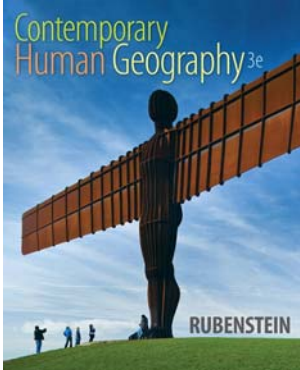


Chapter 5 Lecture



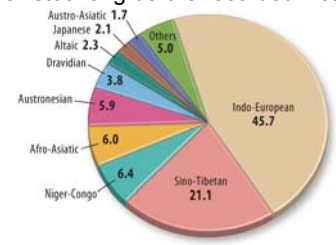
Contemporary Human Geography 3rd Edition

Chapter 5: Languages

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5.1 Classifying Language

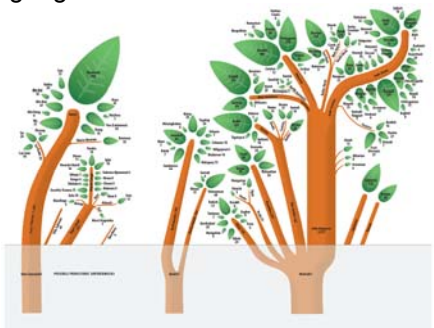
- Language
 - A **language family** is a collection of languages related through a common ancestral language that existed long before recorded history.



Language Family	Percentage
Indo-European	45.7
Sino-Tibetan	21.1
Niger-Congo	6.4
Afro-Asiatic	6.0
Austronesian	5.9
Others	5.0
Dravidian	3.8
Altaic	2.3
Japanese	2.1
Austro-Asiatic	1.7

5.1 Classifying Language

- Language



5.1 Classifying Language

- Language
 - A **language branch** is a collection of languages within a family related through a common ancestral language that existed several thousand years ago.
 - Differences are not as extensive or as old as between language families, and archaeological evidence can confirm that the branches derived from the same family.

5.1 Classifying Language

- Language
 - A **language group** is a collection of languages within a branch that share a common origin in the relatively recent past and display many similarities in grammar and vocabulary.

5.2 Distribution of Language Families

– Thirteen language families have at least 9 million native speakers.



5.2 Distribution of Language Families

- Many languages have a **literary tradition**, or a system of written communication.
- Most written languages use one of four principal writing systems.



5.3 Distribution of Indo-European Languages

- Indo-European is divided into eight branches. Four branches are spoken by large numbers, while the other four are used less extensively.

5.3 Distribution of Indo-European Languages



5.4 Origin & Diffusion of Languages

- Origin and Diffusion of English
 - Celtic tribes around 2000 B.C.
 - Only a few words in modern English can be traced to the Celts, such as *basket* and *flannel*.
 - Angles, Saxons, and Jutes around A.D. 450
 - Germanic tribes from Denmark and Northern Germany pushed the Celts to remote areas and contributed around one-fourth of the words in modern English.

5.4 Origin & Diffusion of Languages

- Origin and Diffusion of English

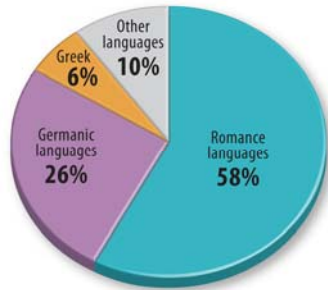


5.4 Origin & Diffusion of Languages

- Origin and Diffusion of English
 - Vikings between 787 and 1171
 - Although unable to conquer Britain, Vikings remaining in the country contributed many words from their language, such as *call*, *die*, and *leg*.
 - Normans in 1066
 - Normans established French as the official language for the 300 years after the Norman invasion.
 - Romance languages contribute more than one-half of the words in English, either directly through French or through Latin.

