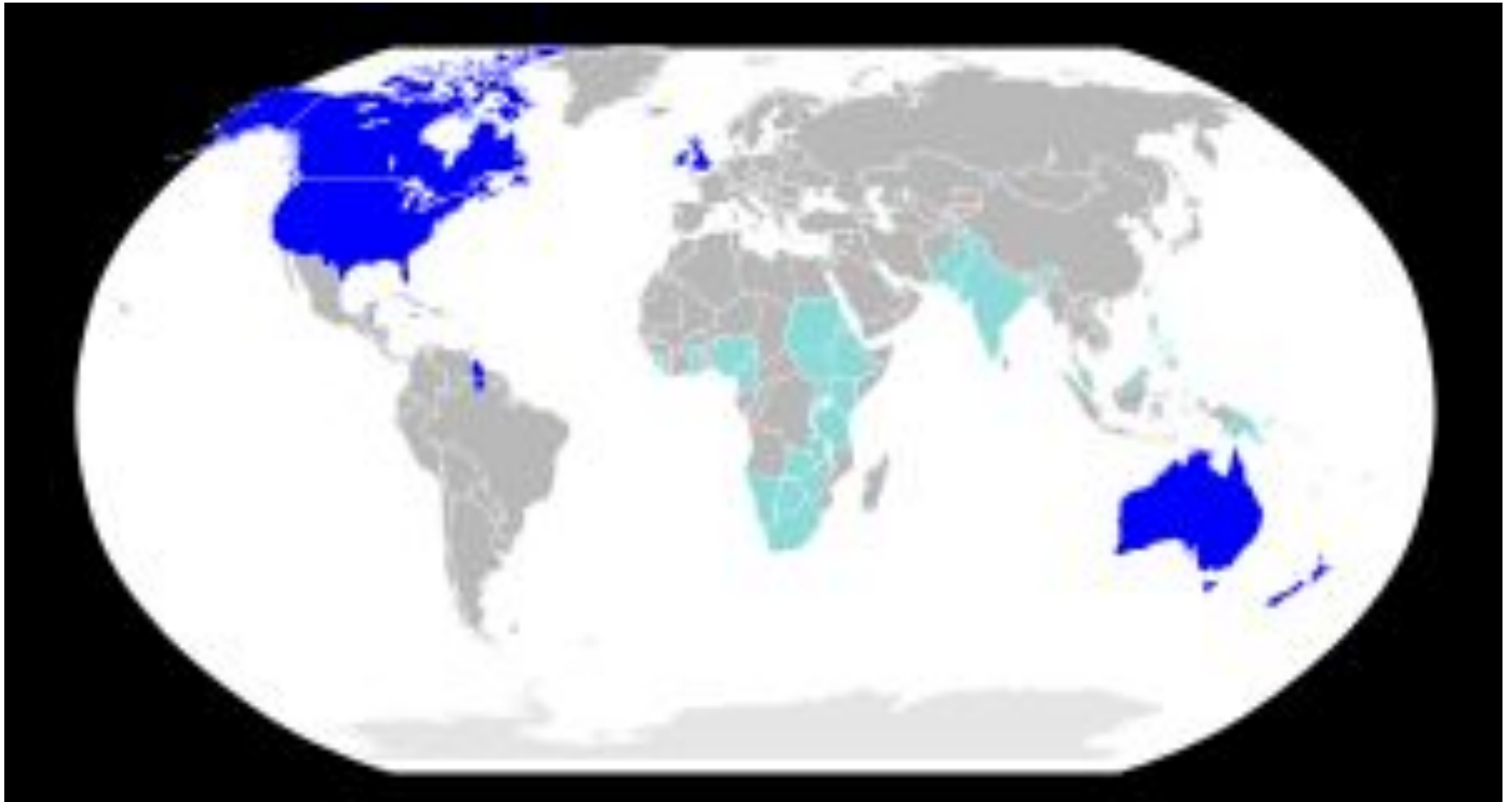
- **ENGLISH** is used either as the main or one of the official languages in **105 countries** around the world, which include USA, UK, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, India (with 1.2 billion people), Pakistan, Hong Kong, South Africa, etc.
  - **ENGLISH** is therefore the most widely distributed language in the world.
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### The range of estimates of speakers of various languages by UNESCO and other organisations:

- **English** 1 billion\* speakers
  - Chinese **Mandarin** speakers 800 million to 1 billion
  - Hindi (with Urdu) in India 500 million
  - Spanish (remember: Brazil speaks Portuguese) 450 million
  - Russian 326 million
  - Arabic 250 million
  - French, German 125 million each
- \* Some estimates go as high as **1.4 billion** people who speak **English**. Of those, half a billion people use English as their first language
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# The World of the English Language

## Countries where English is spoken as a 1st or official language



# The World of the English Language

## Populations of some of the larger countries where English is spoken as a 1st or 2nd (official) language:

- USA            313 million
- UK            63 million
- Canada        35 million (22 million English speakers)
- Australia     22 million

