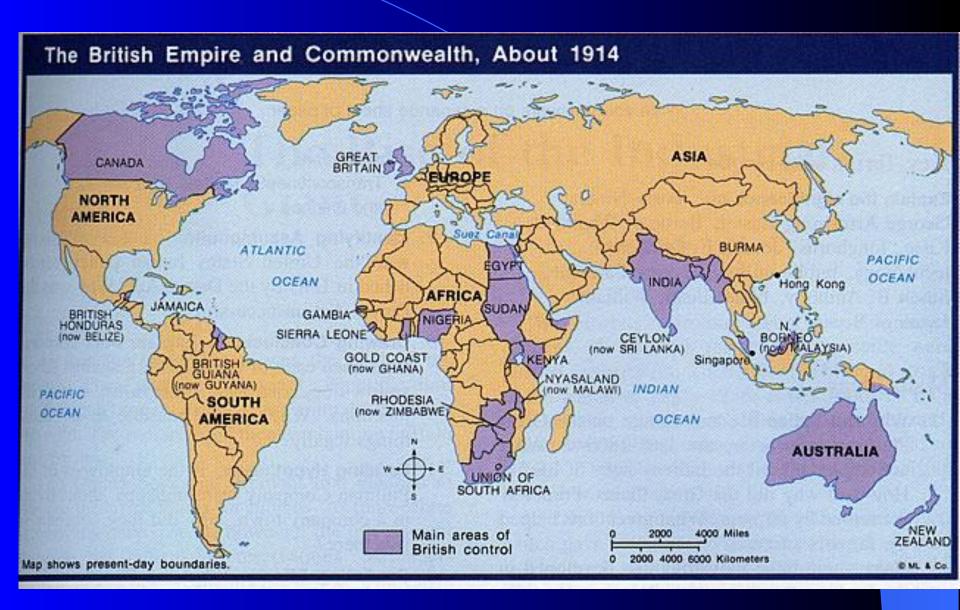
# Varieties of Spoken English

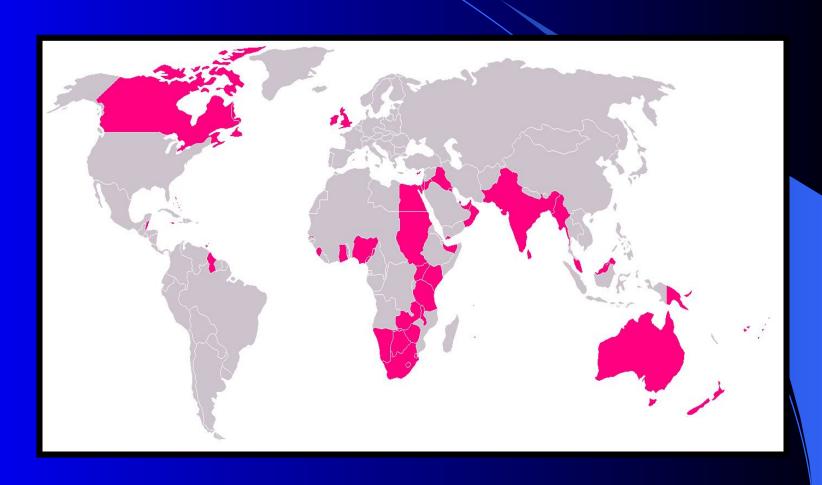
### PLAN:

- 1. Spread of English in the world.
- 2. Pronunciation Standards.
- 3. British English.
- 4. RP Received Pronunciation.
- 5. Changes in the Standard.

