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Ch. 6

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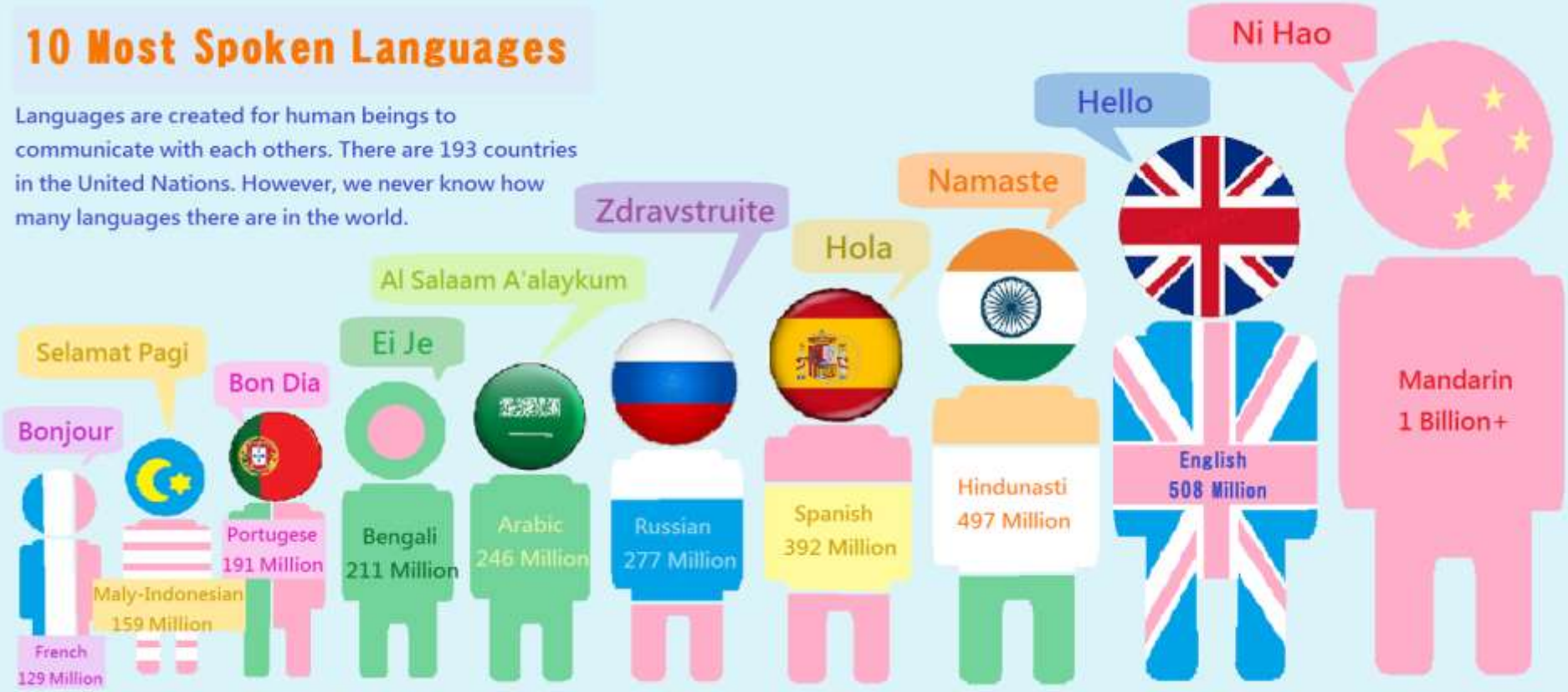
- Language as a foundation of culture
- Language
  - Language families
  - Dialects
  - Divergence
  - Convergence
- Diffusion of Language
- Linguistic Diversity
- Roots of Language
- Disappearance of Language
  - Endangered, extinct
- Spatial Interactions
  - Lingua Franca, Pidgin, Creole

- A system of communication through speech, a collection of sounds that a group of people understands to have the same meaning.
- Many countries designate at least one *official language* to be used for official documents & public objects – i.e. road signs & money.
- Organized into:
  - Families – collection related through common ancestral language
  - Branches – collection within a family.
  - Groups – collection within a branch that share common origin in the relatively recent past. Display similar grammar & vocabulary

10 Most Spoken Languages

Languages are created for human beings to communicate with each others. There are 193 countries in the United Nations. However, we never know how many languages there are in the world.



Sources: 1. http://geography.about.com/cs/countries/a/numbercountries.htm 2. http://listverse.com/2008/06/26/top-10-most-spoken-languages-in-the-world/

World's Leading Languages

About 50% of the planet speaks one of 12 out of the estimated 6000 languages worldwide

TABLE 7-1 The World's Leading Languages and the Number of Speakers of Each (in millions)

Language	Native speakers	Total speakers
Mandarin	885	1,075
Hindi	375	496
Spanish	358	425
English	350	514
Arabic	211	256
Bengali	210	215
Portuguese	178	194
Russian	165	275
Japanese	125	126
German	100	128
French	77	129
Malay-Indonesian	58	176

Note: A native speaker is one for whom the language is his or her first language.