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- India            1.2 billion
  - Pakistan       177 million
  - Nigeria        167 million
  - Philippines     94 million
  - South Africa    50 million
  - Kenya        41 million
  - Malaysia       28 million

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- **Source:** [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/English\\_language](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/English_language)

### Countries where English is a major language:

- English is the **primary** language in:
  - Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, **Australia**, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, the British Ocean Territory, the British Virgin Islands, **Canada**, the Cayman Islands, Dominica, the Falkland Islands, Gibraltar, Grenada, Guam, Guernsey, Guyana, **Ireland**, the Isle of Man, Jamaica, Jersey, Montserrat, Nauru, **New Zealand**, Pitcairn Islands, Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan de Cunha, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Singapore, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands, the **United Kingdom** and the **United States**
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- In some countries where English is not the most spoken language, it is an **official language**; these countries include:
  - Botswana, Cameroon, the Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, **India**, **Kenya**, Kiribati, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Namibia, **Nigeria**, **Pakistan**, Palau, Papua New Guinea, the **Philippines** (Philippine English), Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, the Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Sudan, South Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.
  - Also there are countries where in a part of the territory English became a co-official language, e.g. Colombia's **San Andrés y Providencia** and Nicaragua's **Mosquito Coast**. This was a result of the influence of British colonisation in the area.
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## More than one official language

- English is also **one of** the 11 **official** languages that are given equal status in South Africa (South African English).
  - English is the official language in the current dependent territories of **Australia** (Norfolk Island, Christmas Island and Cocos Island)
  - and of the **United States** (American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the US Virgin Islands. Also, the former British colony of **Hong Kong**).
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## The World of the English Language

- A very interesting point:

English is **not** an official language in the **United States** !

- English is the **de facto national** language of the United States, with **82%** of the population claiming it as a mother tongue
  - and some **96%** claiming to speak it "well" or "very well." However, no **official language** exists at the federal level.
  - Nevertheless, at the state level, English has been given official status by 30 of the 50 state governments.
  - Indeed, there are more people speaking English in Asia (about 320 million or more) than in the USA !
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## The World of the English Language

- Although falling short of official status, English is also an important language in several former colonies and protectorates of the **United Kingdom**, such as:

Bahrain, **Bangladesh**, Brunei, Cyprus, **Malaysia**, and the United Arab Emirates.

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## The World of the English Language

- As we can see, **English** is now the most widely spread language in the world, particularly in business, science, trade, diplomacy, travel and, especially, in computers.
  - **Chinese** also has many speakers, but the vast majority are in China. It is not a world language.
  - Why people use English?
  - Probably because it is a very **adaptable** language with around **one million** terms !
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## The World of the English Language

By comparison with Chinese, English is the most **global** of languages and most important language in the world today:

- Two thirds of all scientific papers are published in English  
(*The Economist*)
  - Nearly half of all business deals in Europe are conducted in English  
(*The Story of English*)
    - More than 70% of the world's mail is written and addressed in English
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## The World of the English Language

- Because English is so widely spoken, it has often been referred to as a "world language", the *lingua franca* of the modern era, and while it is not an official language in most countries, it is currently the language most often taught as a foreign language.
  - Some linguists believe that it is no longer the exclusive cultural property of "native English speakers", but is rather a language that is absorbing aspects of cultures worldwide as it continues to grow. It is, by international treaty, the official language for aerial and maritime communications.
  - English is an official language of the United Nations and many other international organisations, including the International Olympic Committee.
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## The World of the English Language

- **English** is the language most often studied as a **foreign language** in the European Union, by **89%** of schoolchildren, ahead of French at 32%, while the perception of the usefulness of foreign languages amongst Europeans is **68%** in favour of English ahead of 25% for French.
  - Among some **non**-English speaking EU countries, a large percentage of the adult population claims to be able to converse in English – in particular:
    - **85%** in Sweden,
    - 83% in Denmark,
    - 79% in the Netherlands,
    - 66% in Luxembourg
    - and **over 50%** in Finland, Slovenia, Austria, Belgium, and Germany.
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## The World of the English Language

- **Books, magazines, and newspapers** written in English are available in many countries around the world, and English is the most commonly used language in the sciences with **Science Citation Index** reporting as early as 1997 that **95%** of its articles were written in English, even though only half of them came from authors in English-speaking countries.
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## Future of English – Experts’ prognoses

- Language researcher in Washington, **David Graddol**, said that “**English** is likely to remain one of the world’s most important languages for the foreseeable future, but its future is more problematic — and complex — than most people appreciate”.
  - As of 1995, he reported, English was the second most-common **native** tongue in the world, trailing only Chinese.
  - But, by 2050, he says, Chinese will continue its predominance, with Hindi-Urdu of India and Arabic overtaking English, and Spanish nearly equal to it.
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- On the other hand, a British linguist **David Harrison** noted, that “the **global** share of English is much larger if you count **second**-language speakers, and will continue to rise, even as the proportion of native speakers declines.”
  - Scholars say that about **one-fourth** (1.75 billion) of the world's population can communicate to some degree in English.
  - English is the common language in almost every endeavour, from science to **air traffic control** to the global **jihad**, where it is apparently the means of communication between speakers of Arabic and other languages.
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- There may be more **native speakers** of Chinese, Spanish or Hindi, but it is **English** they speak when they talk **across cultures**, and English they teach their children to help them become citizens of an increasingly intertwined world.
  - At **telephone** call centres around the world, the key points of a globalized workplace, the language spoken is, naturally, English.
  - On the **radio**, pop music carries the sounds of English to almost every corner of the earth.
  - "English has become the second language of everybody," said Mark Warschauer, a professor of education and informatics at the University of California, Irvine:
  - **"It's gotten to the point where almost in any part of the world to be educated means to know English."**
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## The World of the English Language