## Spread of English in the world.



# British Empire 1921



# Three Circles of English

#### The expanding circle

English as a foreign or international language

#### **The Outer Circle**

English as a second or official language

#### **The Inner Circle**

English as a mother tongue

### **The Inner Circle**

English as a mother tongue,

e.g. UK, USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand

| USA         | 245,800,000 |
|-------------|-------------|
| UK          | 57,006,000  |
| Canada      | 25,880,000  |
| Australia   | 16,470,000  |
| New Zealand | 3,366,000   |

### **The Outer Circle**

English as a second or official language,

e.g. India, Singapore, Nigeria, Ghana, Kenya, the Philippines

| Bangladesh  | 107,756,000 |
|-------------|-------------|
| Ghana       | 13,754,000  |
| India       | 810,806,000 |
| Kenya       | 22,919,000  |
| Malaysia    | 16,965,000  |
| Nigeria     | 112,258,000 |
| Pakistan    | 109,434,000 |
| Philippines | 58,723,000  |
| Singapore   | 2,641,000   |
| Sri Lanka   | 16,606,000  |
| Tanzania    | 23,996,000  |
| Zambia      | 7,384,000   |

### The expanding circle

English as a foreign or international language,

e.g. Japan, France, Germany, Russia, China, Egypt, Brazil

| China        | 1,088,200,000 |
|--------------|---------------|
| Egypt        | 50,273,000    |
| Indonesia    | 175,904,000   |
| Israel       | 4,512,000     |
| Japan        | 122,620,000   |
| Korea        | 42,593,000    |
| Nepal        | 18,004,000    |
| Saudi Arabia | 12,972,000    |
| Taiwan       | 19,813,000    |
| USSR         | 285,796,000   |
| Zimbabwe     | 8,878,000     |

### WHO SPEAKS ENGLISH TODAY?

### ENL, ESL and EFL

- "English has official\* status in at least 75 countries with a total population of over two billion.
- English is spoken as a native\* language by around 375 million and as a second language\* by around 375 million speakers in the world.
- Speakers of English as a second language will soon outnumber those who speak it as a first language.
- Around 750 million people are believed to speak English as a foreign language\*.
- One out of four of the world's population speak English to some level of competence."

