## HOW ENGLISH BECAME GLOBAL LANGUAGE?

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Abstract: Globally, English is the most popular language, spoken in almost all countries. According to the statistics, nearly half of the world's population is well-versed in this language. It is proved by many native and non-native speakers that English is an efficient language worldwide. We can see a strong link between dominance and cultural power in languages. English, as a language, became famous because of its power base, whether political, economic or military. English language derivation occurred from German, Latin, and other European languages. Due to this, Europeans don't consider English a complex language to learn. Also, according to linguists, English became a global language due to its simplicity.

**Key words:** Global language, linguistics, second language, globalization, cultural power, dominance, non-native speakers, universal language, Anglo-Saxon, Old English.

#### INTRODUCTION

## **English as a global language:**

English is the most helpful language globally, and its "universal language" status proves that fact. Learning anything new can be time-consuming. However, irrespective of where you come from, learning English will open an array of opportunities for you. It's always good to learn a new language. English is the business language, so learning English will make the road ahead more accessible for you if you want to start a business. We can safely say that learning English will add value to your life with all that in mind. Globally, English has the most speakers who speak it either as a first or second language.

# The origin of English language:

English has played an important role in world history, and its influence can be seen in many different aspects of society. This can be seen particularly in the field of business, where English is often the language of choice for conducting international transactions. English language came from England. Experts believe the language originated from nomads, people who travel from place to place without a specific home. These nomads are believed to have travelled amongst the European plains about

5,000 years ago.<sup>1</sup> Their dialect was called Proto-Indo-European, and its speakers were located in south-eastern Europe north of the Black Sea. Over time, Proto-Indo-European morphed into the ancient variations of Latin, Greek, and German. Latin changed into Spanish, French, and Italian. Ancient German evolved to become Dutch, Danish, German, Norwegian, Swedish, and eventually English. Moving past this debate, the Angles, Saxons, and Jutes eventually mixed within themselves. Out of this blending, the language began to form into what is known today at "Anglo-Saxon" or "Old English.<sup>2</sup>

## **DISCUSSIONS**

The English language ultimately spread its influence outside of England. Mainly with the English's immigration, the language travelled as an unknown stowaway, ready to make its presence known once unpacked in the new world. One in five people or about 20% of the world speaks English, breaking down to nearly 1.5 billion people worldwide and over 50 countries listing English as their official language. With 6,500 languages spoken globally, Harvard Business Review declares English as the language of business. As we all know, English is known as the universal or global language. English is the most commonly spoken language in the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, Ireland and New Zealand, and a widely spoken language in countries in the Caribbean, Africa, and South Asia.<sup>3</sup>

English is the official language in 70 countries. It is the third most common native language in the world, after Mandarin and Spanish, and it is the most spoken language worldwide. But, why is English considered universal? Modern English, described as the first world language, is regarded as the first global lingua Franca (ELF).<sup>4</sup> That is, English is used as a bridge in order to achieve an effective communication between two people of different native languages. For example, a Spanish speaker could meet a French person in Brazil, and they can use English as a means to Interact. Besides, English is the 'business language'. For example if a company is dealing with a foreign company with a different mother tongue, they will use English, the universal language to communicate to each other. English is the world's most widely used language in newspaper publishing, book Publishing, literature, international telecommunications, scientific publishing, international trade, and diplomacy. Most of the countries' official documents are written in English. A working knowledge of English has become a requirement in a number of occupations and professions such as medicine and computing, for instance. Another important

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Pennycook, A. (2010). Language as a local practice. New York, NY: Routledge.



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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Shermamatova., & Yusupova, S. (2023). HISTORY OF LANGUAGES BETWEEN ENGLISH AND UZBEK COUNTRIES. Oriental renaissance: Innovative, educational, natural and social sciences, 3(4), 310-317.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Crystal, D. (2003). English as a global language (2nd ed.). Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Benetton, J. H. (1944). English as a world language. In J. E. Johnson (Ed.), Basic English (pp. 99-102). New York, NY: The H. W. Wilson.

reason for English to be global is because this language is spoken in the most powerful influential country in the world: the United States of America. Although in most countries English is not an official language, it is currently the language most taught as a foreign language, from primary school to a doctorate.<sup>5</sup>

English is the most studied language all across the world, and as per the statistics, the English language is one of the easiest languages to learn, if we compare it with languages like Chinese, German, French and even Spanish. It is worth to remind that in Colombia, English is conceived as a foreign language (EFL), and Not as a second language (ESL), since it is not official. The global language, like any other, is composed of four language skills: speaking and writing (production), and listening and Reading (comprehension). If you want to have a successful professional life and better job opportunities, you should try to improve these abilities in order to master the English language. These are some tips to achieve to improve: a. Your speaking: find native English speakers, listen to music in English, slow down, record yourself, take different style classes, speak English at home, and create opportunities to speak; b. Your listening: Know why it is difficult, talk, watch TV, movies, podcasts, and anything in English, and listen to English music as well; c. Your writing: write whatever you want, get it checked, add phrases to your vocabulary, do not forget the small stuff, utilize the internet, and always correct your writing.

### **CONCLUSION**

As we discussed above, English is very important. Because English is the global language in the world of work is needed at all in English language to interact every day. What we have seen in this course is that the English language is and always has been a diverse entity. It has changed dramatically over the centuries since it first arrived on the shores of Britain from the north of Europe, and these changes mean that the language that was spoken at that time is almost incomprehensible to us now. As the language has spread beyond Britain it has continued to change, and to change in different ways in different contexts. It has diversified to such an extent that some scholars suggest that it is no longer accurate to talk of a single 'English'; that instead there are many different English languages around the world today. English has become the global language because it has the ability to connect people from all corners of the world. When it comes to language, the world is changing. English has quickly become the global language of business, travel, and communication, and its importance is only expected to grow in the years to come.

All in all, English will continue to play an important role, increasingly doing so alongside other languages to provide rich linguistic opportunities for learners all over

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Saraceni, M. (2009). Relocating English: Towards a new paradigm for English in the world. Language and Intercultural Communication, 9, 175-186.



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the world. It is the global language of communication and is likely to retain this position for the next decade and beyond.

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