There are many ways of studying English. After learning basic English at school we can attend advanced courses such as:

- **English for Specific Purposes (ESP)**, which is a specialised area of **teaching English language**. It includes many types, such as:

1. **Academic** English

2. **Business** English

2. Technical English

3. Scientific English

4. Legal English

5. English for medical professionals

6. Aviation English (ESP taught to pilots and air traffic controllers and radio communicators)

7. **Diplomatic** English

There are also specialised classes of English for tourism, sport, waiters, and many other areas of professional activities.

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## The World of the English Language

- ESP is taught in many universities ESP is taught in many universities of the world. Many professional associations of teachers of English (TESOL) ESP is taught in many universities of the world. Many professional associations of teachers of English (TESOL, IATEFL) have ESP sections.
- Much attention is devoted to ESP course design
- ESP teaching has much in common with English as a Foreign or Second Language ESP teaching has much in common with English as a Foreign or Second Language and English for Academic Purposes (EAP).
- Quickly developing Business English can be considered as part of a larger concept of English for Specific Purposes.

## The World of the English Language

- **What is the aim of English for Academic Purposes (EAP) ?**
- EAP trains students, usually in Higher Education, to use English language appropriately for study
- in EAP the students practise vocabulary in EAP the students practise vocabulary and grammar
- and the four skills:
  1. reading (selected texts each week)
  2. writing (2 – 3 essays)
  3. speaking - including standard pronunciation
  4. and listening
- The students acquire study skills The students acquire study skills and learn about differences in educational culture, for example, what counts as plagiarism.

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## The World of the English Language

- At this university we use **British** English because we are part of and live in Europe
  - in Cambridge tests – must choose either GB or US English – if you mix the two = failed exam
  - We should not worry about our **accents**, but should be proud of our nationalities
  - But we should worry about our **pronunciation** – because we want other people to understand what we are saying
  - And we also want to be able to understand what other people are saying
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## The World of the English Language

# HISTORY OF ENGLISH

English is a **Germanic** language which belongs to the Indo-European Family of languages.

- English has originated from Old Norse and Saxon.
- The closest languages to English are those in the Germanic Branch:
- German
- Dutch

then:

- Swedish - has tones, which is unusual in European languages
  - Norwegian
  - Danish
  - Icelandic - is the least changed of the Germanic languages, it is close to Old Norse
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## The World of the English Language

- Other related Germanic languages are:
- Flemish and Afrikaans = varieties of Dutch
- Yiddish = variety of German (which is written using Hebrew script)  
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- **German** has a system of four **cases** and three **genders** for its nouns. Case is the property where a noun takes a different ending depending on its role in a sentence. An example in English: lady, lady's, ladies and ladies'.
- The genders in German are **masculine**, **feminine** and **neuter**.
- **English** has lost gender and case.  
Only a few words form their plurals like German (ox, oxen and child, children). Most words in English now add an "s", having been influenced by Norman French

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## The World of the English Language

### WHY WE PREFER ENGLISH

- English is concise (brief) and flexible. Compare English with examples of other languages:
  - German:
  - *Wirtschaftstreuhandgesellschaft*  
(a business trust company)
  - *Bundesbahnangestelltenwitwe* (a widow of a federal railway employee), and
  - *Kriegsgefangenanentschädigungsgesetz*  
(a law pertaining to war reparations)
-



- While in Holland companies commonly have names of forty letters or more, such as:
  - *Dowe Egberts Koninklijke Tabaksfabriek-Koffiebranderij-Theehandal Naamloze Vennootschap* (literally: Dowe Egberts Royal Tobacco Factory-Coffee Roasters-Tea Traders incorporated).
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## The World of the English Language

- English by contrast has pretty short expressions:
  - IBM, laser, NATO
  - **But:** English is a complex language and can sometime surprise you, especially in the academic and political circles, by using unnecessary jargon.
  - At a conference of sociologists in America, **love** was defined as "the cognitive-affective state characterised by intrusive and obsessive fantasizing concerning reciprocity of amorous feelings by the object of the amoration"
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- **English** is the most studied and emulated (imitated) language in the world. It has such an enormous influence it has affected other languages.
  - When the BBC English-teaching series *Follow Me* was first broadcast in China it had audiences of up to 100 million people
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## Influence of English - English words are everywhere:

