

EXAM GRADE DISTRIBUTION

Numbers on the inside cover of exam book: 1 st number = multiple choice, max. 90 pts 2 nd number = essay, max. 10 pts 3 rd number = extra credit definitions, max. 8 pts 4 th number = Total score with letter grade	GRADE DISTRIBUTION A = 09 B = 10 C = 02 D = 00 F = 02 Total # exams = 23 Highest exam score = 99
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ASSIGNMENT #2 Due Today

FOCUS:
Documenting the Spread of a Cultural Phenomena
 Late penalty assessed:
 5 pts from 100 which equals one letter grade on a +/- scale

Linear and temporal movement of cultural phenomena.
 1. Hearth
 2. Means/routes of transmission
 3. Resultant distribution

What did you find?

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GEOG 247 Cultural Geography

The Geography of Language

Part 1

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1

What was the title of that last slide?

Lu'um le t'aano' !

<<Yucatan Maya

Yeh. LOL. How's that said again?

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Die Geographie der Sprache • Geografi af sprog • Geografin i språk • La géographie de la langue • La geografia della lingua • La geografía de la lengua • A geografia da lingua • Kalba geografija • Daearyddiaeth iaith • Geografi bahasa • Geografia języka • Geografija jezika 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 地理的語言 • 언어의 지리 • География языка • Η γεωγραφία της γλώσσας • הגאוגרפיה של השפה • भाषा का भूगोल • Dja lý ngôn ngữ • Dil coğrafyası • التوزيع الجغرافي للغة • جغرافيا زبان • زبان کا جغرافیہ • ภูมิภาคศาสตร์ของภาษา
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The Geography of Language

http://www.bing.com/translator

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Language

❖ **A mutually agreed-on** (comprehensible) **organized system of communication that has a spoken** (sound) **and usually, a written** (visual) **expression.**

✓ **Most important medium by which culture is transmitted.**

- About 7000 languages are spoken worldwide.
- However, **many languages are disappearing.**

➢ National Geographic article: "Vanishing Languages"
<http://ngm.nationalgeographic.com/2012/07/vanishing-languages/rmer-text>

❖ **Written language** came about well after spoken language was established and is believed to coincide with the shift from hunter-gather to agrarian society when there was a need to count one's property.

Includes pictographs, cuneiforms, hieroglyphs.

And even maps!

➢ A history of writing is at <http://www.historyworld.net/wrldhis/PlainTextHistories.asp?historyid=ab33>

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World Linguistic Culture Regions

LANGUAGES

Sino-Tibetan Family

- Chinese
- Tibeto-Burman

Altaic Family

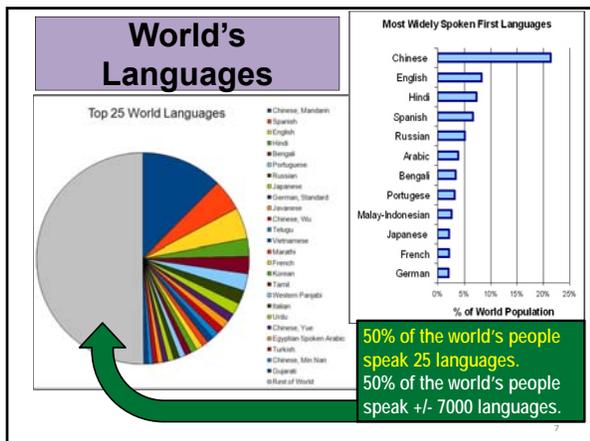
- Turkic
- Mongolic

Other Language Families

- Indo-European
- Uralic
- Dravidian
- Other Indo-European
- Other Families

1 = Indo-European
2 = Sino-Tibetan
3 = Afro-Asiatic
4 = Austric
5 = Uralic
6 = Dravidian
7 = Other Indo-European
8 = Other Families

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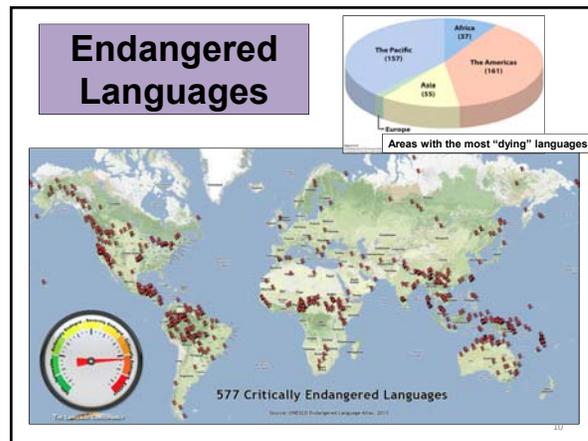
Leading Languages in Native Speakers

TABLE 4.1

Language	Family	Speakers (in millions)	Distribution Main Areas Where Spoken
Chinese (all dialects)	Sino-Tibetan	1,213	China, Taiwan, Singapore
Spanish	Indo-European	329	Spain, Latin America, southwestern United States
English	Indo-European	328	British Isles, Anglo-America, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Philippines, former British colonies in tropical Asia and Africa
Arabic (all dialects)	Afro-Asiatic	221	Middle East, North Africa
Hindi, Urdu	Indo-European	182	Northern India, Pakistan
Bengali	Indo-European	181	Bangladesh, eastern India
Portuguese	Indo-European	178	Portugal, Brazil, southern Africa
Russian	Indo-European	144	Russia, Kazakhstan, parts of Ukraine, other former Soviet republics
Japanese	Japanese and Korean	122	Japan
German (standard)	Indo-European	90	Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Luxembourg, eastern France, northern Italy

*Native speakers means the language is their mother tongue.
(Source: Lewis, M. Paul [ed.], 2009. Ethnologue: Languages of the World, 16th ed. Dallas, TX: SIL International. Online version: <http://www.ethnologue.com/>)

Table 4.1
Fundamentals of the Human Mind, Second Edition
© 2014 W. H. Freeman and Company



Language Development

- ❖ Language was originally connected to a specific place on earth which provided context for sounds.
- Depending on the influences of the physical setting and the focus on local conditions, language became a filter to understanding a situation and conveying it to others.
 - The Inuit (North America) have 53 words for just snow.
 - The Sami (Scandinavia) have c. 1000 words about reindeer.
- When the mobility and spatial interaction of people was limited, unique languages developed within small areas
- Today, variety and uniqueness still exists in isolated areas but the speakers are small in number and areal coverage small.

Language Trends

- ❖ Three cultural trends have been identified in the study of the geography of languages:
 1. Emergence of distinct linguistic geographies (distribution pattern) as languages grow and develop in specific communities in particular places.
 2. Replacement of local languages by other languages because of population mobility and interaction, social change, and political influences (as national identity or colonial domination).
 3. Globalization has created the desire/need to communicate easily with others: world languages or languages of convenience as English, Spanish, French and now Chinese (once Russian).

Language Family

❖ **Language or linguistic family is a group of languages thought to have descended from a common ancestral tongue (hearth).**

- **Subfamilies exist within any language family.**

EXAMPLE:
Indo-European Language Family

- Spoken by about ½ the world's peoples
- The Romance languages and the Germanic languages are subgroups within the family.

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Linguistic Family Tree

The main stem of the **Proto-Indo-European** branch of the linguistic family tree produced offshoots that became one of 10 major language groups within the family as Indic, Greek, Romance, or Germanic.

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World Distribution of Language Families

PRINCIPAL GROUPS

- **Indo-European** (English, Romance langs.)
- **Sino-Tibetan** (Mandarin Chinese)
- **Afro-Asiatic** (Arabic, Hebrew)
- **Niger-Congo** (Bantu)
- **Altaic** (Turkic)
- **Uralic** (Finnish, Hungarian)
- **Japanese/Korean**
- **Austro-Asiatic** (Cambodian, Thai, Vietnamese)
- **Austronesian** (Malayo-Polynesian, Papuan)

Map shows distribution of speakers without regard for political borders.

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Origin and Diffusion of Eastern Hemisphere Language Families

FOUR EASTERN HEMISPHERE GROUPS

- **Indo-European** (English; the Romance languages)
- **Afro-Asiatic** (Arabic; Hebrew)
- **Austronesian** (Malayo-Polynesian; Papuan)
- **Niger-Congo** (Bantu)

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Austronesian Diffusion via Voyages to Outlying Islands

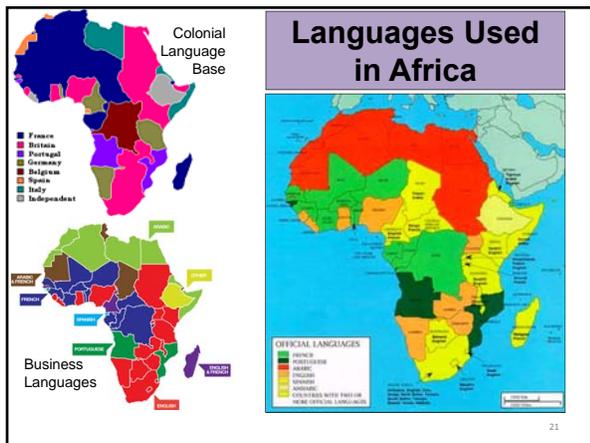
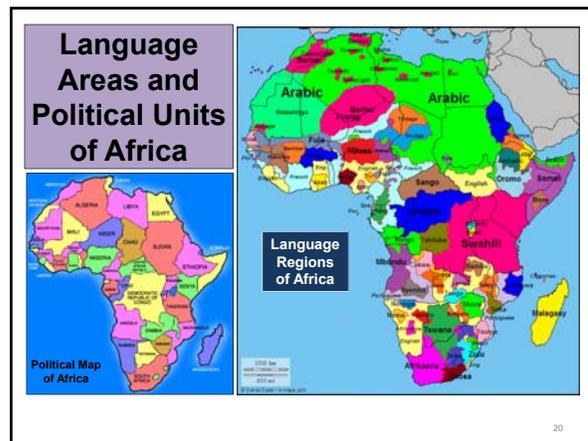
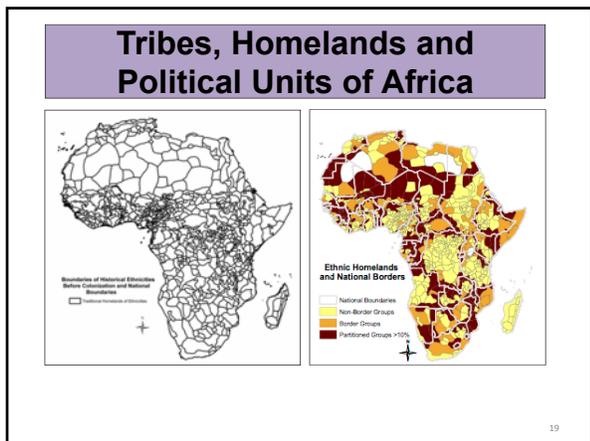
Tonga is the hearth

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Language Families in Africa

Extent of language families and their major subgroups found in Africa today.

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Multilingual States

❖ **Multilingual state:** political unit where two or more languages are recognized as "official" and are used in all legal proceedings and/or where people communicate in multiple languages for convenience.

➤ **Difficulties may arise at the boundary between majority-speaking language groups.**

- In Europe the boundary between the Romance and Germanic language regions runs through Belgium and Switzerland.
- Belgium has had more difficulty than Switzerland in reconciling the interests of the different speakers.

Government of Canada / Gouvernement du Canada

Canada Employment Centre / Centre d'Emploi du Canada

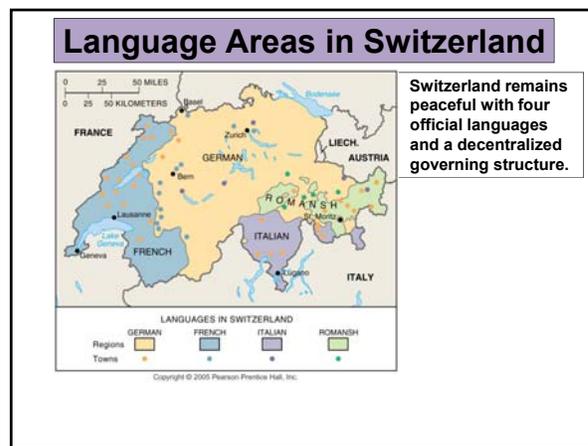
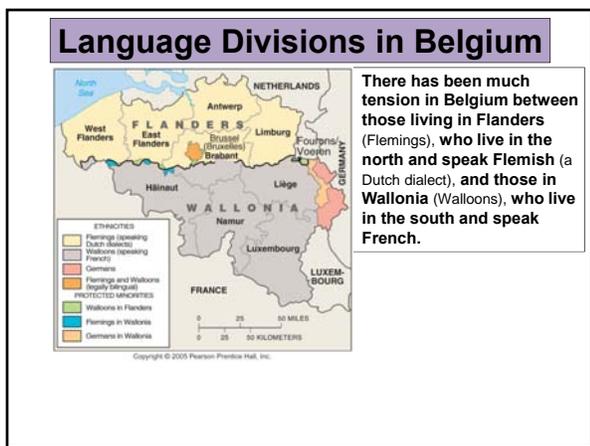
Passport Office / Bureau des passeports

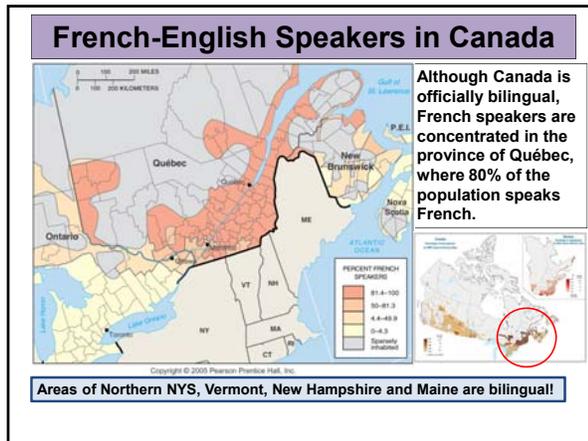
Parliamo francese / On parle allemand / Wir sprechen englisch / We speak italian

English Spoken Here

English / Español / Italiano / Português / Deutsch / 中文 / Français

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_multilingual_countries_and_regions





Language Diffusion and Change

- ✓ **Language spreads through dispersion of speakers** or with acquisition of new speakers (*diffusion/acclturation*).
- ✓ **The location of language speakers may give rise to mutually unintelligible tongues** through segregation and isolation of groups of people (*diffusion barriers*).
- ✓ **Language evolves:** it may be gradual/cumulative or it may be massive/abrupt (*acculturation: borrowing words and phrases from other languages*).
- ✓ **Language may be monitored to maintain purity.** (L'Académie Française has set an official standard of French language purity since the mid-1600s.)