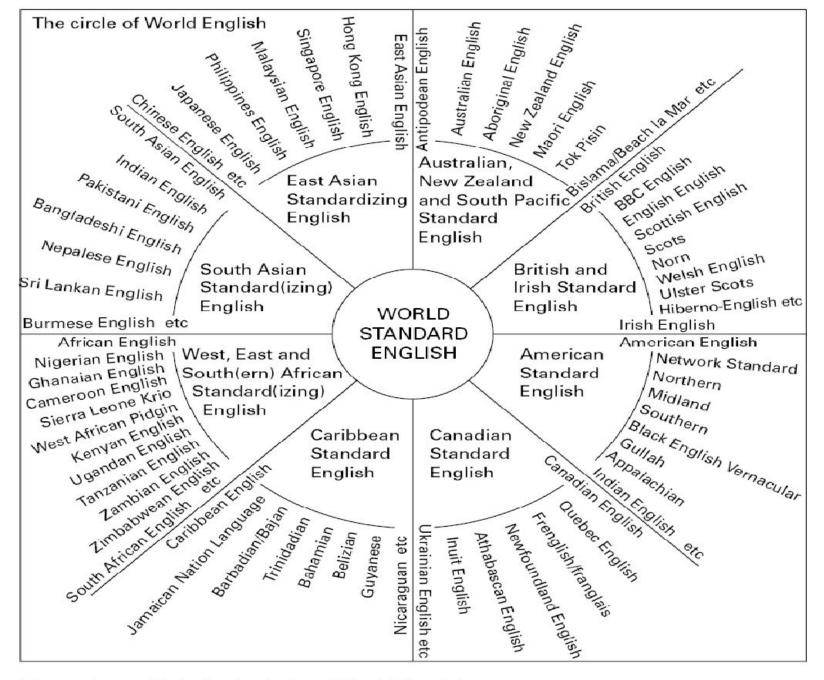


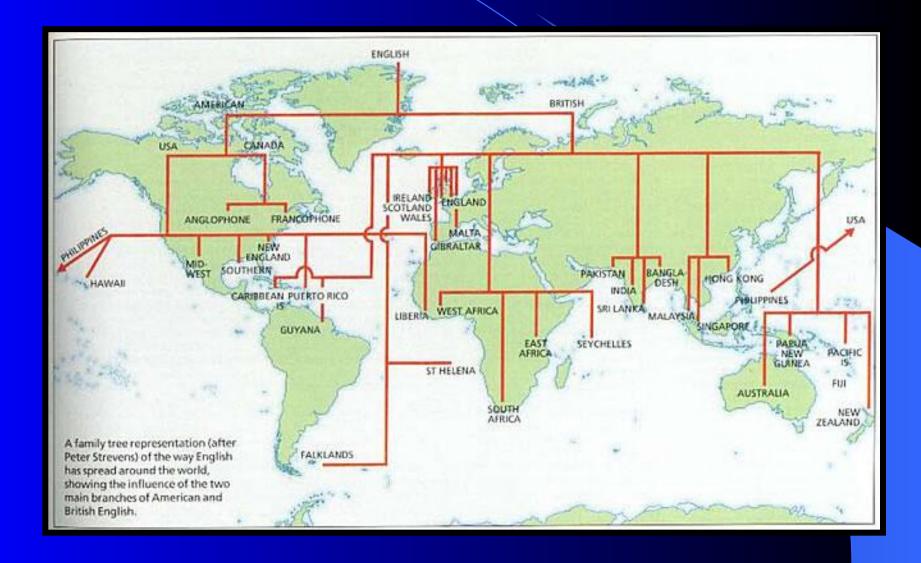
Figure A3.3 McArthur's circle of World English Source: Crystal (1995: 111)

## Varieties of Spoken English

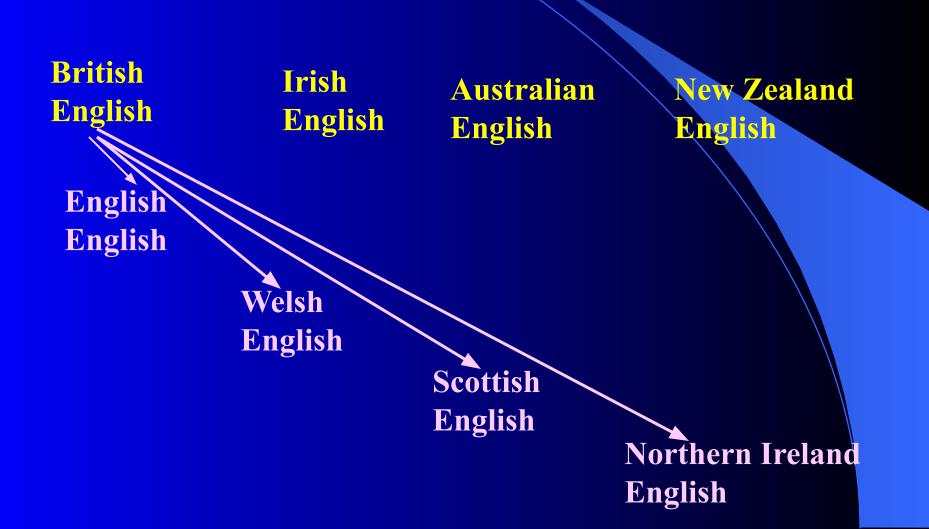
English-based pronunciation standards

American-based pronunciation standards

# Modern Varieties of Englishes



## **English-based pronunciation standards**



# BRITISH ENGLISH

(BrE, BE, en-GB)