- Germans speak of *die Teenagers* and *das Walkout*
  - German politicians tell German journalists "*No comment*"
  - Italian women put *col cream* on their faces
  - Romanians ride on *trolleybus*
  - Spaniards, when they are cold, put a *sueter* on
  - Czechs order *hemenex* in restaurants (= ham and eggs)
  - Almost everyone in the world speaks on the telephone, the *telefoon* or *telefon*, and – somebody claimed that even in China they speak on the *te le fung*
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## The World of the English Language

In 1986 *The Economist* compiled a list of English terms that have become universal:

airport

- passport
  - hotel
  - telephone
  - bar
  - soda
  - cigarette
  - sport
  - golf
  - tennis
  - stop
  - O.K.
  - weekend
  - jeans
  - know-how
  - sex appeal
  - no problem
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## ENGLISH AS A WORLD LANGUAGE

- English words are usually taken as they are, but sometime they are changed:
  - In Ukrainia you get a *herkot* at the barber (yes, it is a haircut)
  - In Poland you get *ajskrym*
  - In Lithuania you go to see *moving pikceris* (moving pictures)
  - In Serbia they have *peda* (payday)
  - In France a self service restaurant is just a *le self*
-

# The World of the English Language

- The Japanese are the most intensive users of English words. It is estimated they have adopted at least 20 000 English words so far.
- The Japanese cannot pronounce certain sounds, especially the letter "L", and they have to change foreign words so that they can pronounce them.
- Productivity in Japanese has become *purodakuchibichi*
- Examples of other English words in Japanese are:
  - *erebeta* - elevator
  - *nekutai* - necktie
  - *bata* - butter
  - *beikon* - bacon
  - *sarada* - salad
  - *remon* - lemon
  - *chiizu* - cheese
  - *bifuteki* - beefsteak
  - *hamu* - ham
  - *shyantū setto* - shampoo and set

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## English as a world language

- Influence of English - English words are everywhere:
  - The French government has tried to fight against the usage of English words for many years.
  - So, the hamburger has become a *steak haché*
  - and the jet airplane has become *avion à réaction*
  
  - However, many English words have been present in French for hundreds of years:
    - le snob (100 years)
    - le biftek (100 years)
    - le self-made man (100 years)
    - ouest (vest) (700 years)
    - rosbif (roast beef) (350 years)
  
  - French has also adopted many modern words such as
    - gadget
    - holdup
    - weekend
    - blue jeans
    - self-service
    - manager
    - marketing
-



## English as a world language

### Problems with English

- The main problem with English is its **confusing pronunciation**, i.e. the lack of standard pronunciation. The only certain thing about English pronunciation is that it is that there is almost nothing certain about it:

A) the same word can have more than one pronunciation and meanings:

- minute – [minit] = unit of time
- minute – [my-newt] = very small, tiny
  
- bow - [bou] = a weapon shooting arrows
- bow - [bau] = to bend down as a form of greeting

B) different words can have the same pronunciation but different meanings

- to [tu:] = direction, 3rd case (dative) ...go to school...
- too [tu:] = ...too much..., also: ... we went there, too.
- two [tu:] = a number

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■ **You cannot guess pronunciation in English. You must learn it by heart.**

### C) words with **similar spelling** having different pronunciation:

- heard – beard
- road – broad
- five – give
- early – dearly
- beau – beauty
- steak – streak
- ache – moustache
- low – how
- doll – droll
- scour – four
- grieve – sieve
- paid – said
- break – speak

## English as a world language

### D) varying pronunciation:

- "c" in *race, rack* and *rich* or: *cat, cot, candy*
- "b" in *debt* or *doubt* is silent
- "a" in *bread* is silent
- second "t" in *thistle* is silent

The most famous variation is that for **OUGH**  
which has 8 different pronunciations:

- through
- though
- thought
- tough
- plough
- thorough
- hiccough
- lough (Irish-English word for lake = loch)

### E) lack of clear vowels A, E, I, O, U

- the most frequent “vowel” in English is actually not a vowel but the **sound** of the schwa: **ə**
- as in: here [hi**ə**]
- bear [be**ə**]
- world [w**ə**:ld]
- Sir [s**ə**:]

### F) some difficult sounds such as:

- **"th"** as in the Greek theta:  $\theta$ , and words such as thanks, think, thistle, theory, ...
- **æ** as in jazz, jam, that, ....

## Yes, the English language is like that ...

I take it you already know  
Of tough and bough and cough and dough,  
Others may stumble, but not you,  
On hiccough, thorough, laugh and through,  
Well done! And you wish, perhaps,  
To learn of less familiar traps.

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## The World of the English Language

- Beware of heard, a dreadful word,
  - That looks like beard and sounds like bird;
  - And dead: it's said like bed and not like bead.
  - For goodness sake don't call it deed.
  - Watch out for meat and great and threat;
  - They rhyme with suite and straight and debt.
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## The World of the English Language

- A moth is not a moth in mother,
  - Nor both in bother, broth in brother;
  - And here is not a match for there,
  - Nor dear and fear for bear and pear.
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- And then there's dose and rose and lose –
  - Just look them up – and goose and choose,
  - And cork and work and cord and ward,
  - And font and front and word and sword,
  - And do and go and thwart and cart.
-

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## The World of the English Language

- Come, come, I've hardly made a start!
  - A dreadful language? Man alive;
  - I'd mastered it when I was five.
-



- And how do you pronounce this word ?