5.4 Origin & Diffusion of Languages

- Origin and Diffusion of English

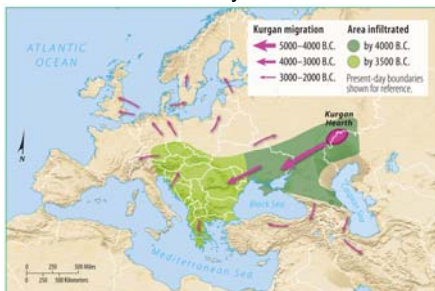


5.4 Origin & Diffusion of Languages

- Origin and Diffusion of Indo-European
 - Linguists and anthropologists disagree on when and where Proto-Indo-European originated and the process and routes by which it diffused.

5.4 Origin & Diffusion of Languages

- Origin and Diffusion of Indo-European
 - Nomadic Warrior Theory



5.4 Origin & Diffusion of Languages

- Origin and Diffusion of Indo-European
 - Sedentary Farmer Theory



5.5 Distribution of Dialects

- Dialects in the United States
 - The national diffusion of distinctive dialects is a result of the westward movement of colonists from the three East Coast dialect regions.
 - These have been joined by a fourth that developed in the West.

5.5 Distribution of Dialects

- Dialects in the United States



5.5 Distribution of Dialects

- Dialects in the United Kingdom
 - Regional dialects in the United Kingdom are a legacy of the invasion of groups from Northern Europe that settled in different parts of Britain.



5.5 Distribution of Dialects

- Dialects in the United Kingdom
 - U.S. English differs from U.K. English in three significant ways:
 - Vocabulary
 - Spelling
 - Pronunciation

5.6 Dialect or Language

- Dialects Become Languages
 - The Romance languages we know today as French, Spanish, and Portuguese began as dialects of Latin (“Roman’s Language”).

5.6 Dialect or Language

- Standardizing Dialects of a Language
 - Spanish
 - The Spanish Royal Academy, housed in a mansion in Spain's capital, Madrid, tries to promote a single standard language.
 - Portuguese
 - A 1994 agreement standardized the way that Portuguese is written. Many people in Portugal were upset that the new standard language more closely resembled the Brazilian version.

5.6 Dialect or Language

- Romance Language Examples
 - Creole languages
 - A **creole** is a language that results from the mixing of a colonizer's language with an indigenous language. French Creole in Haiti is an example.
 - Italy's languages
 - Several languages in Italy that have been traditionally considered dialects of Italian are now viewed by *Ethnologue* as sufficiently different to merit classification as languages distinct from Italian.

5.6 Dialect or Language

- Romance Language Examples
 - Catalán
 - Once regarded as a dialect of Spanish, Catalán is now classified as a distinct language.
 - Valencian
 - Currently classified as a dialect, but its speakers clamor to have it recognized as a distinct language.
 - Galician
 - Many of its speakers would prefer to consider it a dialect of Portuguese, one of the world's most widely used languages.

5.7 Multilingual Places

- Switzerland: Institutionalized Diversity
 - The Swiss have institutionalized cultural diversity by giving considerable power to small communities.

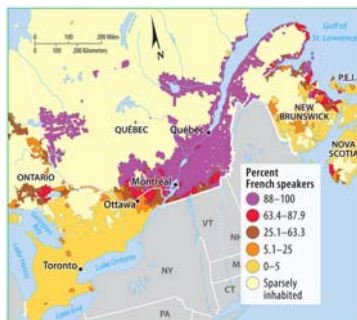


5.7 Multilingual Places

- Canada: Bilingual Autonomy
 - French is one of Canada's two official languages, along with English.
 - French speakers comprise one-fourth of the country's population and are clustered in Québec.
 - Confrontation has been replaced in Québec by increased cooperation between French and English speakers.

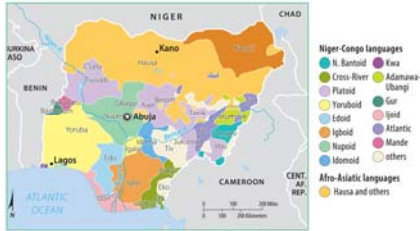
5.7 Multilingual Places

- Canada: Bilingual Autonomy



5.7 Multilingual Places

- Nigeria: Spatial Compromise
 - To reduce regional tensions, Nigeria moved the capital from Lagos Abuja in the center of the country, where no language predominates.