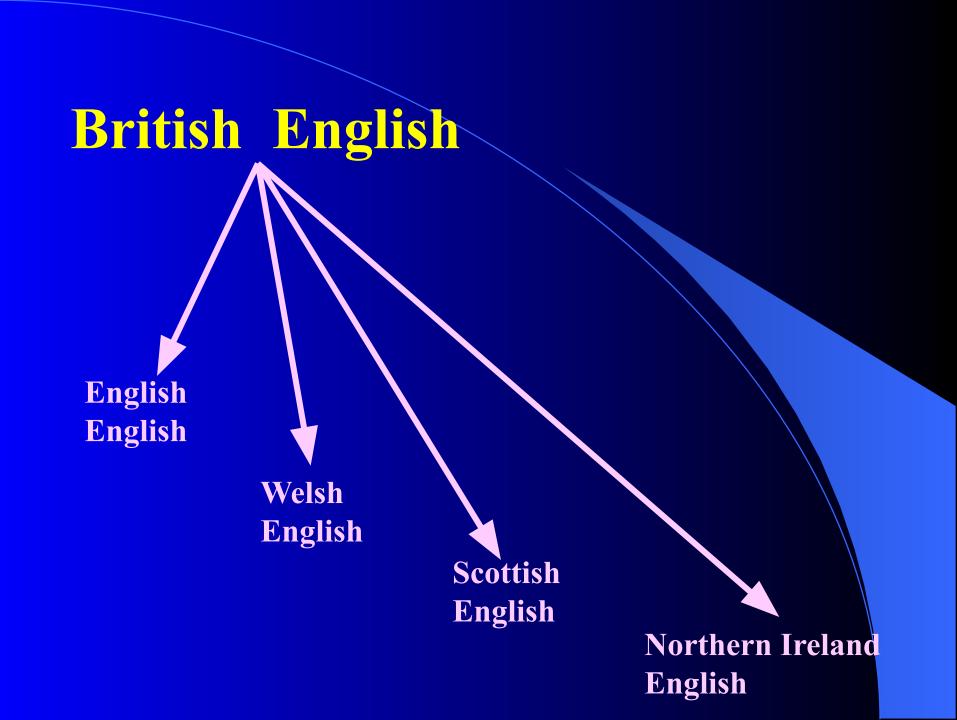
"the English language as spoken or written in the British Isles; especially the forms of English usual in Great Britain, as contrasted with those characteristic of the U.S.A. or other English-speaking countries."

• The Oxford English Dictionary

## Dialect & Accent

 Any dialect of English is a language variety which has unique features in pronunciation Any dialect of English is a language variety which has unique features in pronunciation, vocabulary Any dialect of English is a language variety which has unique features in pronunciation, vocabulary, and grammar.

The term "accent" describes only the sound



## **Accents & Dialects of GB**

<u>English English</u>:

Southern English dialects

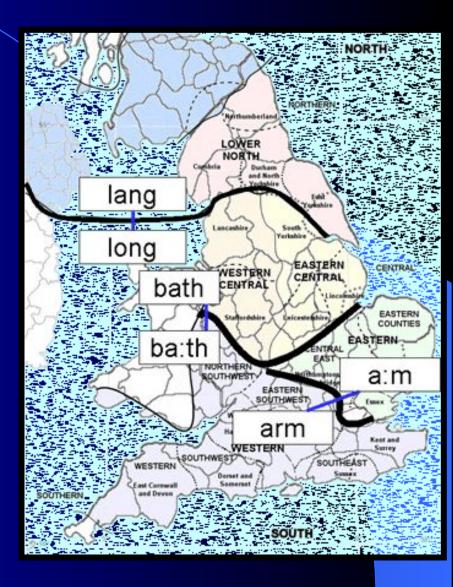
Midlands English dialects

Northern English dialects

- Welsh English
- Scottish English
- Irish English
- The various British dialects also differ in the words that they have borrowed from other languages. The Scottish and Northern English dialects include many words originally borrowed from Old Norse The various British dialects also differ in the words that they have borrowed from other languages. The Scottish and Northern English dialects include many words originally borrowed from Old Norse and a few borrowed from Gaelic.

# Mapping English English





# Outside the southeast there are other families of accents easily distinguished by natives, including:

- West Country West Country (South West England)
- East Anglian
- West Midlands West Midlands (Black Country West Midlands (Black Country, Birmingham)
- East Midlands
- <u>Liverpool</u>Liverpool (<u>Scouse</u>)
- Manchester Manchester and other east Lancashire accents
- Yorkshire
- NewcastleNewcastle (Geordie) and other northeast England accents

# Main Features of Northern English:

vocalization of [r] in beer, here



# Recommended Video for Northern & Midlands English

- Shirly Valentine
- Full Monty
- Billy Eliot
- A Letter to Brezhnev

# British English Pronunciation Standard

RP – Received Pronunciation

1917 – Daniel Jones first edition of Pronunciation Dictionary

"that most usually heard in everyday speech in the families of Southern English persons whose manfolk have been educated at the great public boarding-schools"

# Socio-Linguistic aspect of RP

1987 – Howard Giles, British social psychologist

"RP is most aesthetically pleasing of all British English accents"

RP is associated with people who are: competent, reliable, educated, confident

At the same time, **RP** scored lack on such features as: friendliness, companionability, sincerity

## Main features of RP

- phonologically neutral variant;
- non-rhotic variant;
- pronunciation of [a:] instead of [æ] in words like bath, dance.
- strong socio-linguistic marker.

## Отличительные черты RP

- отсутствие элемента региональности в фонологии;
- отсутствие вокализации 'r';
- произнесение [a:] вместо [æ] в таких словах как bath, dance;
- яркий социолингвистический маркер языка выпускников частных школ и наиболее престижных университетов страны (Oxbridge).

# Periods of RP Evolution

- **I** 1900 –1940
- II 1940-1970
- III 1970- present time

Качественное изменение долготы английских гласных:  $[L] \rightarrow [P]$ .

- 1) Слова *cloth*, *cross*, *lot* перестали звучать как *thought*;
- •2) Утрачена разница в произнесении пар слов подобных *flaw floor*;

2) Изменение в произнесении дифтонга [OV].

В словах *goat, home, know* произнесение дифтонга стало более открытым, что было зафиксировано в словарях произношения  $[OV] \rightarrow [qV];$ 

3) Изменился характер произнесения краткого [х], который получил более протяжную форму произнесения в словах *man, back*;

4) Изменения в произнесении звука [r].

Исчезла манера раскатистого (tapped) произнесения звука [r] в позиции между двумя гласными в словах подобных sorry, very.

# Modern English:

**Pronunciation Changes** 

# Changes in RP - 1940-1970

- звучание слов *sure*, *poor*, *tour* стало идентично произнесению слов *shore*, *pour*, *tore*;
- более усеченное произнесение краткого гласного [I] в безударной позиции в словах visibility, carelessness;
- появление скользящего сибиланта в словах типа  $prince \rightarrow prints$ ;

# Changes in RP - 1940-1970

• ассимилятивные изменения в звукосочетаниях [tju:], [dju:]  $\rightarrow$  [Cju:], [Gju:], как в словах perpetual, graduate

• замена традиционного звука [t] на 'glottal stop' в выражениях quite nice , it seems.

# Latest Changes – 1980-1990

1) качественное изменение гласного [I], который в конце слов happy, coffee, valley получил более интенсивное звучание

→ ['hxpl], ['kPfl] ['vxll];

# Latest Changes – 1980-1990

2) потеря лабиолизации 'oo' в словах goose, foot  $\rightarrow$  оба звука становятся более передними;

3) употребление 'glottal stop' в большем количестве словосочетаний: not only, but also;

# Latest Changes – 1980-1990

- 4) подмена звука [l] звуком [w] в определенных позициях: *milk, myself, middle*;
- 5) большее распространение ассимилятивных процессов, такие слова как *Tuesday, reduce* звучат как *chooseday, rejuice*.

# Changed Stress

1904
ab'domen
an'chovy
'hospitable
in'explicable
se'cretive

'abdomen'
'anchovy
ho' spitable
inex'plicable
'secretive

- American influence on stress
- Australian influence on intonation
- •E.g.

intonation

[o] – [o-yoo] (Australian series 'Neighbours')

# RP: Facts & Figures

- 12% of people in Britain use Standard English
- 9% out of 12% use Standard English with a local accent
- 3-5% of British population speak RP (Peter Trudgill, 1984)

## RP: Dilution of the Original Concept

- RP remains generally acceptable and intelligible within Britain
- RP does not mark an exclusive pronunciation type of one sector of society
- RP is no longer the necessary passport to employment
- Non-RP accents are very much common on the BBC
- "adoptive RP" is no longer an advantage for politicians