■ GHOTI

- ENOUGH
  - ENOUGH = F
  - WOMEN
  - WOMEN = I
  - CAUTION
  - CAUTION = SH
-

**Another problem is understanding  
the many **varieties**  
of the English language.**

There are many dialects in Britain and many accents and different types of pronunciation around the world ranging from British to American or Australian, New Zealand, or Indian and South African, Hong Kong and many others.

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## English houses



## English Dialects

- In Great Britain there are more dialects than in any other English speaking country.

# The World of the English Language



- The actual number of dialects varies depending on the person studying them.

## English dialects

- Robert Claiborne claims there are "no less than thirteen" quite distinct dialects in Britain

## English houses



## English dialects

- Mario Pei counted 49 dialects in UK (9 in Scotland, 3 in Ireland and 37 in England and Wales).

## English houses





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# The World of the English Language

English houses

English dialects



- There are many ...

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## The World of the English Language



- Some authors who claim there is one dialect for each hill and valley in England might be right



## PRIVATE SCHOOLS

- To complicate the situation, in addition to the dialects there are many, often exaggerated, accents developed by independent public schools
  - These schools are, in fact, private educational institutes, such as **Eton**, **Harrow**, and universities such as **Oxford**, and **Cambridge**.
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# The World of the English Language

## Eton College



The most famous “Public School“ in the world. In fact, it is an elitist private high school

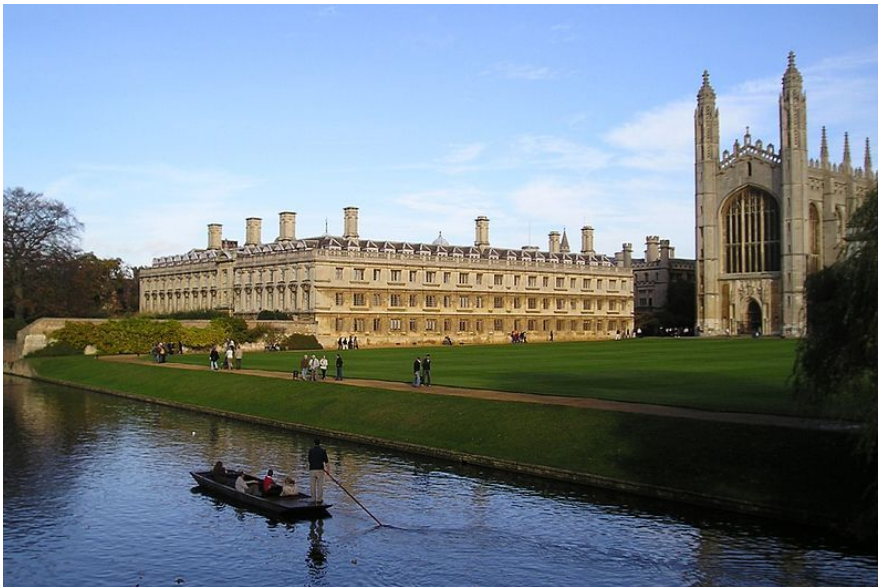
- Founded in 1440 by the English king Henry VI as a charity school to provide **free education** to seventy poor boys who would then go on to the University of Cambridge
- Now it charges **£ 26 000** tuition fee per year (= €30 000 or 715 000 Kc)
- And it enrolls 1300 boys
- It has produced 19 British prime ministers



## Clare College and Kings Chapel at the river Cam

# Cambridge University

- University founded in 1209
- Academically, Cambridge is one of the top universities in the world: **first in the world** in both 2010 and 2011 by QS World University Rankings.
- It has overtaken Harvard
- 19 000 students
- 31 independent colleges
- Graduates have won **61 Nobel Prizes** – the most of any university in the world
- **Francis Crick** and **James Watson**, at Cambridge, discovered in 1953 the double helix structure of **DNA**



# SCOTISH DIALECT

- The Scottish dialects are distinct by their rolling "r", as shown by sentences such as "Thirrrty thrrree birrrds flew overrr the mountains".
  - The Scottish use many of their own expressions in English, such as:
    - aye        for        yes
    - nay        for        no
    - lass       for        girl
    - lad        for        boy
    - glen       for        valley
    - loch       for        lake     (as in Loch Ness monster)
  - It is interesting that the Scottish words **aye** and **nay** are used in the British navy, instead of English **yes** and **no**.
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## THE BRUMS AND WORCESTERSHIRE

- One of the most distinct dialects is the one spoken in Birmingham, the second largest city in England, located in the Midlands.
  - The locals pronounce the name of the city, Birmingham, as Brummie-jum and are therefore sometime called "the Brums".
  - The Worcestershire county south of Birmingham has a similar dialect, which, eg, uses "oi" in words where standard English uses "ai,,."
  - An example of the Worcestershire dialect:
  - *Every Froidee noight we hav a gluss of woiin and then we go for a boik roiid.*
-

And the meaning of the sentence?