Source: U.S. Department of State

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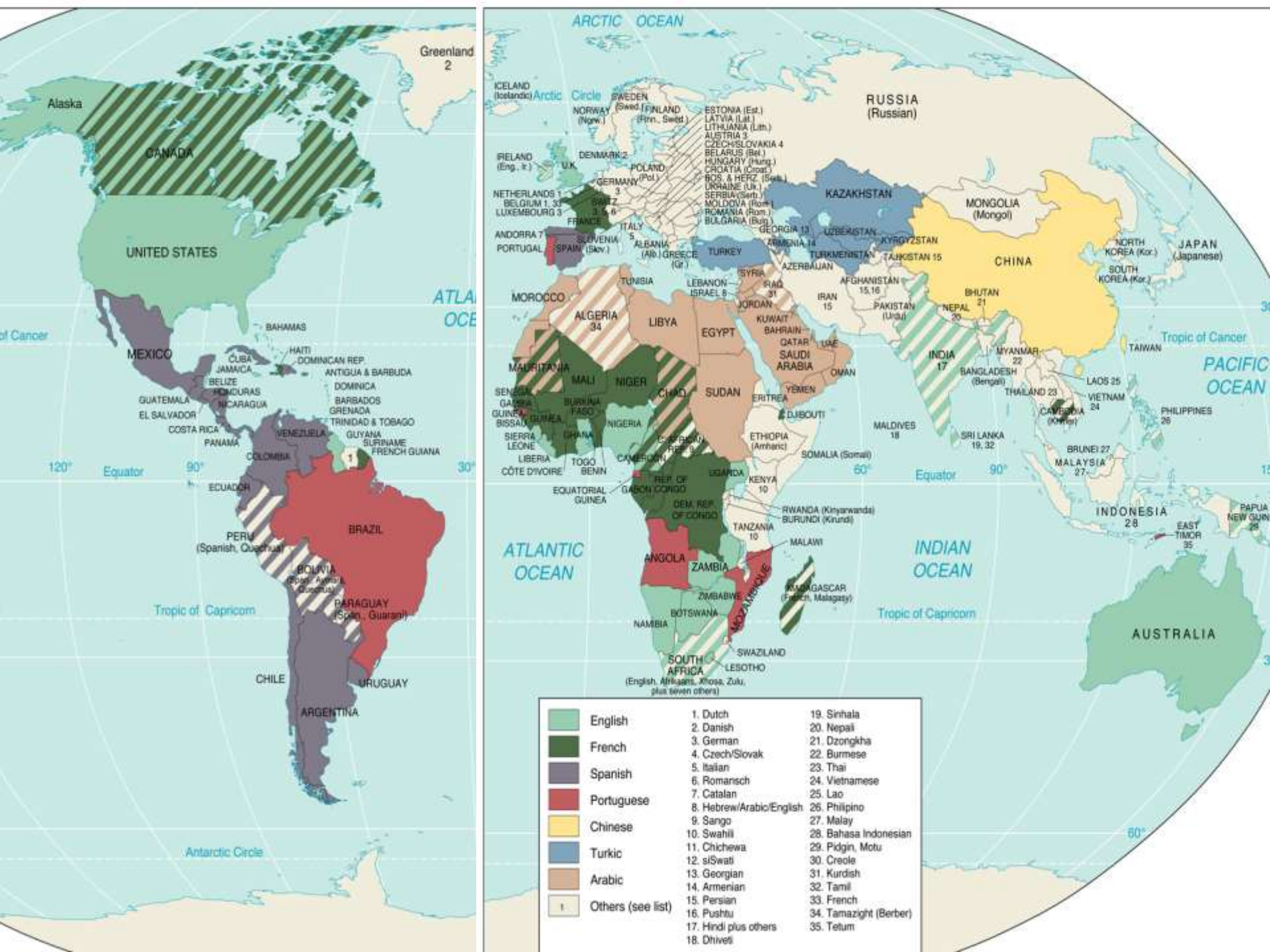

ARCTIC OCEAN
Greenland
2
Alaska
CANADA
UNITED STATES
Arctic Circle
ICELAND (Icelandic)
NORWAY (Norw.)
SWEDEN (Swed.)
FINLAND (Finn., Swed.)
ESTONIA (Est.)
LATVIA (Lat.)
LITHUANIA (Lith.)
AUSTRIA 3
CZECH/SLOVAKIA 4
BELARUS (Bel.)
HUNGARY (Hung.)
CROATIA (Croat.)
BOS. & HERZ. (Serb.)
UKRAINE (Ukr.)
SERBIA (Serb.)
MOLDOVA (Rom.)
ROMANIA (Rom.)
BULGARIA (Bulg.)
RUSSIA (Russian)
IRELAND (Eng., Ir.)
U.K.
DENMARK 2
POLAND (Pol.)
GERMANY 3
NETHERLANDS 1
BELGIUM 1, 33
LUXEMBOURG 3
SWITZ. 3, 4, 6
FRANCE
ITALY 5
ANDORRA 7
PORTUGAL
SPAIN (Sktv.)
SLOVENIA (Sktv.)
ALBANIA (Alb.)
GREECE (Gr.)
TURKEY
KAZAKHSTAN
GEORGIA 13
ARMENIA 14
AZERBAIJAN
UZBEKISTAN
TURKMENISTAN
KYRGYZSTAN
TAJIKISTAN 15
MONGOLIA (Mongol)
CHINA
NORTH KOREA (Kor.)
SOUTH KOREA (Kor.)
JAPAN (Japanese)
SYRIA
LEBANON
ISRAEL 8
IRAQ 31
JORDAN
KUWAIT
BAHRAIN
QATAR
UAE
SAUDI ARABIA
OMAN
YEMEN
IRAN 15
AFGHANISTAN 15,16
PAKISTAN (Urdu)
BHUTAN 21
NEPAL 20
INDIA 17
MYANMAR 22
BANGLADESH (Bengali)
TAIWAN
LAOS 25
THAILAND 23
VIETNAM 24
CAMBODIA (Khmer)
PHILIPPINES 26
BRUNEI 27
MALAYSIA 27
SRI LANKA 19, 32
MALDIVES 18
INDONESIA 28
EAST TIMOR 35
PAPUA NEW GUINEA 29
AUSTRALIA
Tropic of Cancer
Tropic of Capricorn
Equator
120°
90°
60°
30°
PACIFIC OCEAN
ATLANTIC OCEAN
INDIAN OCEAN
Antarctic Circle
MOROCCO
TUNISIA
ALGERIA 34
LIBYA
EGYPT
MAURITANIA
MALI
NIGER
CHAD
SUDAN
ERITREA
DJIBOUTI
ETHIOPIA (Amharic)
SOMALIA (Somali)
SENEGAL
GAMBIA
GUINEA BISSAU
GUINEA
BURKINA FASO
NIGERIA
SIERRA LEONE
LIBERIA
CÔTE D'IVOIRE
GHANA
TOGO
BENIN
CAMEROON
C. AFRICAN REP. 9
EQUATORIAL GUINEA
GABON
REP. OF CONGO
DEM. REP. OF CONGO
UGANDA
KENYA 10
RWANDA (Kinyarwanda)
BURUNDI (Kirundi)
TANZANIA 10
MALAWI
ANGOLA
ZAMBIA
ZIMBABWE
MOZAMBIQUE
MADAGASCAR (French, Malagasy)
BOTSWANA
NAMIBIA
SWAZILAND
LESOTHO
SOUTH AFRICA (English, Afrikaans, Xhosa, Zulu, plus seven others)
BAHAMAS
MEXICO
CUBA
JAMAICA
HAITI
DOMINICAN REP.
ANTIGUA & BARBUDA
DOMINICA
BARBADOS
GRENADA
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
BELIZE
HONDURAS
GUATEMALA
EL SALVADOR
NICARAGUA
COSTA RICA
PANAMA
VENEZUELA
GUYANA
SURINAME
FRENCH GUIANA
COLOMBIA
ECUADOR
PERU (Spanish, Quechua)
BRAZIL
BOLIVIA (Spish, Aymara, Quechua)
PARAGUAY (Spish., Guarani)
CHILE
URUGUAY
ARGENTINA
English
French
Spanish
Portuguese
Chinese
Turkic
Arabic
1 Others (see list)
1. Dutch
2. Danish
3. German
4. Czech/Slovak
5. Italian
6. Romansch
7. Catalan
8. Hebrew/Arabic/English
9. Sango
10. Swahili
11. Chichewa
12. siSwati
13. Georgian
14. Armenian
15. Persian
16. Pushtu
17. Hindi plus others
18. Dhiveti
19. Sinhala
20. Nepali
21. Dzongkha
22. Burmese
23. Thai
24. Vietnamese
25. Lao
26. Philipino
27. Malay
28. Bahasa Indonesian
29. Pidgin, Motu
30. Creole
31. Kurdish
32. Tamil
33. French
34. Tamazight (Berber)
35. Tetum

