

# Contents

<i>List of Figures</i>	xii
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xiii
<i>List of Abbreviations and Special Symbols</i>	xiv
<i>Preface</i>	xv
<b>1 English – the Working Tongue of the Global Village</b>	<b>1</b>
English is spoken in circles	2
The Inner Circle	3
The Outer Circle	4
The Expanding Circle	5
Do we need a world language?	5
Why English?	6
One or two explanations	8
<b>Part I History of an Island Language</b>	
<b>2 The First 500 Years</b>	<b>13</b>
Roman Britain	14
Ships are sighted with English in embryo on board	17
Christianity in the Isles	19
The Viking age	22
What was Old English like?	27
The Lord’s Prayer	27
<i>Beowulf</i>	30
Two translations into Modern English	32
<b>3 1066 and All That</b>	<b>33</b>
Middle English	36
An influx of French words	36
Grammatical endings disappear	39
Geoffrey Chaucer and William Caxton	40
<b>4 Modern English in the Making</b>	<b>46</b>
The Three ‘Rs’ – Renaissance, Reformation, Restoration	47
English and Latin	48

The Elizabethan period	50
Shakespeare's language	54
The King James Bible – a milestone in the history of English	58
Restoration and reaction	60
English gains a new domain – the language of science	63
'Dictionary Johnson'	64
The 'End of History'?	65
Codification of the standard language	67
<b>Part II The Spread of English around the World</b>	<b>69</b>
<b>5 English Goes to the New World</b>	<b>71</b>
English takes root in America	72
The Pilgrim Fathers	75
The first Americanisms	76
Linguistic variety and uniformity in the United States	78
The American Revolution	82
The frontier moves further west	85
New Americans	89
English goes to Canada	90
Cartier and Canada	91
Loyalists' influence	93
Canadian English	95
<b>6 English Transplanted</b>	<b>98</b>
Australia: the First Fleet	99
<i>Kangaroo, koala, kookaburra</i> become English	101
Australian English	104
New Zealand – Aotearoa	105
New Zealand English	108
English in Africa – the Inner Circle	110
English comes to South Africa	112
English in Africa – the Outer Circle	115
English in South Asia	117
'The jewel in the crown'	117
English in Southeast Asia	119
New Englishes	121
<b>7 English Varieties in the British Isles</b>	<b>124</b>
RP (Received Pronunciation)	125
Cockney	128
Estuary English	130

The North	132
The West Country	133
Vernacular grammar	134
English in Wales	135
English in Scotland	136
Scottish varieties	140
English in Ireland	144
<b>8 American and British English</b>	<b>150</b>
'Divided by a common language'?	152
Americanisms and Americanization	157
Persistent transatlantic differences of vocabulary	159
American and British pronunciation: comparing GA with RP	163
American vs. British grammar	166
AAVE – Black English – Ebonics	169
<b>9 From Caribbean English to Creole</b>	<b>174</b>
Pidgins and creoles	176
Jamaican creole	179
Sranan	181
The life cycle of a creole	183
The Atlantic creoles and their characteristics	185
Tok Pisin	187
 <b>Part III A Changing Language in Changing Times</b>	
<b>10 The Standard Language Today</b>	<b>191</b>
Standard English – the written language	193
Vocabulary – combining the North Sea and the Mediterranean	197
A spectrum of usage – from speech to writing	199
Is spoken English grammatical?	203
<b>11 Linguistic Change in Progress:</b>	
<b>Back to the Inner Circle</b>	<b>206</b>
Grammaticalization	206
Colloquialization	207
Liberalization?	209
Americanization	210
Is English becoming a more democratic language?	211
Is English becoming a non-sexist language?	215
Electronic English	219

<b>12 English into the Future</b>	<b>222</b>
One English or many Englishes?	222
World English	225
The globalization of English	227
English as a lingua franca	232
‘Reports of the death of the native speaker have been exaggerated’	235
What is happening in the heartland of English?	237
Changing American voices: Northern Cities Shift	239
The English juggernaut?	241
And where is it all going?	246
<i>Notes: Comments and References</i>	247
<i>References</i>	266
<i>Index of People</i>	274
<i>Index of Topics</i>	276
<i>Pronunciation</i>	286

# 1

## English – the Working Tongue of the Global Village

English, no longer an English language, now grows from many roots.

Salman Rushdie,  
*The Times*, 3 July 1982

Ahead of his time, the Canadian writer Marshall McLuhan predicted that electronically connected media would eventually transform the world into a huge 'global village'. English has become the working tongue of that village.

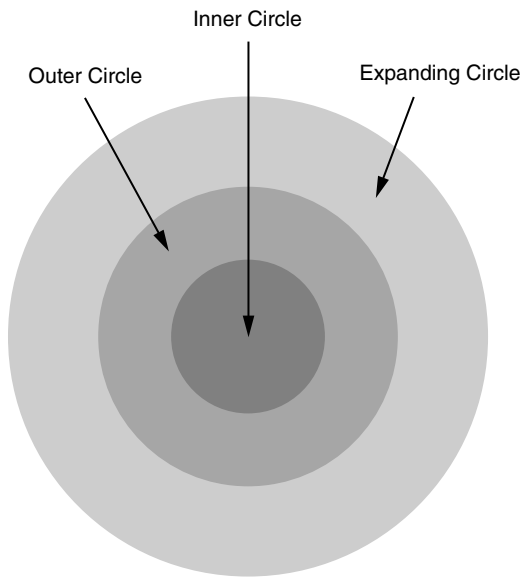
It is a new feature in the history of languages and language learning that this demand for English comes largely from the grass roots, not from society's elite, as was the case with Latin forced down the throats of previous generations of school pupils, or as the English language itself was imposed in earlier times on speakers of Celtic, Bantu or many other languages. The most remarkable thing about English today is not that it is the mother tongue of over 320 million people, but that it is used as an additional language by so many more people all around the globe. Non-native speakers in fact outnumber native speakers – probably a unique situation in language history. There are estimates suggesting that about a quarter of the world's population know, or think they know, some English. But, of course, sheer numbers mean little here – the expression 'know English' has plenty of latitude.

According to Ethnologue, a database maintained by the Summer Institute of Linguistics in Dallas, Texas, there are today about 6,800 distinct languages in the world. Yet just five languages – Chinese, English, Spanish, Russian and Hindi – are spoken by more than half of the world's population. And English cannot claim the highest number of native speakers; Chinese has about three times as many. What gives English its special status is its unrivalled position as a means of international communication. Most other languages are primarily communicative channels within, rather than across, national borders. Today, English is big business and the most commonly taught foreign language all over the world.

So why this demand for English among language learners around the world? The reason is not that the language is easy, beautiful or superior in linguistic qualities. Most people who want to learn it do so because they need it to function in the world at large. Young people, finding it both practical and cool, are attracted by things they can do with English, such as listening to music, watching films and surfing the web. For scientists and scholars, English is a necessity for reaching out to colleagues around the globe, publishing results from their research and taking part in international conferences. For tourists, English is the most useful tool for getting around and communicating with people all over the world.

### **English is spoken in circles**

The Indian-American scholar Braj Kachru has taught us to think of English, as used around the world, in the form of three concentric circles (see Figure 1.1). The Inner Circle represents a handful of countries where most of the inhabitants speak English as a first language. The Outer Circle includes a larger number of countries where English is a second, often official or semi-official, language, but where most users of the language are not native speakers. Beyond the Inner and Outer Circles, English is learned and used as a foreign language in the huge Expanding Circle, which in fact includes most countries in the world.



*Figure 1.1* The three concentric circles of English worldwide

## The Inner Circle

The Inner Circle includes, above all, three geographical blocs: the United States, Canada and the West Indies in the New World; Britain and Ireland in Europe; Australia, New Zealand and South Africa in the Southern Hemisphere. In these eight regions there are over 320 million people speaking English as a first language, and two out of three of them live in North America.

In some countries there are different figures for population and speakers of English as a first language (see box below). For some 40 million Americans the first language is Spanish – in fact, Hispanics have now replaced African Americans as the largest minority group of the United States. Canada is officially a bilingual country where almost a quarter of the population report French to be their mother tongue. In addition, native Canadians speak various indigenous languages. The Republic of Ireland has two official languages, Irish Gaelic and English, but only a small proportion of the population use Gaelic. In Britain and Ireland, English is the first language of over 60 million inhabitants. What many people find surprising is that neither in the United States nor in Britain, the two countries that seem to have imposed their language on the world, has English ever been formally declared the official language.

In the Southern Hemisphere, English is spoken by almost 20 million Australians and New Zealanders. While this is a modest figure compared with the number of native speakers in North America and Europe, English is an important means of communication around the expansive Pacific basin. South Africa is a special case with eleven official languages, one of which is English. It stands astride the boundary between the Inner and Outer Circles. English is not its primary language: among the population, English has a first language share of less than 10 per cent – in South Africa, English has always been a minority language, yet its population of native speakers is comparable in size to those of Ireland and New Zealand. In South Africa today, English retains a dominant position: it is the language most commonly used in Parliament and the main medium of instruction in higher education.

<b>Countries in the Inner Circle</b>		
<b>Countries</b>	<b>English as a first language</b>	<b>Population</b>
United States	215 million	278 million
United Kingdom	58 million	60 million
Canada	20 million	32 million
Australia	15 million	19 million
Caribbean	6 million	6 million
Ireland	4 million	4 million
New Zealand	4 million	4 million
South Africa	4 million	44 million
<b>Totals</b>	<b>326 million</b>	<b>447 million</b>

People who happen to be born in the Inner Circle of course enjoy a privilege since they learn, for free (more or less), to speak this global language with a native accent. Their language gives them a certain global reach and an advantage in many walks of life, whereas those who happen to be born into the Outer and Expanding Circles have to put years of time and effort into attaining some mastery of the language. For obvious reasons, in English-speaking communities there is a widespread lack of enthusiasm for learning other languages. But life in this 'fast language lane' of native English speakers comes at a price. Having English as your mother tongue means you lose out in the direct experience of feeling at home in other cultures and life-styles. You view the world through English-tinted glasses. The other side of this coin is that, among speakers of the world's other languages, there are fears that the pervasive influence of English will undermine their own cultural and linguistic identities.

### **The Outer Circle**

In countries outside the Inner Circle, English has different societal functions, and it is therefore practical to place these countries in two different circles: the Outer Circle and the Expanding Circle. Yet there are linguists who argue that, today, a distinction between English as a second and a foreign language is not relevant. In their view, it doesn't really matter whether you learn English in, say, Nigeria or Japan. Recently English linguistic influences have been penetrating further into countries like China, Mexico and Norway, for which it has always been a foreign tongue.

In the Outer Circle we mostly find people who live in former British colonies, such as Kenya and Tanzania in Africa, and India, Pakistan, Malaysia and Singapore in Asia. In many of these countries, English is an official language and widely used in administration, education and the media. India is a striking example of the spread and importance of English in the Outer Circle. In this country with more than a billion inhabitants and 200 languages, English has held its position and is widely used in government administration, the law courts, secondary and higher education, the armed forces, the media, commerce and tourism. Estimates suggest that some 4 per cent of the population – more than 40 million people – now make regular use of English. Going further than this, David Crystal's book *English as a Global Language* gives the figure of 200 million for the number of Indian second-language users of English. Whichever of these figures we accept – and such estimates are bound to be hazy – India is among the leading English-using nations in the world.

However, as we shall see, the question of whether a country belongs to one circle or another – like the question of what makes a speaker a native speaker of English – is trickier than one may think.

## **The Expanding Circle**

The Expanding Circle encompasses large parts of the world where English is learned as a foreign language because it is found useful, or indeed indispensable, for international contacts in such areas as industry, business, politics, diplomacy, education, research, technology, sports, entertainment and tourism. Today there are hundreds of millions of people who, though not living in an English-speaking country, have acquired a good working knowledge of English. This circle now seems to be ever-expanding, strengthening the claims of English as the international language of today. Is this expansion of world English going to reach saturation point? Arguably it is, and in the not too distant future, it will be appropriate to rename the 'Expanding Circle' the 'Expanded Circle'.

## **Do we need a world language?**

In the history of the world up to now, there has never been a situation where one language could claim global currency. There have been languages, like Latin during the Roman Empire, that gained widespread international currency through military might or economic influence. But this was not a worldwide conquest: even in Roman times there were barbarian hordes living beyond the empire, and there were vast tracts of the world that the Roman legions never reached. So why should we now think in terms of a world language? Is there any need for one?

The answer to such questions, above all in the globalized society we live in today, must be 'Yes'. To overcome the confusion of tongues, people have tried in the past to make up artificial international languages, such as Esperanto, Ido, Volapük, Novial, Interglossa, Interlingua. The most successful of these has been Esperanto, yet, despite the high hopes of previous generations that Esperanto would take over the world, artificial languages have met with little success. It is true that the grammar of artificial languages has been planned to be regular and easy to learn and their vocabulary combines elements from different languages. Yet somehow, these advantages have not weighed against the built-in advantages of a natural language which already has a head start in the international language stakes. English already had this head start, and gradually extended its hegemony through the twentieth century.

As a bonus, a natural language also offers a cultural milieu and a rich canon of literature. In the case of English, this literary canon originates both in the Inner and Outer Circles: embracing not only Jane Austen, Ernest Hemingway, Patrick White and William Butler Yeats, but also Arundhati Roy, Wole Soyinka, Ngugi Wa Thiong'o and Derek Walcott.

## Why English?

English did not become a world language on its linguistic merits. The pronunciation of English words is irritatingly often at odds with their spelling, the vocabulary is enormous and the grammar less learner-friendly than is generally assumed. There are people who think it is much to be regretted that some other language, like Italian or Spanish with their pure vowel sounds and regular spellings, did not achieve the status of *lingua franca*. David Abercrombie, a well-known Scots phonetician with a keen interest in English teaching, once suggested that spoken Scottish English, not English English, should be used internationally because of its superior clarity. In fact, foreigners often find Scottish English with its clear *r*'s easier to pronounce and understand than Southern British English with its *r*'s either not pronounced (as in *girl*) or obscurely pronounced (as in *right*) – see p. 125, 142. Also, with few diphthongs, Scottish vowels are similar to those widely heard throughout the world, including on the European Continent.

True, English grammar has few inflectional endings compared to languages like German, Latin or Russian, but its syntax is no less complex than that of other languages. A comprehensive grammar of English is definitely no shorter than, say, a grammar of French or German, as has recently been demonstrated by Rodney Huddleston and Geoffrey K. Pullum's *Cambridge Grammar of the English Language* with more than 1,800 pages. So it is totally wrong to suppose, as some native speakers actually do, that English has no grammar. The grammar of English not only exists, but has been subjected to more detailed study than that of any other language.

As everybody knows, the English word stock is vast. Any major dictionary of the English language has over a 100,000 headwords, and the most comprehensive of them all, the *Oxford English Dictionary*, defines a total of over 600,000 words. With its 20 volumes this lexical whopper occupies a great deal of shelf space but, fortunately, is now available in electronic form. The third edition now in progress, and to be completed in another 20 or so years, will be 'an *OED* so massive as perhaps only to be amenable to use on-line'. Yet, while all these words exist in the dictionary, no native English speaker knows them all. The average native speaker probably uses no more words than a speaker of any other major language.

So what made English the world language? Behind its success story there are two main factors: first, the expansion and influence of British colonial power – by the late nineteenth century the British Empire covered a considerable part of the earth's land surface, and subjects of the British monarch totalled nearly a fourth of the world's population; second, the status of the United States of America as the leading economic, military and scientific power of the twentieth century.

And there are yet other contributing factors. One is the increasing need for international communication as a result of modern technology: such innovations as the telephone, radio, television, jetliner transport and computers each introduced a step-change in the potential for international communication. Air traffic controllers all over the world use English when talking to pilots, whether Russian or Danish or Chinese, and whether at Kennedy or Schiphol or Narita airport. And, of course, in information technology, American English is king.

Yet another factor: in countries or groups of countries where people have several or many different first languages, English may be the preferred lingua franca because it is felt to be neutral ground. In the global economy, many multinationals have adopted English as the workplace vernacular. Half of all Russian business is said to be conducted in English. In the European Union, the practical ‘working language’ in communication across language barriers is usually English, often reluctantly adopted as the only language that is sufficiently widely used. Across the Union (excluding the British Isles), nine out of ten students choose to study English as a foreign language. English is said to permeate EU institutional activities and many areas of cultural and economic life more and more thoroughly. Today, it is hardly possible to pursue an international career without English. As a window on the world, English is looked upon as the best means to achieving economic, social and political success.

The aim of this book is to explore this astonishing global phenomenon. The history of English as a separate language started about CE 500, when its ancestor was a collection of dialects spoken by marauding Germanic tribes who settled in the part of the British Isles nearest the European continent. In those distant days, this proto-English was spoken by less than half a million illiterate people. Compared with the prestigious Latin language which had dominated the western Roman Empire up to that time, it was a totally insignificant tongue. In the 1,500 years since then, the English language has come heavily under the influence of other languages, especially Old Norse, French, Latin and Greek. Eight hundred years ago it was a humble medley of native dialects in a country where the rulers spoke French. Yet it somehow survived as a basically Germanic language, and has now come to be known to something like 1½ billion people.

This fantastic story needs to be told, and so, in Chapters 2–6, we look back and trace the history of English as it developed in the British Isles and later in territories conquered and settled through the growing British maritime and commercial power. But when we reach the last two centuries, the story of English becomes international and worldwide. Around 1880 the United States became the leading English-speaking nation, in both population and wealth. Chapters 7–8 tell the story of how the English language has evolved today in the British Isles and the United States, building on the historical foundation already described. Chapters 9–10 deal with pidgins, creoles and standard language.

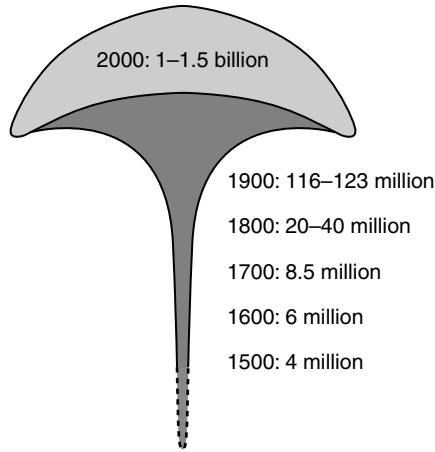


Figure 1.2 The mushroom of English

Over the centuries, the number of users of the English language can be seen as forming a mushroom with a slim base and a huge cap. These statistics, necessarily approximate of course, derive from Otto Jespersen’s *Growth and Structure of the English Language* (pp. 233–4) and David Crystal’s *English as a Global Language* (pp. 62–5). Yet what can be stated with some certainty is that, in the long history of the English language, the mushrooming effect is of quite recent date. In the 1936 edition of *The American Language*, H. L. Mencken gave 174 million as the estimated number of native speakers. As for speakers outside what we have called the Inner Circle, he wrote: ‘it is probable that English is now spoken as a second language by at least 20,000,000 persons throughout the world – very often, to be sure, badly, but nevertheless understandably’ (p. 592). How things have changed!

Chapter 11 describes some of the on-going changes in the current English language. Finally, Chapter 12 looks to the future: all languages being works in progress, what will happen to English? Will it split into mutually incomprehensible languages, as Latin did? Or will it remain a single language, in spite of all the variety of its manifestations around the world? Will it remain the leading language of international communication? Or will it be overtaken by another language? We don’t know the answers to these questions, yet they are worth asking and debating in an informed way.

### One or two explanations

First, why are three chapters (2–4) of this book devoted to what happened in remote periods of history? The answer is simple. What the English language looks and sounds like today is fundamentally due to distant events: the Germanic migrations and invasions, the Norman Conquest, the introduction of printing, the Renaissance. Recent centuries have brought their own story of the growing

international dispersion of English, but this story builds crucially on more ancient foundations.

Second, we try hard to avoid confusion between describing linguistic realities (which we aim to do) and making value judgements (which we do not). As David Crystal remarked in the preface to his book *English as a Global Language*: 'It is difficult to write a book on this topic without it being interpreted as a political statement.' It is easy to fall into the trap of considering English a successful language because of its inherent qualities as Melvyn Bragg arguably does in his book *The Adventure of English*, rhapsodizing over the Elizabethan age of English: 'English was now poised to grow into a richness, a subtlety and complexity which would enable it to become a world language.'

There is no room in this story for triumphalism. On the other hand, it is easy to fall into the opposite trap of seeing the spread of English on a global scale as a linguistic form of imperialism, as has been argued by Robert Phillipson in his book *Linguistic Imperialism*. We believe it is better to see the rise of English in more objective terms. It has won out in the linguistic ecology of the twentieth century rather as dinosaurs won out in the battle for survival above other species in the Jurassic period, or as *homo sapiens* is dominating other species in the survival battle of the present age. But there is a crucial difference: the English language has won out, at least for the present, because of the political, economic and military success, at a crucial period, of the people who were its speakers, not because of the features of the language itself. This is an amazing story to tell, but if we give any impression of glorifying English or the English, this is far from our intention.

The avoidance of value judgements is important, too, in discussing the different kinds of English – the many *varieties* of the language, as they are called. We have inherited a tradition of such judgements, for example, in the assumptions that some kinds of grammar are 'correct' and others 'incorrect'; that standard language is somehow superior to non-standard dialects; that English as a mother tongue is somehow superior to the English of non-native speakers. It would be foolish to lay much store by such traditional attitudes. It is worthwhile reminding ourselves that non-natives speakers of English in the world now outnumber native speakers by at least three to one. Further, it is quite possible – and is seriously argued today – that the future of English will be more determined by the majority of its users – those in the Outer Circle and the Expanding Circle – than by the Inner Circle, the traditional heartland of English. We return to this discussion in our last chapter.



# Index of People

(Note: This index covers the main text, but not the Notes section.)

- Abercrombie, David 6, 126  
Adams, John 71, 82–3  
Alfred, King of Wessex 23–4, 27  
Armstrong, Neil 217  
Ash, Sharon 239  
Athelstan, King 23  
Augustine 19
- Bacon, Francis 49  
Banks, Joseph 98–9  
Beattie, James 192  
Beckett, Samuel 147  
Bede 20  
Bickerton, Derek 184  
Bismarck, Otto von 71  
Boberg, Charles 239  
Bonnie Prince Charlie 140  
Boswell, James 64–5  
Bradford, William 75, 77  
Bragg, Melvyn 9, 126  
Brathwaite, Edward 178  
Bruce, Robert 138  
Bryson, Bill 76, 152  
Burchfield, R. W. 39–40, 46, 124, 223  
Burns, Robert 141–3, 193  
Bush, George H. W. 210  
Bush, George W. 166
- Cabot, John 90–1  
Caesar, Julius 15  
Canute, King 24  
Cartier, Jacques 91  
Caxton, William 43–5, 126, 220  
Chambers, J. K. 95, 97  
Charles I 48, 60  
Charles II 48  
Chaucer, Geoffrey 40–3, 191–2  
Chesterfield, Lord 192  
Chew, Phyllis Ghim-Lian 244  
Churchill, Winston 58, 62  
Claudius, Emperor 16  
Clinton, Bill 166  
Coghill, Nevill 42, 192  
Columbus, Christopher 90, 172, 174
- Constantine the Great 19  
Cook, James 98, 106  
Cooper, James Fenimore 83  
Cranmer, Thomas 48  
Cromwell, Oliver 48  
Crystal, David 4, 8–9, 117, 123, 219,  
227–8, 236, 242, 246
- Daniel, Samuel 98  
Defoe, Daniel 13  
Desani, G. V. 119  
Dickens, Charles 193  
Doolittle, Eliza 129  
Dryden, John 62–3, 191–2
- Edward I 135  
Edward III 41  
Edward the Confessor 34  
Edward, Prince of Wales 135  
Eliot, T. S. 222  
Elizabeth I 50, 72  
Evelyn, John 63
- Fawkes, Guy 74  
Flack, David 229  
Fowler, H. W. 62  
Franklin, Benjamin 82
- Gandhi, Mahatma 112, 118  
Gilbert, Sir Humphrey 91  
Graddol, David 224, 228, 242, 246  
Gregory, Pope 19  
Guthrum 23  
Görlach, Manfred 245
- Hadrian, Emperor 16  
Halliday, M. A. K. 126  
Harold, King 33  
Heaney, Seamus 31, 147  
Hemingway, Ernest 86  
Henry V 35  
Henry VIII 47, 58  
Hibbert, Frederick ‘Toots’ 180  
Higden, Ranulf 33, 36

Higgins, Henry 129, 223  
Huddleston, Rodney 6

James VI and I 58, 72–3, 139  
Jefferson, Thomas 82–3  
Jespersen, Otto 8, 24  
John, King 35  
Johnson, Lyndon 166  
Johnson, Samuel 64–5, 154, 192  
Joyce, James 147

Kachru, Braj 2, 226  
Kennedy, John F. 212  
Kipling, Rudyard 160  
Koyoi, Mikie 236

Labov, William 164, 239–40  
Lang, J. D. 102  
Lincoln, Abraham 77  
Locke, John 61

Macaulay, Thomas 118  
MacDiarmid, Hugh 141  
Mandela, Nelson 113  
McArthur, Tom 67, 223–5, 229  
McCoy, Joseph 86  
McLuhan, Marshall 1  
Mencken, H. L. 8, 79, 157  
Metcalf, Allan 166  
Millward, Celia M. 124  
Milton, John 61  
More, Sir Thomas 49  
Mulcaster, Richard 56

Naipaul, V. S. 178  
Nelson, Lord Horatio 83, 113  
Newton, Isaac 61, 63

Ogden, C. K. 235

Paikeday, Thomas 235  
Paterson, 'Banjo' 102  
Patrick, Peter L. 180  
Pennycook, Alastair 243  
Phillip, Arthur 99  
Phillipson, Robert 9  
Pickering, John 158  
Platter, Thomas 52  
Pope, Alexander 63, 191  
Porter, John 31  
Potter, Simeon 38

Pullum, Geoffrey K. 6

Quirk, Randolph 191, 235

Raleigh (or Raleigh), Sir Walter 72  
Reagan, Ronald 82  
Richards, I. A. 235  
Rowling, J. K. 161  
Roy, Arundhati 119  
Rushdie, Salman 1, 118

Safire, William 150  
Saussure, Ferdinand de 206  
Scott, Sir Walter 39  
Sebba, Mark 238–9  
Seth, Vikram 119  
Shakespeare, William 50–8, 210  
Shaw, George Bernard 128, 147, 223  
Sinclair, John 126  
Singer, Isaac Bashevis 90  
Solander, Daniel 99  
Spenser, Edmund 46  
Stein, Gabriele 191  
Steinbeck, John 71  
Stenström, Anna-Brita 237  
Sweet, Henry 223  
Swift, Jonathan 64–5, 147  
Synge, John Millington 147

Thumboo, Edwin 243  
Thiong'o, Ngugi Wa 242  
Tottie, Gunnel 166  
Trevisa, John of 33, 36–7  
Trudgill, Peter 132  
Twain, Mark 86, 129, 235  
Tyndale, William 58

Vespucci, Amerigo 85

Walcott, Derek 174, 178  
Waller, Edmund 62, 191  
Wanamaker, Sam 54  
Washington, George 82, 166  
Webster, Noah 71, 154, 223  
Wekker, Herman 181  
Wells, J. C. 104, 130, 166, 238  
Wilde, Oscar 35, 147  
William the Conqueror 33–4  
Witherspoon, John 158

Yeats, William Butler 147

# Index of Topics

(Note: This index covers the main text, but not the notes section.)

- AAVE, *see* African American Vernacular English
- abbreviations in e-communication 220
- Aboriginal languages 94, 102
- Aboriginal loanwords 101–2
- Aborigines, the 98, 101–2
- academic writing 200
- Acadia 92
- accent as a class marker 124–8
- accent, prestigious 125–8
- accommodation 227
- acrolect 116, 176–7, 226
- acronyms 209, 220–1
- advertising 229, 244
- African American Vernacular English (AAVE) 169–72, 176–7, 186, 239
- African Americans 170, 172
- African English 115–17
- African languages 114
- African National Congress 113
- Afrikaans 113, 243
- Afrikaner 112–15
- Afro-Caribbean heritage language 239
- agreement in grammar 167
- ain't* 134
- air traffic 230
- airlines 229
- aitch-dropping 129
- Aku 185
- Algonquian 76–8
- alphabetisms 209, 220
- American accents 81–2, 163–6, 239–41
- American Language, The* 157
- American Revolution, the 71, 82, 88, 93
- American Spelling Book, The* 154
- Americanisms 76, 157–9
- Americanization 157–9, 206, 210–11
- Angles 17
- Anglo-Irish 148
- Anglo-Norman French 35
- Anglo-Saxon 18, 27–32, 59
- Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, The* 22
- Anglo-Saxon kingdoms 20, 23–4, 29
- Aotearoa (New Zealand) 105–10
- apartheid 113
- Arabic 66, 87, 225, 228, 246
- artificial languages 5, 235
- Athabaskan 77
- Atlantic creoles 185–6
- Auld Alliance, the 138
- Auld Lang Syne* 143
- Aussie* 100
- Australia 3, 98–105
- Australia Day 99
- Australian Aborigines 98, 101–2
- Australian English 100, 104–5, 108–10, 114
- Authorized Version of the Bible, the 58–60
- Bahamas, the 174
- Bajan 185
- Bangladesh 117
- Bannockburn, battle of 138
- Bantu family of languages 114
- Barbados 177, 185
- Basic English 235
- basilect 116, 156, 176–8, 184, 226
- Bayeux tapestry, the 34
- BBC English 57, 124–6
- BBC television 228
- be going to* 207
- be supposed to* 207
- Belize 174
- Benedictine Revival, the 21
- Bengali 117
- Beowulf* 30–2, 199
- Bible translations 58–60
- bilingualism 3, 40–1, 94, 105, 135, 148, 172, 225, 228, 231
- biographies 200
- Birmingham 132
- Black* 172
- Black English 169–72
- blogs 224
- Bonfire Night 74

- Book of Common Prayer, the 48, 55  
 Boston Brahmin accent 81  
*brahmin* 119  
 brand names 229  
 Breton 14  
*Brit* 15  
 Britain (Great) 3, 15–19, 23, 64,  
 124–44  
 Britannia 15–16  
 British and American English 150–69  
 British Council, the 228  
 British creole 239  
 British East India Company, the 118  
 British Empire, the 223  
 British Isles, the 7, 14–16, 19, 45,  
 124–49  
 British Raj, the 118  
 Briton 16, 110, 152, 156  
 Broad Scots 140  
 Brussels 232–3  
 Buffalo 240  
 Burns Night 143  
 business and commerce 229
- Cajuns 92  
 California 85, 88  
 California Gold Rush, the 88  
 Cambridge (England) 125, 192  
 Cameroon 185  
 Canada 3, 77, 90–7, 244  
 Canadian English 90–7  
 Canadian French 94  
 Canadian raising 96  
 Canterbury 19  
*Canterbury Tales, the* 41–3  
 Cantonese 121  
 Cape of Good Hope, the 112  
 Caribbean creoles 185–6  
 Caribbean English 174–8  
*Caucasian* 172  
 cell phone 220  
 Celtic 14, 18, 147  
 Celtic languages 14–15, 135, 138, 145  
 Celtic substratum 135  
 Celts 14  
 centrifugal force 225  
 centripetal force 225  
 chain shift 109, 240–1  
*chair* 217  
*chairman* 217  
*chairperson* 217  
*chairwoman* 217
- Chancery English 43  
 chat groups 224  
 Chicago 240  
*Chicana, Chicano* 172  
 children's English education 231  
 China 121, 246  
 Chinese 223–4, 228, 230, 246  
 Christianity in Scotland 137  
 Christianity in the Isles 19–22  
 Church of England, the 58, 75  
 class accent 125  
 Cleveland 240  
 CNN International 227  
 cockney 100, 104, 128–30, 238  
 code-switching 122–3  
 codification 67, 193  
 coinages of new words 220  
 collective nouns 167  
 colloquial style 134, 196  
 colloquialization 206–9  
 colonial period of immigration, the 79  
 common gender nouns 216  
 common language, a 152, 154, 176, 184,  
 224, 228  
 Commonwealth, the 48  
 communication 220, 230  
 concord in grammar 167  
 conference talk 227  
 Connecticut 75  
 consumer culture 229  
 contact languages 176  
 content words 197  
 continuum of accents 127  
 continuum of language variation 172,  
 176, 199–200  
 contractions 208, 210  
 core vocabulary 67, 199  
 Cornish 14, 18  
 Cornwall 18  
 correctness 209  
*cowboy* 86  
 creole languages 111, 174, 176–88  
 creolization 183–85  
 Culloden, battle of 140  
 Cumbria 18  
 Cymraeg 15, 135  
 Czech Republic, the 229
- Danelaw, the 23–4, 26  
 Danish 13–14, 19, 21, 23–4, 141, 197  
 Declaration of Independence, the 75,  
 82–3, 154

- decorative use 229  
decreolization 183–5  
democratic language 211–15  
Denmark 24, 30, 58, 231  
description 67  
Detroit 240  
developing countries 232  
Devon 133  
*Dictionary of the English Language, A*  
64, 154  
diglossia 225  
disintegration 223  
distance education 231  
divergence 224  
diversification 222  
divided usage 218  
*do*-construction, the 54, 211  
Dominion of Canada, the 94  
*do*-support 54, 211  
double negation 134, 171  
doublets 37–9  
Down Under 100  
*Dream of the Rood, the* 20, 136  
dub poetry 180  
*dude* 214  
Dutch 14, 21, 80, 83, 98, 105, 111–13,  
176, 182, 185, 231  
Dutch East India Company 112  
Dutch Guiana 181
- Early Modern English 46–67  
East Africa 232  
East African English 116  
East Anglia 23  
East Midland dialect, the 43  
eastern seaboard (of North America),  
the 80  
Ebonics 169–72  
e-business 228  
Edinburgh 106, 138–9, 194  
education 230–1  
Egypt 225  
*eh?* 97  
e-language 219–21  
electronic English 219–21  
electronic revolution, the 228  
Elizabethan English 54–8  
Elizabethan period, the 50–4  
Elizabethan theatre, an 53  
e-mail 221, 224, 228  
*emigrant* 89
- emoticons in e-communication 221  
emotive expression 202, 220  
English academy, an 64  
English as a foreign language 1–2,  
4–5, 7, 35, 79, 90, 120, 124, 126, 132,  
152, 188, 235  
English as a lingua franca 7, 232–5  
English as working language 7, 141,  
229–30  
English Civil War, the 48  
English English 6, 125–35, 141, 237–9  
English in Africa – the Inner Circle  
110–15  
English in Africa – the Outer Circle  
115–17  
English in Canada 90–7  
English in China 121  
English in Ireland 144–9  
English in Scotland 136–44  
English in South Asia 117–19  
English in Southeast Asia 119–21  
English in Wales 135–6  
English language learning 231  
English Separatist Church, the 75  
English teaching 6, 67, 127, 170, 193,  
231, 233–4  
English varieties in the British Isles  
124–49  
English-based creole 174, 184  
Englog 244–5  
e-revolution, the 219  
Erie Canal, the 89  
Eskimo 94  
Esperanto 5, 235  
Estuary English 128, 130–2, 164,  
238–9, 241  
Euro-English 232  
European Union, the 7, 232  
Eurospeak 232  
Expanding Circle, the 2, 5, 231, 236  
expeditions to the New World 72–5
- face-to-face communication 200, 224  
false Latinisms 50  
family names 212  
fauna 78, 102, 105, 107  
female suffixes 216  
First Fleet, the 99  
*First Folio, The* 51–2  
first names 212  
First Nation in Canada 94

- first-name terms, on 212  
 Flemish 14  
 flora 78, 102, 105, 107  
 foreigner talk 227  
 forenames 212  
 formal style 196  
 forms of address 211–12  
 Forty-Five, the (the 1745 Rebellion) 140  
 Founding Fathers, the 72  
 Fourth of July, the 77  
 fragmentation of English 223  
 Francophonie, la 94  
 Franglais 244–5  
 French 3, 6–7, 25, 33–43, 46–8, 50, 55, 61, 63–5, 72, 83, 91–5, 136, 138, 145, 175, 197–9, 227, 230, 232–3, 244–5  
 French in Canada 91–5  
 French words 36–9, 138, 165, 197–9  
 French-English doublets 37–9  
 French-speaking Canada 91–5, 244  
 Frisian 14, 19  
 frontier, the 85  
 function words 197  
 future of English, the 222–46
- GA, *see* General American  
 Gaelic languages 14–15, 106, 138, 140–1, 145, 147–8  
 Gaeltacht, the 145, 147  
 Gambia 116, 185  
 gender bias 216–18  
 gender-neutral pronoun 215–16  
 gender-neutral terms 216–18  
 General American 57, 81–2, 96, 122, 125, 239–40  
 General RP 127  
 generic use of *he* 218  
 genitive, the 209  
 Geordie 133, 142  
 German 14, 19, 225, 245  
 German immigration to America 80, 89  
 Germanic invasion, the 17–19  
 Germanic languages 14, 19, 24, 183, 198, 231  
 Germanic words 38, 197–9  
 Gikuyu 243  
 given names 212  
 global English 240–5  
 globalization 241  
 globalization of English 227, 231–2  
 Globe (Theatre), The 52–4  
 glottal stop 129–30, 133, 238  
 golden triangle, the 192  
*gonna* 207  
 Gothic 14  
*gotta* 207  
 grammar: differences between American and British English 166–9  
 grammar-checking software 208  
 grammaticalization 206–7  
 Great Britain 16  
 Great Lakes, the 241  
 Great Vowel Shift, the 61, 109, 141, 240  
 Greek loanwords 48–9, 56, 66, 155, 196–9, 201  
 Greek prefixes and suffixes 208  
 Greek word elements 36, 66  
 Guid Scots Tongue, the 140  
 Gullah 185  
 Gunpowder Plot, the 74  
*guy* 74  
 Guyana 174–6  
*guys* 74, 158, 169, 202, 214–15
- Hadrian's Wall 16  
*hafta* 207  
 haggis 143  
*Hamlet* 57  
*harass, harassment* 40  
 Hausa 232  
*have got to* 207  
*have to* 207  
*h*-dropping, *see* aitch-dropping  
 Hebrides, the 140  
 Hiberno-English 148  
 Higden's *Polychronicon* 33, 36  
 High Rising Terminal 109, 149  
 Highlands, the 138, 140  
 Hindi 117  
*Hispanic* 172  
 Hispanics 3, 87, 172  
 home language 114, 170  
 Hong Kong 121  
 honorific vocatives 211–12  
 Hudson's Bay Company 91  
 Hundred Years War, the 35
- Icelandic 14, 24  
 identity 226

- immigrant* 89  
 immigration to America 79–81  
 imperial expansion 227  
 Independence Day 77, 83  
 India 4, 117–18, 121–2, 231  
 Indians 77, 94, 112, 172  
 individualism in terms of address 215  
 Indo-European languages 14, 18, 117  
 industrial revolution, the 227  
 informal style 196  
 informative varieties 200  
 Inland North (of the US), the 239  
 Inner Circle, the 2–4, 175, 193, 214, 226, 235–6, 241  
 intelligibility 226, 241  
 interactive varieties 200, 202, 204, 219  
 interactiveness 202, 220  
 interlanguage 234  
 international aviation code, the 234  
 International Civil Aviation Authority 230  
 international standard English 156  
 international trade 229  
 Internet, the 219, 224, 228, 230  
 interpreting 233  
 interviews 200  
 Inuit, Inuk, Inuktitut 94  
 involved varieties 200  
 Iona 19–20, 137  
 Ireland 3, 15–16, 19, 23, 80, 89, 128, 137, 144–9, 169  
 Irish Americans 146  
 Irish emigration to America 89, 146  
 Irish English 128, 145, 147–9  
 Irish famine 146  
 Irish Gaelic 3, 14–15, 145–8  
 Iroquoian 77  
 Italian 6, 15, 17, 41, 46–7, 198  
 Italian immigrants in the US 89  
*Ivanhoe* 39  
  
 Jamaica 175–81  
 Jamaican Creole 174, 179–81, 183–5, 223, 238–9  
 Jamestown 73, 76  
 Japanese 66, 204, 211, 236, 242, 245  
 Japlish 244–5  
 Jewish immigrants in the US 90  
*juggernaut* 119  
*jungle* 119  
 Jutes 17  
  
 Kamtok 185  
 Kent 19  
 Kenya 4, 116, 121  
 King James Bible, the 58–60  
*Kiwi* 107  
 Korean 211  
 Krio 185  
 Kru English 185  
  
 Lallans 140–1  
 Lancashire 132  
 language complex, the 224  
 language death 242  
 Latin 5, 14, 49, 56, 61, 63, 65–6, 72, 138, 198, 222–4, 232, 238  
 Latin loanwords 20–2, 48–50, 197–8  
 Latin word elements 66, 198, 208  
*Latina, Latino* 172  
 Latinisms 48–50  
 Law French 38  
 learned vocabulary 199  
 Leeds 132–3  
 left-dislocation 204  
 lexical density 203, 208  
 lexifier language 183  
 liberalization 209–10  
 Liberia 185  
 Limericks 146  
*Limy* 15  
 Lindisfarne Gospels, the 20  
 lingua franca 6–7, 114, 120, 122–3, 176, 181, 184–5, 229–30, 232–6, 238, 242  
 linguistic change 206–21  
 linguistic diversity 233  
 linguistic imperialism 9, 243–4  
 Linguistic Society of America 170  
 literary Ireland 147  
 literary Scots 141  
 literate culture 193  
 Liverpool 132–3, 142  
 loanwords from languages beyond Europe 66  
 loanwords from Latin and Greek 48–50, 56, 66, 155, 196–9, 201  
 loanwords from Native American languages 78  
 London English 43, 239  
 London Jamaican 238–9  
 Lord's Prayer, the 27–8  
 Louisiana 92  
 Louisiana Purchase, the 85

- Lowlands of Scotland, the 136, 138,  
 140, 146  
 Loyalists, the 93  
  
*Ma'am* 211–12  
 machine translation 242  
*Madam* 211–12  
 Malay 120, 245  
 Malaysia 4, 119–20, 231  
 Malaysian English 122–3  
 Malenglish 245  
*man* 214  
 Man, Isle of 18  
 Manchester 132–3  
 Mandarin Chinese 120–1, 223–4  
 Manglish 244–5  
 Manx 14, 18  
 Maori 105–7  
 Massachusetts 75  
*may* 206–7  
 Mayflower Compact, the 75  
*Mayflower, the* 75–6  
 media, the 229  
 Mercia 23  
 mesolect 116, 176–7, 180–1, 184, 224, 235  
 metaphorical use of existing words in  
   e-communication 220  
 Michigan 240–1  
 Mid-Atlantic 233  
 Middle English 36–45, 58–61  
 middle names 212  
 Midland American accent 82, 239  
 Midland, the (US) 239  
 Midlands, the (UK) 132  
 Minnesota 241  
 minority populations in the US 172  
 Missouri 241  
 mixed languages 175–6, 183, 232  
 mobile phone 220  
 modal auxiliary verbs 206–8  
 motherese 227  
 movies 230  
 multidialectal 225  
 multilingualism 228, 233  
 multi-modal communication 224  
 mushroom of English, the 8  
 Muskogean 77  
*must* 207  
 mystery and adventure fiction 200  
  
 national expansion period of  
   immigration, the 79  
  
 native (L1) speakers 3, 6, 8–9, 61, 81, 95,  
   114, 116, 118, 146, 150, 152, 176, 183,  
   206, 218, 221, 225, 227–8, 230, 232,  
   234, 236–7, 243, 246  
 Native American languages 77–8, 86  
 Native Americans 77–8, 83, 86, 172  
 Native people in Canada 94  
 Near-RP 127  
*need to* 207  
*Negro* 172  
 Net, the 219  
 Netherlands, the 231  
 Netspeak 219–21  
 Network English 82  
 new compounds in  
   e-communication 220  
 New England 75, 77, 83  
 New Englishes 121–3, 191, 205,  
   223, 236–7  
 New France 91–2  
 New South Wales 99  
 New York City pronunciation 164  
 New Zealand 3, 105–10  
 New Zealand English 108–10  
 Newcastle 132, 142  
 Newfoundland 91  
 news broadcasts 200  
 newspaper editorials 200  
 newspaper reporting 200  
 nicknames 212, 214  
 no distance in forms of address 213–15  
 non-native (L2) speakers 1, 9, 185, 212,  
   225, 227, 234, 236, 246  
 non-rhotic accent 81, 164  
 non-sexist language 215–18  
 Norman Conquest, the 33–6  
 Norman French 35, 65, 138  
 Normandy 26, 35  
 Normans, the 34–5  
 normative models 226  
 Norn 138  
 Norse 7, 22, 24–5, 34, 38, 65, 145  
 North Central (US) 82, 239  
 Northeastern American accent 81  
 Northern accent (UK) 132–3  
 Northern American English 95  
 Northern Cities Shift 239–41  
 Northern Ireland 147–8  
 Northern Irish plateau 149  
 Northumbria 19–20, 23, 137  
 Northumbrian 136, 141  
 Norway 4, 23

- Norwegian 14, 24  
 Nuclear English 235
- official documents 200  
 official languages in South Africa 113–14  
 official or unofficial recognition of English 229  
 Old English 18, 21–2, 24–5, 27–32, 34, 36, 39–40, 43, 50, 58–9, 61, 135–6, 138, 141, 183, 196, 198–9  
 Old English inflections 29  
 Old Norse 7, 22, 24–5, 34, 38, 65, 145  
 Old Saxons 18  
 on-line activity 203  
 on-line processing 203, 220  
 Ontario 93  
 oral culture 193  
 Outer Circle, the 2, 4, 9, 115, 121, 123, 226, 231, 236  
 overseas experience (OE) 108  
 Oxbridge accent 125  
 Oxford 125, 192  
*Oxford English Dictionary (OED)* 6, 153, 223  
 Oz 100
- Pakistan 4, 117  
 Papua New Guinea Pidgin 187–8  
 paralinguistic dimensions in e-communication 221  
 Parliament of Ireland, the 148  
 passive constructions 205, 208  
 patois 179  
 Pennsylvania Dutch 80  
 personal letters 200  
 personal names 212  
 Philippines, the 120  
 phrasal acronyms in e-communication 221  
 pidgin languages 111–12, 176, 183–5, 187–8, 232  
 Pilgrim Fathers, the 75  
 Pilipino 120  
 place-names 17, 24, 102, 106–7, 136  
 pluralization 224  
 Plymouth colony, the 75  
 Polish immigrants in the US 90  
 political standing of English 229  
 polyglossia 225  
*Pom, Pommy* 15  
 pop music 230
- popular media 229  
 post-creole continuum, the 183–5  
 prefixes in e-communication 220  
 prepared speech 200  
 prescription 62, 67  
 prescriptivism 208–9  
 present progressive 208  
 prestige accent 125  
 printing age, the 43–5  
 professional letters 200  
 pronunciation in Britain 124–34  
 pronunciation in the US 81–2, 163–6, 239–41  
 pronunciation: differences between American and British English 163–6  
 proper names 212  
 Puritans 48, 58, 73, 75  
 putonghua 121, 224  
*Pygmalion* 129  
 pyramid of standardization, the 127–8, 156, 226
- Quakers, the 55, 80  
 Quebec 93, 244
- rastafarian language 178  
*r*-dropping 81, 166  
 Received Pronunciation (RP) 57, 124–8, 164, 177, 238  
 reference accent 82, 125, 238  
 Refined RP 127  
 Reformation, the 47–8  
 reggae music 180  
 regional accent 81, 126–8, 132  
 regional variation 128  
 region-neutral accent 127  
 relative clauses 55, 208, 210  
 Renaissance, the 47  
 Republic of Ireland, the 15  
 Restoration, the 47, 60  
 retroflex *r* 57, 133, 144, 163  
*r*-ful accent 166  
 Rhode Island 75  
 rhotic accents 164, 166  
 rhyming slang 129–30  
 right-dislocation 205  
 rising interrogative intonation 178  
 river-names 18  
*r*-less accent 166  
 Roanoke Island 72  
 Roman Britain 14–19

- Roman Empire, the 222, 232  
 Romance languages 13–15, 36–9, 45, 176, 197–9, 201, 222, 224  
 Romance words 36–9, 45, 197–9, 201  
 Royal Society, the 63  
 RP, *see* Received Pronunciation  
 runes 28–9, 136  
 Russian immigrants in the US 90  
 Ruthwell Cross, the 20, 136
- Sabir 176  
 Saint Patrick's Day 144  
 Saxons 17  
 scale of accents, a 127  
 scale of language variation, a 199  
 Scandinavian attacks in Scotland 137  
 Scandinavian conquest 19, 22–6  
 Scandinavian loanwords 24–5  
 Scandinavian settlement-names 26  
 science 230  
 science fiction 200  
 scientific vocabulary 199  
*Scotch* 140  
 Scotland 15–16, 19–20, 23–5, 58, 65, 72, 89, 128, 133, 136–44, 193  
*Scots* 140  
 Scots language, the 137, 140–2  
 Scots-Irish immigration to America 80  
 Scottish (Standard) English 142  
*Scottish* 140  
 Scottish Gaelic 14–15, 140  
 Scottish Parliament, the 139, 141  
 Scottish pronunciation 142  
 Scottish Renaissance, the 141  
 Scottish varieties 140–4  
 Scouse 142  
 Scouser 133  
 Seaspeak 230  
 second-person address 211  
 semi-modals 207–8, 210  
 Separatists, the 75  
 Sepoy Mutiny, the 118  
 sexual bias in the language 215–18  
 Shakespeare's language 54–8  
*shall* 206–7  
 shared context 201  
 Sierra Leone 185  
 Singapore 4, 119–20, 244  
 Singaporean English 122–3  
 single world language, a 228  
 Singlish 120, 122
- Sir* 211–12  
 Six Counties, the 147  
 slave trade, the 76, 183  
 smileys in e-communication 219, 221  
 social variation 128  
 Somerset 73, 133–4  
 South Africa 3, 111–15, 119, 243  
 South African English 109, 112–15  
 South African Indian English 112  
 South Asian English 117, 226  
 Southern accent 81–2, 171  
 Southern American accent 81, 171  
 Southern drawl 81  
 Southern Hemisphere Chain Shift 109  
 Southland burr, the 109  
 Southron 139  
 Spanglish 244–5  
 Spanish 1, 3, 6, 14, 86–9, 172, 174, 176, 197–8, 211, 227–8, 233, 245–6  
 specification, lack of 202  
 spectrum of usage 199–203  
 spelling pronunciations 193  
 spelling, standard 60–1  
 spelling: differences between American and British English 154–5  
 split infinitive, the 62  
 spoken and written English 199–203  
 spoken language 34, 37, 56, 60–1, 122, 126, 132, 168, 192–3, 200–5, 207, 209, 221, 223, 231, 237–8, 241  
 spontaneous speech 200  
 Sranan 181–2, 184  
 St Louis 241  
 standard British pronunciation 127  
 standard English 43, 46, 55, 116, 120, 123, 134, 141–2, 156, 168–73, 176–7, 179–80, 183–6, 191–7, 199, 204–6, 211, 218, 223, 225–7, 234–5  
 standardization of English 43  
 street signs 229  
 stress-timed pronunciation 116, 177–8, 236  
 subjunctive, the 168, 210  
 substrate languages 183  
 substratum 135, 148, 183  
 subtitles 231  
 suffixes in e-communication 220  
 Suriname 181–3  
 surnames 212  
 Swahili 66, 232

- Sweden 231  
 Swedish 14, 19, 21, 24, 137, 141, 231, 233  
 Switzerland 225  
 syllable-timed pronunciation 116, 177–8, 236
- tag questions 136, 204, 237  
 Tagalog 120–1, 245  
 Tamil 120  
 Tangier Island 73  
 Tanzania 4, 116  
 tapped *r* 96, 133, 144, 163  
 teaching of English 6, 67, 127, 170, 193, 231, 233–4  
 technical terms 199  
 technological revolution, the 227  
 technology 5, 7, 85, 114, 161, 230–1, 242, 245  
 teenagers, language of 237  
 telecommunications 229  
 telephone conversation 200  
 text messaging in e-communication 220–1  
 textspeak in e-communication 221  
 Thames estuary, the 130  
 Thanksgiving Day 77  
*thee*, personal pronoun 55, 133  
 thirteen original states (of the US), the 73, 79–80, 83, 88–9, 98  
*thou*, personal pronoun 55, 133, 168, 211  
 three concentric circles diagram 2  
 Tobago 185  
 Tok Pisin 187–8, 223, 232  
 Toronto 96  
 translation 23, 47, 58–9, 233, 242  
 transnational corporations (TNCs) 229  
 travel 230–1  
 trilled *r* 143, 163  
 Trinbagonian 185  
 Trinidad 185  
 TV series 230  
 Tyneside 133
- Ullans 147  
 Ulster 147  
 Ulster Scots 147, 223  
 unisex names 213  
 United Kingdom, the 3, 15, 139, 146–7  
 United States history, some milestones 88  
 United States, the 3, 6–7, 38, 71–2, 75–90, 152–73, 239–41  
 Urdu 117  
 USA, *the* 85
- variety in usage 195–6  
 verb contractions 208, 210  
 vernacular English 122–3, 134–5, 156, 225  
 Viking age, the 22–6  
 Vikings in Ireland 145  
 Vikings in Scotland 137  
 Virginia 73, 76  
 vocabulary: differences between American and British English 152–3, 159–63  
 vocatives 202, 211–14  
 voiced tap 96, 164  
 voiceless *l* in Wales 136  
 Vulgar Latin 35, 223–24
- Wales 15–16, 18–19, 128, 133, 135–6, 147, 185  
*Waltzing Matilda* 102–3  
*wanna* 207  
*want to* 207  
 War of Independence, the 88  
 Welsh 14–15, 18–19, 100, 135–6, 138, 233  
 Welsh English 128, 136, 226  
 Welsh place-names 136  
 Wessex 23–4, 27  
 West Africa 232  
 West African English 116, 178  
 West African languages 170  
 West African Pidgin English (WAPE) 185, 232  
 West Country, the (UK) 124, 128, 132–4, 144, 149, 164  
 West Indies, the 3, 174, 185  
 Western Isles, the 140  
 word-formation 66  
 word-order 36, 38, 62, 136, 178  
 World English 5, 143, 152, 156, 225–6, 235, 242  
 World Spoken Standard English (WSSE) 227  
 World Standard English (WSE) 156, 194–5, 223, 225–6  
 World Wide Web, the 219  
 written and spoken English 199–203

written language 34, 46, 48, 60–2,  
126, 156, 167, 193, 199–203, 207–10,  
219, 221

*Yankee* 83

Yiddish 90

yod-dropping 164

York 19, 36

Yorkshire 112, 132–3

*you all, y'all* 168–9, 186

*you guys* 74, 169, 214

*yous, youse* 169, 186

Zulu 112, 243