- *Every Friday night we have a glass of wine and then we go for a bike ride.*
-

## YORKSHIRE

- In Yorkshire, in the north of England, there is a tendency to pronounce some vowels as “oo” :
  - the boos station      -    the bus stop
  - the boook              -    the book
  - bloodee rope            -    bloody rope
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## The World of the English Language

- Because there are some many different dialects and accents in Britain, when their children go to school, they learn how to standardise their pronounce of English by saying :

**HOW NOW BROWN COW**

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# OTHER ENGLISH SPEAKING COUNTRIES

- In **Great Britain** the accents and dialects change over very short distances.
  - In **America** and **Australia** there is a conspicuous uniformity of speech compared with Britain.
  - Although in USA there are many different accents and different pronunciations, almost two thirds of the American population, living on **80%** of the land speak with the same accent !
  - Great Britain has influenced the way how they speak in America and Australia, but both countries have developed their own words and terminology.
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## The World of the English Language

- The London dialect, called **cockney**, influenced the Australian English, while the **Irish** accent affected the way they speak in the USA, especially the pronunciation of the letter "r", or "o" (in some areas).
    - Robert - rah-bəʔt
    - Bob - barb
    - newspaper - noose-paper
    - duty - dooty
    - .com (dot com) - dart calm
-

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## The World of the English Language

- English spoken in **Australia** is the same right across the continent but there are 3 layers of social accent:
  - **cultivated** spoken by about 10% of people and sounding very much like British accent (spoken especially on the TV, radio, theatre, as well as at schools and universities)
  - **broad**, working-class accent spoken also by about 10% of people (eg Paul Hogan who became famous in his film role of the ***Crocodile Dundee***)
  - **general** – an accent falling between these two and used by most people
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## The World of the English Language

- In Australia many people used to speak the broad version of English which was called strine.
  - There is an old joke about a European migrant who just started working in a factory. An Australian fellow-worker came to him and asked him:
    - "Did you come here to-die (= today) ?"
    - The shocked migrant replied: 'No, I came here to live!:'
-

# Some examples of the Australian strine

- Holly-die - holiday
  - Mun-die - Monday
  - Operition - operation
  - Edu-kie-tion - education
  - Snike - snake
  - Scona - as in "scona rine" (It's gonna to rain).
  - Baked necks – bacon and eggs
  - Egg-nishner - airconditioner
  - Gloria Soame - Gloria's home
  - Emma chisit - How much is it?
  - Air fridge – average
  - I waited fairairs and fairairs – I waited for hours and hours
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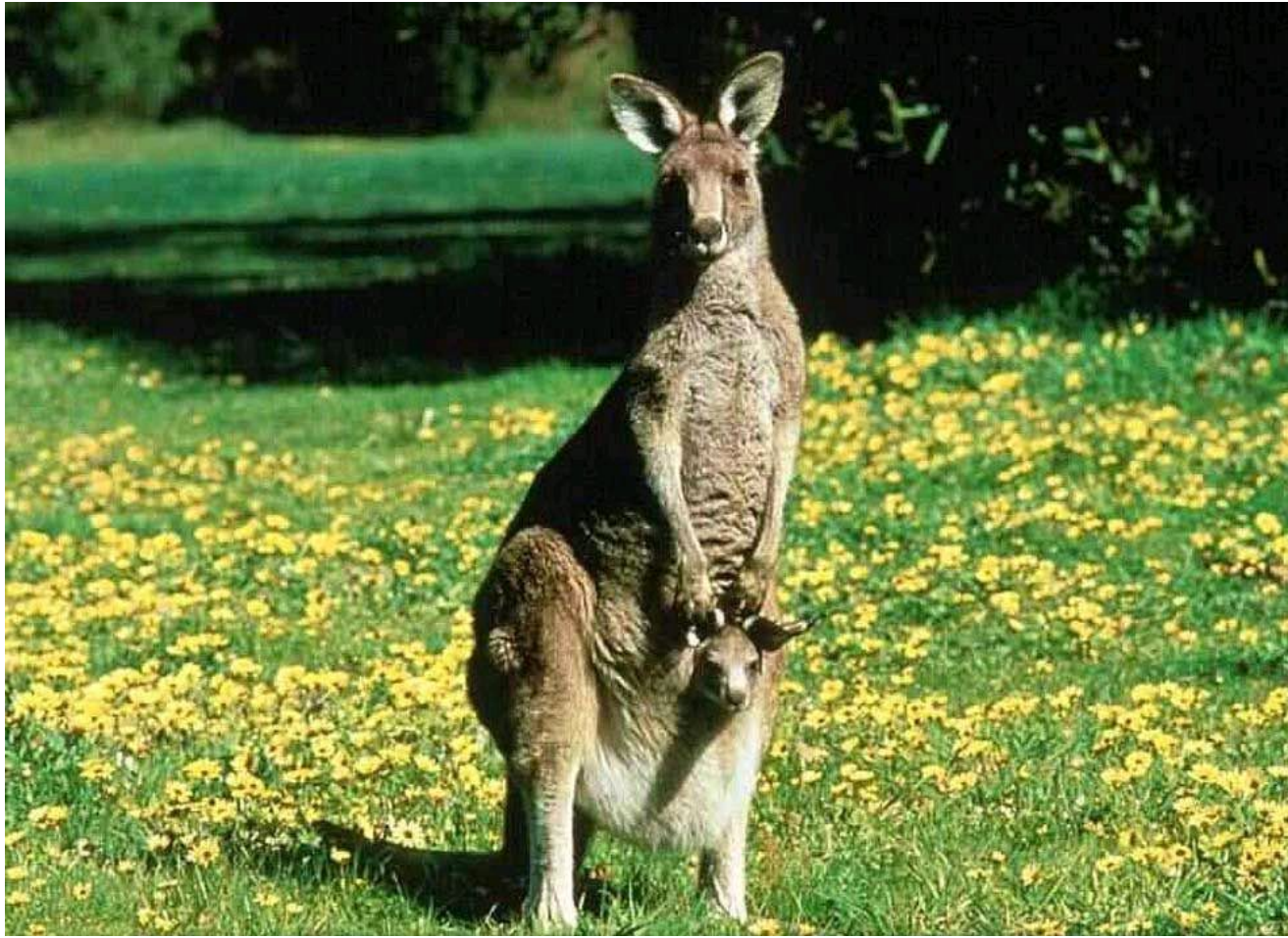
# Australians devised many words and also borrowed some from the Aborigines

- didgeridoo - trumpet like musical instrument
  - boomerang - a weapon used by the Aborigines
  - koala - Australian native animal
  - kangaroo - Australian native animal
  - billabong - a water hole, often brakish body of water
  - outback - remote country in Australia
  - tucker - food
  - bonzer - excellent
  - cobber - a pal, a buddy
  - mate - a partner, buddy, pal
  - sheila - a girl, or young woman
-

### The Australians are fond of abbreviations such as

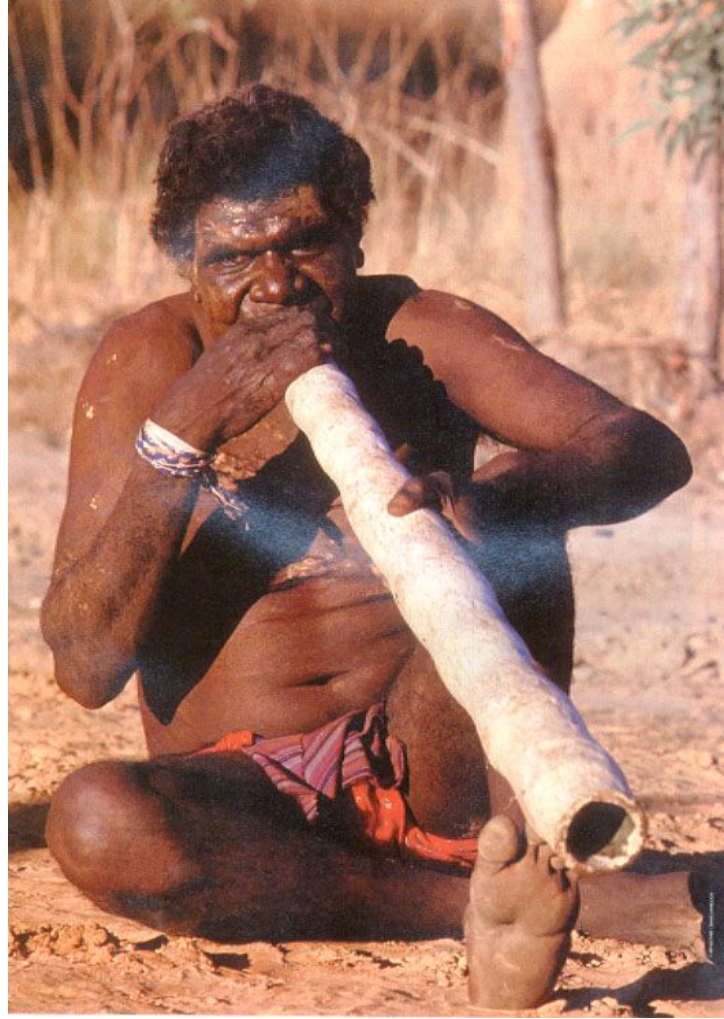
- roo - kangaroo
  - reffo - refugee
  - ethnics - people of ethnic background
  - postie - postman
  - footy - football
  - arvo - afternoon
  - compo - compensation
  - ambos - ambulance personnel
  - grog - alcoholic drinks of any kind
-

G'day mate ...





# Australian Aboriginal didgeridoo



### Indian accent

- Although different regions of India have variations in their accents the "Indian" accent is quite distinct.

Example:

- Wezmissarakuk?
- Where's Miss Sarah Cook?

The Indians who live in Bengal, cannot pronounce the letter "s". Therefore, instead of "God Save the Queen". they sing "God Shave the Queen"

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# ACCENTS

- We all have accents, even in our own language, and that's why we can recognize our friends, it's not just their voices, it is also how they pronounce the words they say.
  - We should be proud of our **accents**, because they identify where we come from.
  - But we should use standard **pronunciation** so the people from other countries can understand us.
-

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## SOME COMMENTS ON THE INFLUENCE OF AMERICAN SPELLING ON BRITISH ENGLISH

- The British use PROGRAMME, but for computers they use PROGRAM.
  - The same with DISC – for computers they use DISK.
  - For AEROPLANE the British now use the US word: AIRPLANE
  - And TRUCK has replaced LORRY
  - In Britain *upstairs* is the first floor, in USA it is the second
  - **Presently** means 'now' in USA, but in Britain it means 'in a little while'
  - A **tramp** in Britain is a **bum** in USA, but a **bum** in Britain is a **fanny** in America
-

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## SOME COMMENTS ON THE INFLUENCE OF AMERICAN SPELLING ON BRITISH ENGLISH

- *Royal Mail* delivers the **post**, not the mail, while in America the *Postal Service* delivers the **mail** not the post !
  - The British say 'ill' when the Americans would say 'injured'
  - **VCR** in USA is a **video recorder** in Britain
  - American FALL is **AUTUMN** in Britain
  - British PIG is HOG in USA
  - **Assignment** in USA is a **job** or **task** in Britain
  
  - The American billion (1,000,000,000) ie one **thousand million** has replaced the British sense (1,000,000,000,000) ie one **million million**
-

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**America** has introduced many words and expressions that never existed in Britain. **Examples:**

- commuter
  - striptease
  - gimmick
  - baby-sitter
  - lengthy
  - teenager
  - telephone
  - radio
  - typewriter
  - hangover
  - to make good (to be successful)
  - joyride
  - publicity
  - blizzard
  - stunt
  - department store
  - currency (for money; in Britain it used to mean validity)
  - graveyard
  - know-how
  - hindsight
  - raincoat
-

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## The British gave the Americans words such as:

- smog
  - weekend
  - gadget
  - miniskirt
  - radar
  - brain drain
  - gay (in the sense of homosexual)
-

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And the Japanese have adopted quite a few words from English as well:

- Productivity - purodakuchibichi
  - sumato - smart
  - nyuu ritchi - newly rich
  - appudeito - up to date
  - gurama foto - glamour photo
  - haikuraso - high class
  - kyapitaru gein - capital gain
  - rushawa - rush hour
-



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Many English words were miniaturised by the **Japanese**:

- modern girl - moga
  - word processor - wa-pro
  - mass communications - masu-komi
  - touch and game - tachi geimu
-

## British

vs

## American English

- autumn – fall
- chips – french fries
- the cinema – the movies
- film – movie
- ground floor – first floor
- lift - elevator
- potato crisps – potato chips
- biscuit - cookie
- tram – streetcar
- pavement – sidewalk
- pub – bar
- bank note – bill

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# British vs American English

saloon (car)	- sedan
taxi	- cab
Lorry	- truck
Petrol	- gasoline
puncture	- blow-out
silencer	- muffler
windscreen	- windshield
spanner	- wrench
motorway	- freeway
dual carriageway	- divided highway

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## British

vs

## American English

toll motorway	- turnpike
roundabout	- traffic circle
crossroads	- intersection
public toilet	- rest room
queue	- line
tap	- faucet
railway	- railroad
underground railway	- subway
railway carriage	- railway car
single ticket	- one-way ticket
round (ticket)	- round trip
timetable	- schedule

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## British vs American English

- post – mail
  - postbox – mailbox
  - postman – mailman
  - tights – pantihose
  - trousers – pants
  - waistcoat – vest
  - wardrobe – closet
  - angry - mad
  - crazy – mad
  - torch – flashlight
  - pram – baby carriage
  - tea towel – dish towel
  - tin – can
  - sweets – candy
-

## British

vs

## American English

- reverse charges - call collect
- nowhere - noplacE
- somewhere - someplace
- off licence - liquor store
- curtains - drapes
- aerial - antenna
- lift - elevator
- shop - store
- chemist's - drug store
- Condom - rubber
- nappy - diaper
- Dummy - pacifier

## British

vs

## American English

- rubbish bin, dustbin - trash can
- rubber - eraser
- rise (in salary) - raise
- rubbish - garbage, trash
- sellotape - Scotch tape
- staff (of a university) - faculty
- term - semester

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- o - 0 - o -

o - 0 - o -

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■ **WHAT IS PUNCTUATION ?**

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## ENGLISH FOR ACADEMIC PURPOSES

### Punctuation:

The use of standard marks and signs in writing and printing to separate words into :

- sentences
  - clauses
  - and phrases in order to **clarify** (= make more clear) their meaning.
-

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# English for Academic Purposes

Examples of punctuation:

- ,
  - ‘
  - .
  - /
  - #
  - :
  - ;
  - ) (
  - ]
-

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# ENGLISH FOR ACADEMIC PURPOSES

## Punctuation

- —
- -
- !
- ?
- “ ”

- o - 0 - o -

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