Geographer's Perspective on Language

- Language is an essential element of culture, possibly the most important medium by which culture is transmitted.
- Languages even structure the perceptions of their speakers. Attitudes, understandings, and responses are partly determined by the words available.
- Languages are a hallmark of cultural diversity with distinctive regional distributions.

Language and Perception - Eskimo Words for Snow

Inuit - 10 Words or more

'ice' sikko

'bare ice' tingenek

'snow (in general)' aput

'snow (like salt)' pukak

'soft deep snow' mauja

'snowdrift' tipvigut

'soft snow' massak

'watery snow' mangokpok

'snow filled with water' massalerauvok

'soft snow' akkilokipok

West Greenlandic - 49 Words

Eskimo Words for Snow

'sea-ice' siku (in plural = drift ice) 'pack-ice/large expanses of ice in motion' sikursuit, pl. (compacted drift ice/ice field = sikut iqimaniri) 'new ice' sikuliaq/sikurlaaq (solid ice cover = nutaaq.) 'thin ice' sikuaq (in plural = thin ice floes) 'rotten (melting) ice floe' sikurluk 'iceberg' iluliaq (ilulisap itsirnga = part of iceberg below waterline) '(piece of) fresh-water ice' nilak 'lumps of ice stranded on the beach' issinnirit, pl. 'glacier' (also ice forming on objects) sirmiq (sirmirsuaq = Inland Ice) 'snow blown in (e.g. doorway)' sullarniq 'rime/hoar-frost' qaqurnak/kanirniq/kaniq 'frost (on inner surface of e.g. window)' iluq 'icy mist' pujurak/pujuq kanirnartuq 'hail' nataqqurnat 'snow (on ground)' aput (aput sisurtuq = avalanche) 'slush (on ground)' aput masannartuq 'snow in air/falling' qaniit (qanik = snowflake) 'air thick with snow' nittaalaq (nittaallat, pl. = snowflakes; nittaalaq nalliuttiqattaartuq = flurries) 'hard grains of snow' nittaalaaqqat, pl. 'feathery clumps of falling snow' qanipalaat 'new fallen snow' apirlaat 'snow crust' pukak 'snowy weather' qannirsuq/nittaatsuq 'snowstorm' pirsuq/pirsirsursuaq 'large ice floe' iluitsuq 'snowdrift' apusiniq 'ice floe' puttaaq 'hummocked ice/pressure ridges in pack ice' maniillat/ingunirit, pl. 'drifting lump of ice' kassuq (dirty lump of glacier-calved ice = anarluk) 'ice-foot (left adhering to shore)' qaannuq 'icicle' kusugaq 'opening in sea ice imarnirsaq/ammaniq (open water amidst ice = imaviaq) 'lead (navigable fissure) in sea ice' quppaq 'rotten snow/slush on sea' qinuq 'wet snow falling' imalik 'rotten ice with streams forming' aakkarniq 'snow patch (on mountain, etc.)' aputitaq 'wet snow on top of ice' putsinniq/puvvinniq 'smooth stretch of ice' manirak (stretch of snow-free ice = quasaliaq) 'lump of old ice frozen into new ice' tuaq 'new ice formed in crack in old ice' nutarniq 'bits of floating' naggutit, pl. 'hard snow' mangiggal/mangikaajaaq 'small ice floe (not large enough to stand on)' masaaraq 'ice swelling over partially frozen river, etc. from water seeping up to the surface' siirsinniq 'piled-up ice-floes frozen together' tiggunnirit 'mountain peak sticking up through inland ice' nunataq 'calved ice (from end of glacier)' uukkarnit 'edge of the (sea) ice' sinaaq

Language Divisions for English

- Language Families
- Language Branches
- Language Groups
- Languages
- Dialects
- Accents

-- Indo-European

-- Germanic

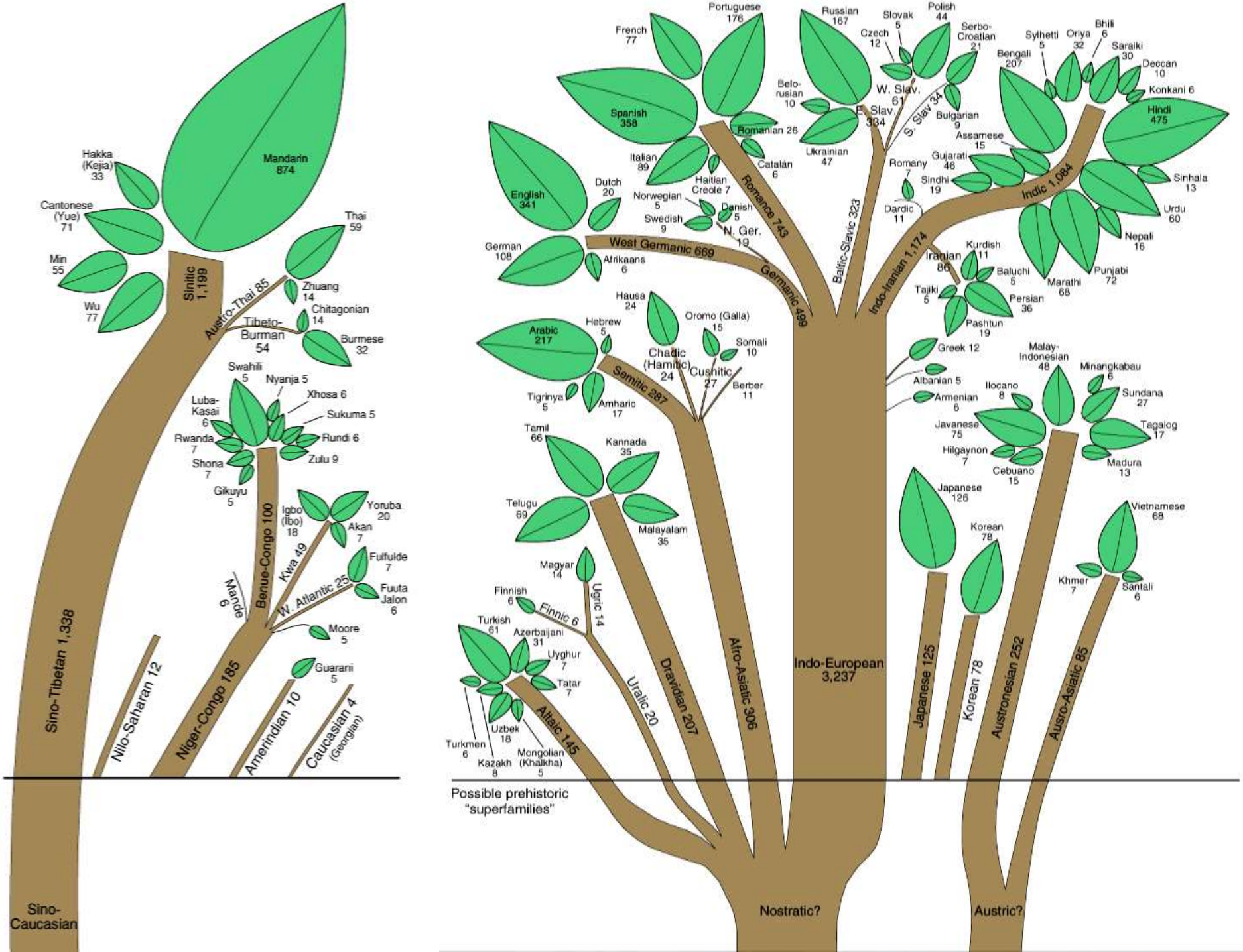
-- West Germanic

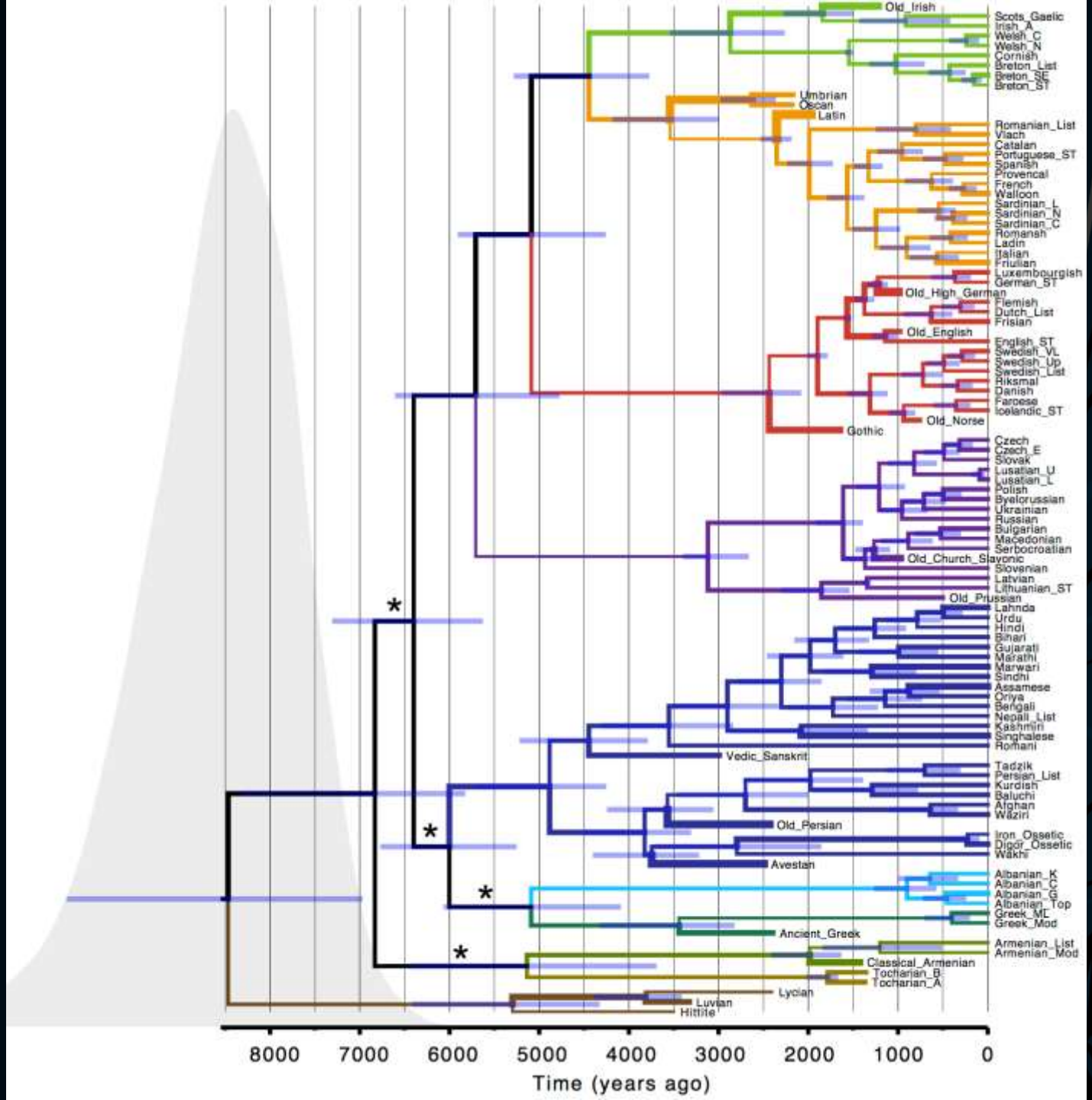
-- English

-- Northeastern

-- Boston (Pak da ka o-fa dere, pleese!)

Dravidian
(South India
Cino-Tibetan
(Chinese)
Indo-Eropian
Semitic
(Arabic, Hebrew)
Niger-Congo
(African)
Indo-Iranian
Helenic
Celtic
Italic
Slav
Germanic
Iranian
Indo-Arian
Greek
Scottish
Spanish
French
Latin
Russian
German
English
Baluchi
Pashto
Persian
Dardic
Nuristani
Sanskrit
Hindi
Urdu
Kashmiri
Shina
Kalashamun
Khowar


Sino-Caucasian
Sino-Tibetan 1,338
Nilo-Saharan 12
Niger-Congo 185
Amerindian 10
Caucasian 4
(Georgian)
Sinitic 1,199
Austro-Thai 85
Tibeto-Burman 54
Mandarin 874
Hakka (Kejia) 33
Cantonese (Yue) 71
Min 55
Wu 77
Thai 59
Zhuang 14
Chitagonian 14
Burmese 32
Benue-Congo 100
Kwa 49
W. Atlantic 25
Mande 6
Swahili 5
Nyanja 5
Xhosa 6
Sukuma 5
Rundi 6
Zulu 9
Luba-Kasai 6
Rwanda 7
Shona 7
Gikuyu 5
Igbo (Ibo) 18
Yoruba 20
Akan 7
Fulfulde 7
Fuuta Jalon 6
Moore 5
Guarani 5
Possible prehistoric "superfamilies"
Nostratic?
Austric?
Indo-European 3,237
Afro-Asiatic 306
Dravidian 207
Uralic 20
Altaic 145
Japanese 125
Korean 78
Austronesian 252
Austro-Asiatic 85
Turkmen 6
Kazakh 8
Uzbek 18
Mongolian (Khalkha) 5
Turkish 61
Azerbaijani 31
Uyghur 7
Tatar 7
Finnic 6
Finnish 6
Ugric 14
Magyar 14
Tamil 66
Telugu 69
Kannada 35
Malayalam 35
Semitic 287
Arabic 217
Hebrew 5
Tigrinya 5
Amharic 17
Chadic (Hamitic) 24
Cushitic 27
Hausa 24
Oromo (Galla) 15
Somali 10
Berber 11
Germanic 499
West Germanic 669
English 341
Dutch 20
German 108
Afrikaans 6
N. Ger. 19
Norwegian 5
Swedish 9
Danish 5
Romance 743
French 77
Spanish 358
Portuguese 176
Italian 89
Haitian Creole 7
Romanian 26
Catalán 6
Baltic-Slavic 323
E. Slav. 334
Belo-rusian 10
Ukrainian 47
Russian 167
W. Slav. 61
Czech 12
Slovak 5
Polish 44
S. Slav 34
Serbo-Croatian 21
Bulgarian 9
Indo-Iranian 1,174
Indic 1,084
Hindi 475
Bengali 207
Sylhetti 5
Oriya 32
Bhili 6
Saraiki 30
Deccan 10
Konkani 6
Assamese 15
Gujarati 46
Romany 7
Sindhi 19
Dardic 11
Sinhala 13
Urdu 60
Nepali 16
Punjabi 72
Marathi 68
Iranian 86
Kurdish 11
Baluchi 5
Tajiki 5
Persian 36
Pashtun 19
Greek 12
Albanian 5
Armenian 6
Malay-Indonesian 48
Minangkabau 6
Ilocano 8
Sundana 27
Javanese 75
Tagalog 17
Hilgaynon 7
Madura 13
Cebuano 15
Japanese 126
Korean 78
Vietnamese 68
Khmer 7
Santali 6


Old_Irish
Scots_Gaelic
Irish_A
Welsh_C
Welsh_N
Cornish
Breton_List
Breton_SE
Breton_ST
Umbrian
Oscan
Latin
Romanian_List
Vlach
Catalan
Portuguese_ST
Spanish
Provencal
French
Walloon
Sardinian_L
Sardinian_N
Sardinian_C
Romansh
Ladin
Italian
Friulian
Luxembourgish
German_ST
Old_High_German
Flemish
Dutch_List
Frisian
Old_English
English_ST
Swedish_VL
Swedish_Up
Swedish_List
Riksmal
Danish
Faroese
Icelandic_ST
Old_Norse
Gothic
Czech
Czech_E
Slovak
Lusatian_U
Lusatian_L
Polish
Byelorussian
Ukrainian
Russian
Bulgarian
Macedonian
Serbocroatian
Old_Church_Slavonic
Slovenian
Latvian
Lithuanian_ST
Old_Prussian
Lahnda
Urdu
Hindi
Bihari
Gujarati
Marathi
Marwari
Sindhi
Assamese
Oriya
Bengali
Nepali_List
Kashmiri
Singhalese
Romani
Vedic_Sanskrit
Tadzik
Persian_List
Kurdish
Baluchi
Afghan
Waziri
Old_Persian
Iron_Ossetic
Digor_Ossetic
Wakhi
Avestan
Albanian_K
Albanian_C
Albanian_G
Albanian_Top
Greek_ML
Greek_Mod
Ancient_Greek
Armenian_List
Armenian_Mod
Classical_Armenian
Tocharian_B
Tocharian_A
Lycian
Luvian
Hittite
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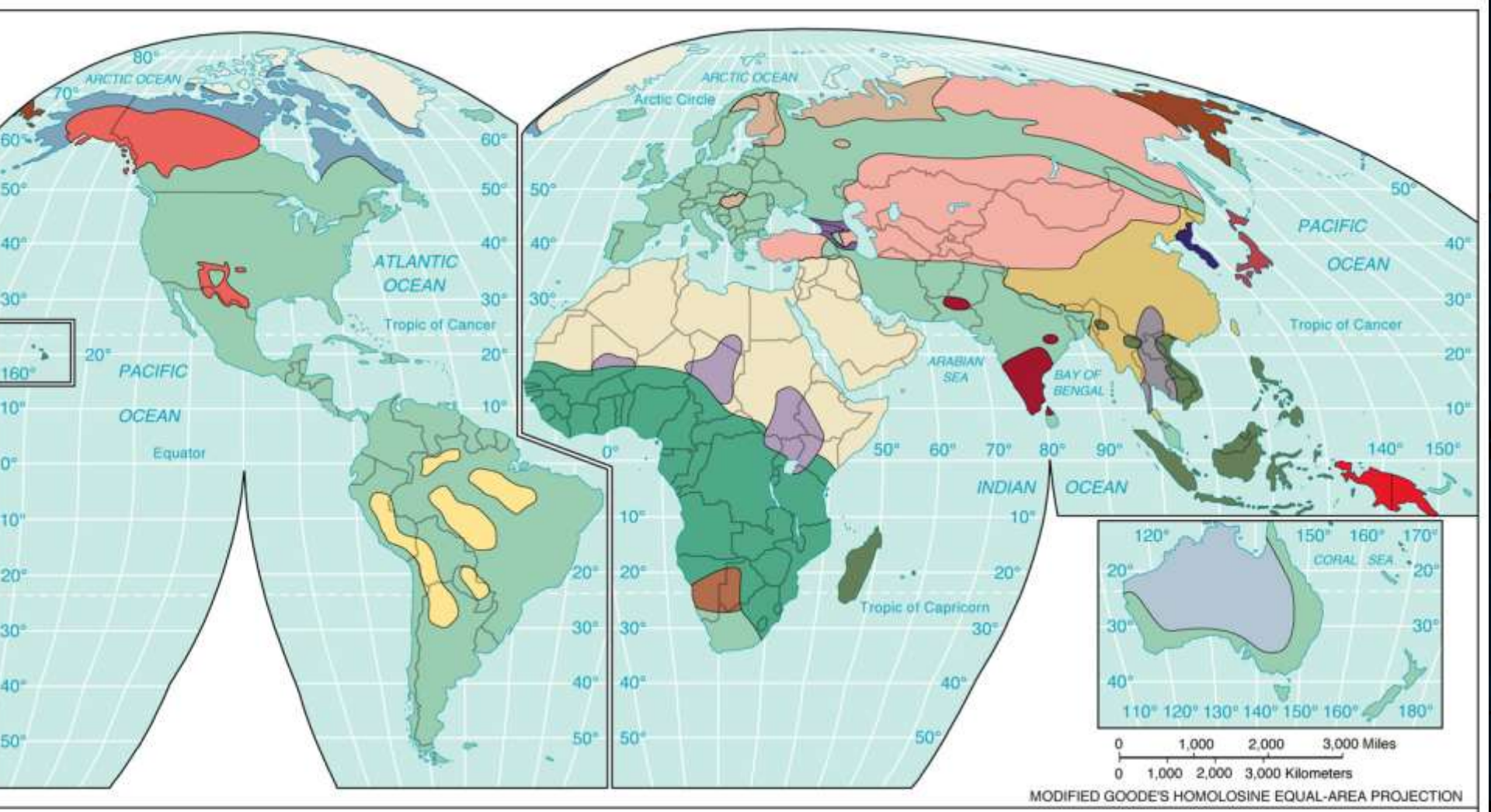
*
8000
7000
6000
5000
4000
3000
2000
1000
0
Time (years ago)



- Afro-Asiatic
- Altaic
- Amerind
- Australian-Aboriginal
- Austronesian
- Caucasian
- Dravidian
- Eskimo-Aleut
- Indo-European
- Indo-Pacific
- Japanese
- Khoisan
- Korean
- Na-Dene
- Niger–Congo
- Nilo-Saharan
- Paleosiberian
- Sino-Tibetan
- Tai
- Uralic

- At the global scale, we classify languages into language families.
  - The languages have a shared but fairly distant origin
- Families are broken down into Sub families
  - Division within a language family
  - Commonalities are more definite & origins are more recent.
  - Consist of individual languages
  - Smaller spatial extent

How do Linguists Study Historical Languages?

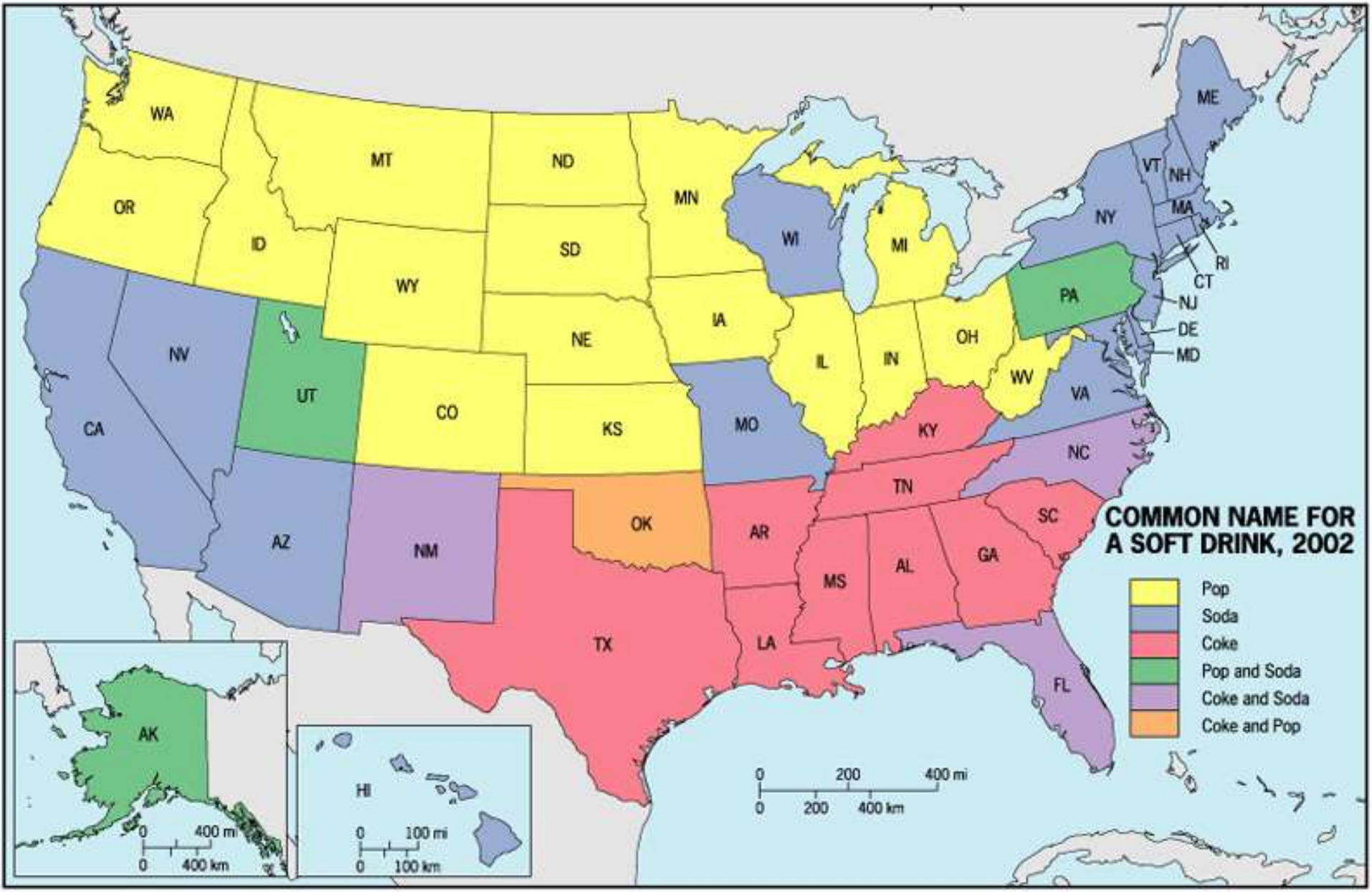
Backward reconstruction – tracking sound shifts and the hardening of consonants backward to reveal an "original" language.

- Can deduce the vocabulary of an extinct language.
- Can recreate ancient languages (deep reconstruction)

- 2/3 of the worlds population speak a language that belongs to the Indo-European or Sino-Tibetan language family
- 2 – 6% of the worlds population speak a language that fits into one of seven other language families
- Remainder of population speaks a language belonging to one of 100 smaller families

- Variants of a standard language along regional or ethnic lines
  - Vocabulary, Syntax, Pronunciation, Cadence, Pace of speech.
- Linguists think about dialects in terms of chains.
  - Distributed across space
  - Those nearest to each other geographically will be the most similar.
- Can be marked by actual differences in vocabulary
  - Linguistic geographers map the extent of particular words marking their limits as isoglosses.
  - Isogloss – a geographic boundary within with a particular linguistic feature occurs.

- Languages subtly gradate one to another. Dialects and other regional differences may eventually lead to incomprehensibility - a new language.
- **Migration** and **Isolation** explain how a single language can later become two or more.


WA
OR
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IN
KY
TN
AL
OH
WV
GA
FL
SC
NC
VA
PA
NY
ME
VT
NH
MA
RI
CT
NJ
DE
MD
AK
HI
0 400 mi
0 400 km
0 100 mi
0 100 km
0 200 400 mi
0 200 400 km
COMMON NAME FOR A SOFT DRINK, 2002
Pop
Soda
Coke
Pop and Soda
Coke and Soda
Coke and Pop

- When a lack of spatial interaction among speakers breaks the language into dialects & then new languages.
  - I.E. When the Roman Empire disintegrated, places within the region discontinued interaction, prompting a round of linguistic divergence.

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- If people with different languages have consistent spatial interaction, convergence can take place
  - Two languages become one.
  - I.E. Frankish traders revitalized the ports of the Eastern Mediterranean. Local traders did not speak the language. Frankish was mixed with Italian, Greek, Spanish, & Arabic
- Create special problems for researchers because the rules of reconstruction may not apply or may be unreliable

- Several theories hypothesize how, why, & where languages diffuse over time.
  - Each varies according to the impetus for diffusion
  - One commonality is a focus on Europe.
  - Conquest Theory
  - Agriculture Theory
  - Dispersal hypothesis
  - Refrew hypothesis

Conquest Theory

- Early speakers of Proto-Indo-European spread from east to west on horseback, overpowering earlier inhabitants and beginning the diffusion & differentiation of Indo-European tongues.
  - Sound shifts in derivative languages represent a long period of divergence in languages as one moves west through Europe.

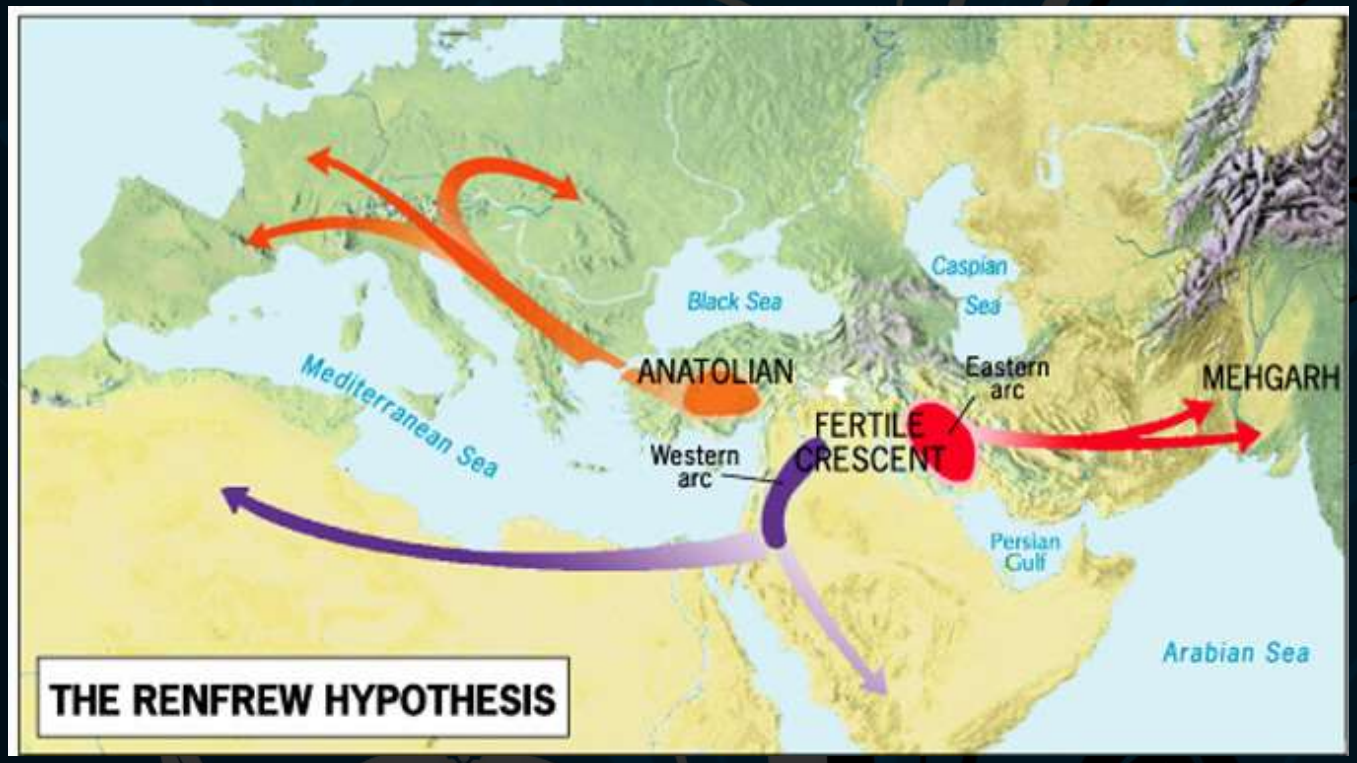
Agriculture Theory

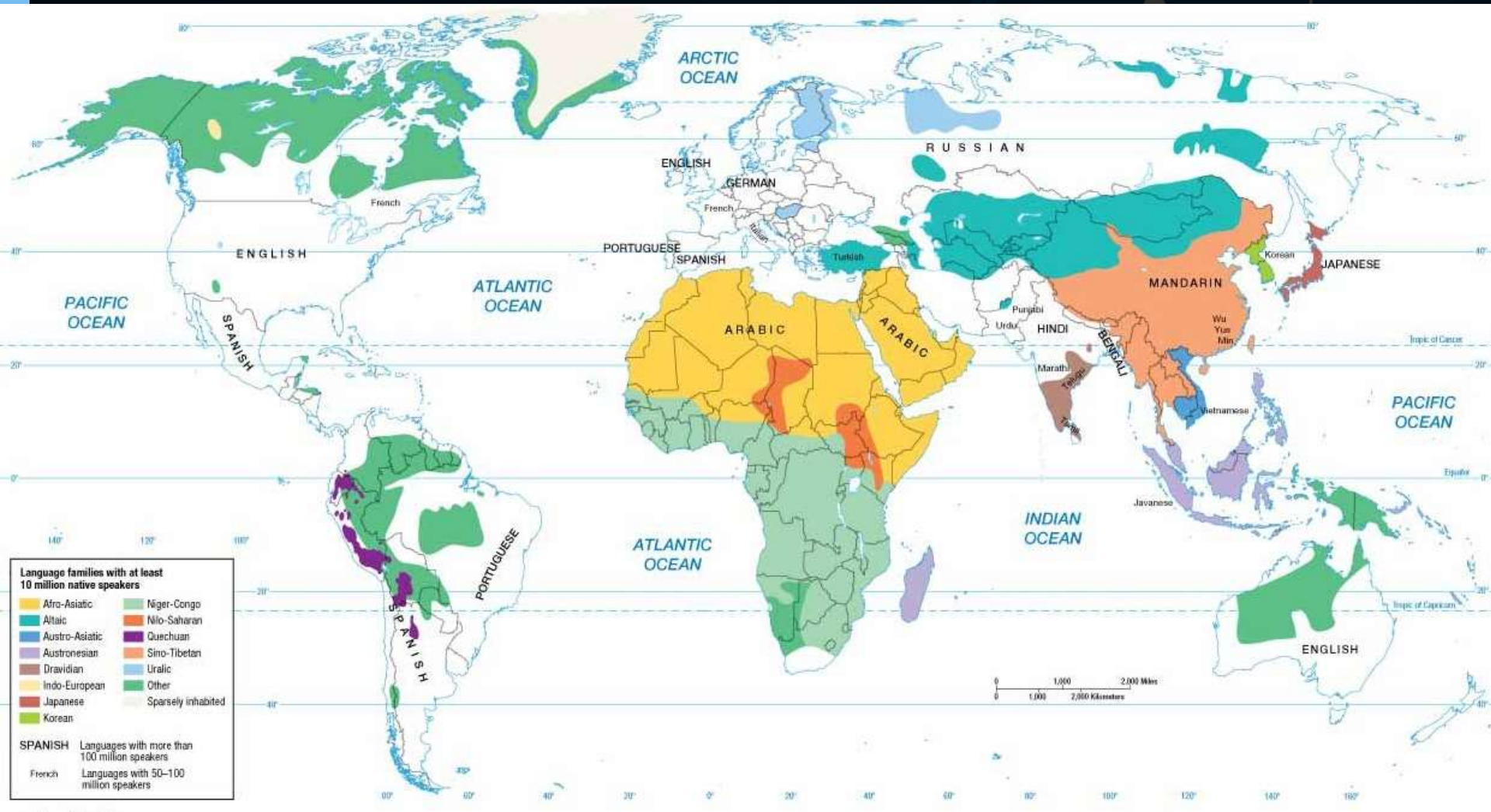
- With increased food supply & increased population, speakers from the hearth of Indo-European languages

Dispersal Hypothesis

- Indo-European languages first moved from the hearth eastward into present-day Iran & then around the Caspian & into Europe.

- Proto-Indo-European began in the Fertile Crescent
  - From Anatolia, diffused Europe's languages
  - From the Western Arc, diffused North Africa & Arabia's languages
  - From the Eastern Arc, diffused SW Asia & S Asia's languages




ARCTIC OCEAN
ATLANTIC OCEAN
PACIFIC OCEAN
INDIAN OCEAN
ATLANTIC OCEAN
PACIFIC OCEAN
ENGLISH
French
ENGLISH
GERMAN
French
Italian
PORTUGUESE
SPANISH
Turkish
RUSSIAN
ARABIC
ARABIC
Punjabi
Urdu
HINDI
BENGALI
Marathi
Telugu
MANDARIN
Wu
Yue
Min
Korean
JAPANESE
Vietnamese
Javanese
SPANISH
PORTUGUESE
SPANISH
ENGLISH
Tropic of Cancer
Tropic of Capricorn
Equator
0 1,000 2,000 Miles
0 1,000 2,000 Kilometers
Language families with at least 10 million native speakers
Afro-Asiatic
Altaic
Austro-Asiatic
Austronesian
Dravidian
Indo-European
Japanese
Korean
Niger-Congo
Nilo-Saharan
Quechuan
Sino-Tibetan
Uralic
Other
Sparsely inhabited
SPANISH Languages with more than 100 million speakers
French Languages with 50–100 million speakers

- Two largest language families are…
  - Indo-European
    - Predominate language family in Europe, South Asia, North America, & Latin America
  - Sino-Tibetan
    - