

## EXAM GRADE DISTRIBUTION

<b>Numbers on the inside cover of exam book:</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> number = multiple choice, max. 90 pts 2 <sup>nd</sup> number = essay, max. 10 pts 3 <sup>rd</sup> number = extra credit definitions, max. 8 pts 4 <sup>th</sup> number = Total score with letter grade	<b>GRADE DISTRIBUTION</b> 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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### 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"> <li>• Die Geographie der Sprache</li> <li>• Geografi af sprog</li> <li>• Geografin i språk</li> <li>• La géographie de la langue</li> <li>• La geografia della lingua</li> <li>• La geografía de la lengua</li> <li>• A geografia da lingua</li> <li>• Kalba geografija</li> <li>• Daearyddiaeth iaith</li> <li>• Geografi bahasa</li> <li>• Geografia języka</li> <li>• Geografija jezika</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 地理的語言</li> <li>• 언어의 지리</li> <li>• География языка</li> <li>• Η γεωγραφία της γλώσσας</li> <li>• הגאוגרפיה של השפה</li> <li>• भाषा का भूगोल</li> <li>• Dja lý ngôn ngữ</li> <li>• Dil coğrafyası</li> <li>• التوزيع الجغرافي للغة</li> <li>• جغرافيا زبان</li> <li>• زبان کا جغرافیہ</li> <li>• ภูมิภาคศาสตร์ของภาษา</li> </ul>
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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
- Sino-Tibetan

**Altaic Family**

- Korean
- Japanese

**Other Language Families**

- Indo-European
- Niger-Congo Family
- Austronesian Family
- South-Asian
- African Family
- Amerindian Family
- Other Families

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## 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.

## 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.

**Figure 4.2**  
Fundamentals of The Human Mind, Second Edition  
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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.

## 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)

**Figure 4.7**  
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## Austronesian Diffusion via Voyages to Outlying Islands

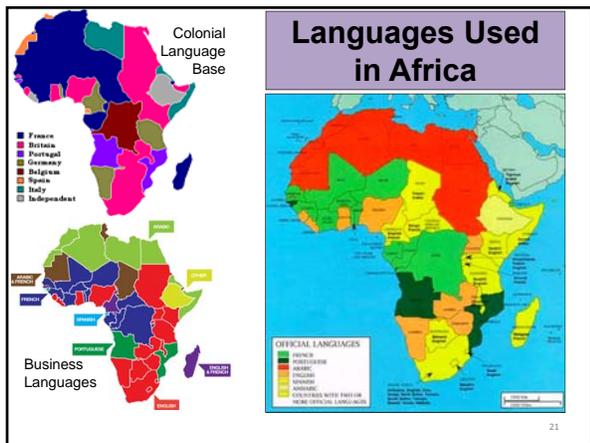
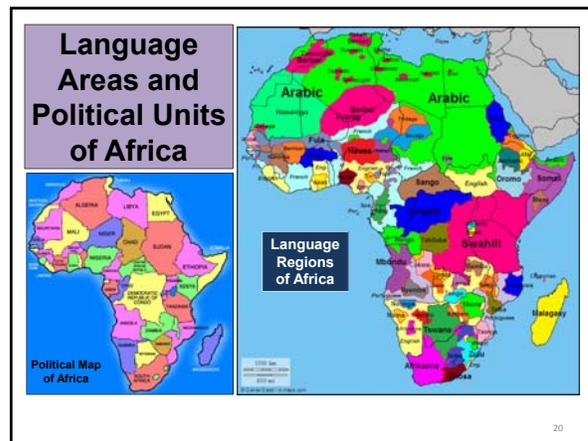
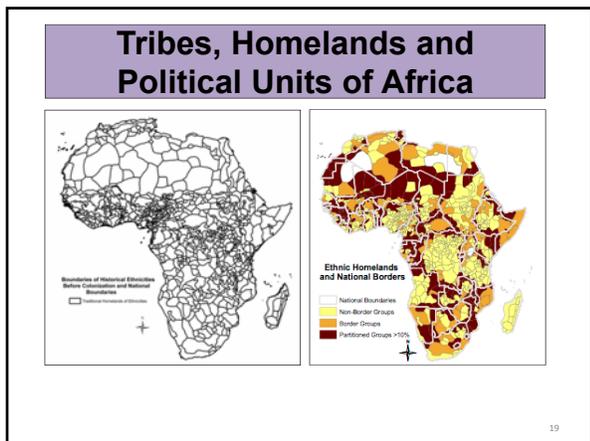
**Tonga is the hearth**

## Language Families in Africa

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

**LANGUAGES OF AFRICA Family Groupings**

- 1. **INDO-EUROPEAN FAMILY**
  - 1A Germanic Subfamily
  - 1B Romance Subfamily
- 2. **AFRO-ASIATIC FAMILY**
  - 2A Semitic Subfamily
  - 2B Berber Subfamily
  - 2C Cushitic Subfamily
- 3. **NIGER CONGO FAMILY**
  - 3A Atlantic Subfamily
  - 3B Voltaic Subfamily
  - 3C Goida Subfamily
  - 3D Mande Subfamily
  - 3E Senegalo-Gambian Subfamily
- 4. **SAHARAN FAMILY**
- 5. **SUDANIC FAMILY**
  - 5A Central and Eastern Subfamily
  - 5B Nilotic Subfamily
- 6. **KHOISAN FAMILY**
- 7. **MALAY-POLYNESIAN FAMILY**
  - 7A Indonesian Subfamily



### 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

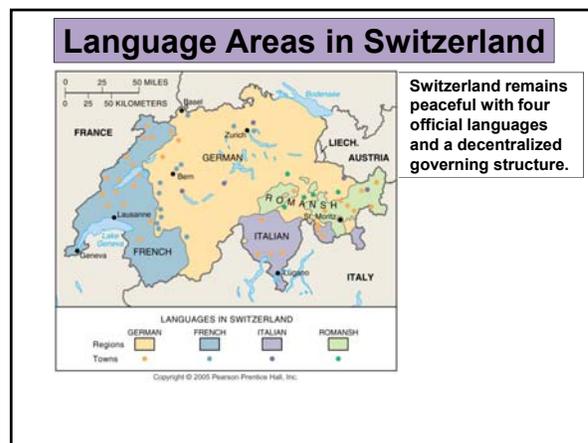
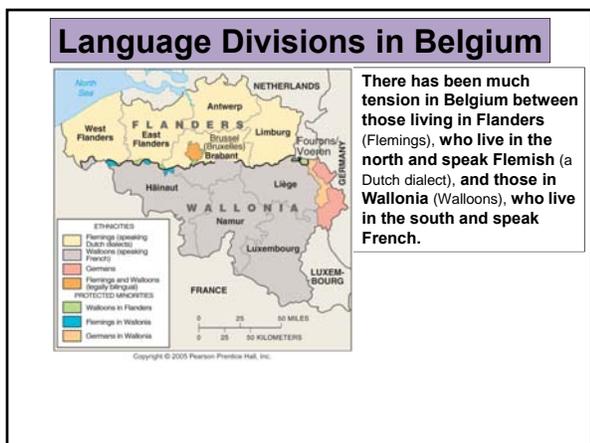
Canada Employment Centre / Centre d'Emploi du Canada

Passport Office / Bureau des passeports

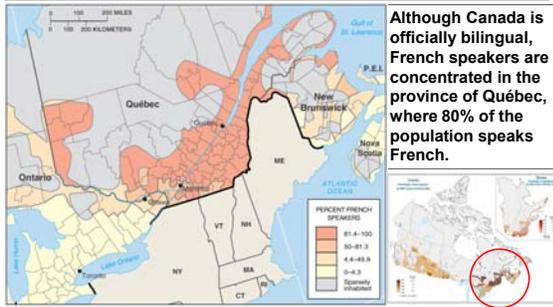
Parliamo francese / On parle allemand / Wir sprechen englisch / We speak italian

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

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_multilingual\\_countries\\_and\\_regions](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_multilingual_countries_and_regions)



## French-English Speakers in Canada



Areas of Northern NYS, Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine are bilingual!

## 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 (*acclturation: 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.)

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