5.7 Multilingual Places

- Belgium: Barely Speaking
 - Southern Belgians (Walloons) speak French, whereas northern Belgians (Flemings) speak Flemish, a dialect of Dutch.
 - Each group controls an autonomous region.
 - The Flemish want independence, which would make Flanders one of Europe's richest countries and Wallonia one of the poorest.

5.7 Multilingual Places

- Belgium: Barely Speaking



5.8 Isolated & Extinct Languages

- Endangered and Extinct Languages
 - Of the 7,105 living languages it identifies, *Ethnologue* classifies 906 of them as dying and 1,481 as in trouble.
 - An **extinct language** was once used by people in daily activities but is no longer in use.
 - The loss of many languages is a reflection of globalization.

5.8 Isolated & Extinct Languages

- Endangered and Extinct Languages



5.8 Isolated & Extinct Languages

- Isolated Languages
 - An **isolated language** is a language unrelated to any other and therefore not attached to any language family.



5.9 Preserving Lesser-Used Languages

- Preserving Languages
 - Welsh
 - Welsh was the dominant language of Wales until the nineteenth century, when many English speakers migrated there.
 - To help preserve the language, Welsh is a required school subject, road signs are in Welsh, and Welsh-language TV and radio programs are broadcast.

5.9 Preserving Lesser-Used Languages

- Preserving Languages
 - Irish
 - Irish Gaelic is an official language of the Republic of Ireland, along with English.
 - English was imposed when the country was a colony of the United Kingdom.
 - Irish is now preserved in schools, signs, and broadcast media, like Welsh.

5.9 Preserving Lesser-Used Languages

- Preserving Languages
 - Breton
 - In Brittany around 225,000 people speak Breton regularly.
 - Breton is not recognized as an official language in France, however.

5.9 Preserving Lesser-Used Languages

- Preserving Languages
 - Scottish
 - Around 100,000 people speak Scottish Gaelic.
 - Cornish
 - Cornish became extinct in 1777, and the language was revived in the 1920s, but only a few hundred people are fluent.

5.9 Preserving Lesser-Used Languages

- Reviving Languages
 - Hebrew
 - The language of daily activity in biblical times, Hebrew diminished in use in the fourth century B.C. and was thereafter retained primarily for Jewish religious services.
 - When Israel was established as an independent country in 1948, Hebrew became one of the new country's two official languages, along with Arabic.

5.9 Preserving Lesser-Used Languages

- Reviving Languages
 - Myaamia
 - No one has spoken this as a first language, the language of the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma, since the 1960s.
 - Daryl Baldwin, a Tribe member, became fluent in the language and is teaching it to his children as their first language.
 - An online dictionary has been created to aid in the language's revival.

5.9 Preserving Lesser-Used Languages

- Reviving Languages
 - Myaamia



5.9 Preserving Lesser-Used Languages

- New Languages
 - Isolated languages continue to be identified and documented, and entirely new ones are invented.
 - For example, Koro Aka, a Sino-Tibetan language of Northeastern India, was discovered in 2008.

5.10 Diffusion of English

- Lingua Franca
 - A **lingua franca** is a language mutually understood and commonly used to communicate by people who have different native languages.
 - The leading lingua franca in the contemporary world is English, and others include Swahili, Hindi, Indonesian, and Chinese.
 - A **pidgin language** adopts a simplified grammar and limited vocabulary of a lingua franca.

5.10 Diffusion of English

- Diffusion of English into Other Languages
 - **Franglais**—a mix of French and English
 - **Spanglish**—a mix of Spanish and English
 - **Denglish**—a mix of German (Deutsch) and English

5.10 Diffusion of English

- Chinese: The Next Lingua Franca?
 - By 2020, Chinese is expected to replace English as the most common online language and to become the most important language of social media.
 - Rather than sounds (as in English), Chinese languages are written primarily with **logograms**, which are symbols that represent words or meaningful parts of words.

5.10 Diffusion of English

- Global Distribution of English
 - The current distribution of English exists because of the history of British and contemporary American influence.

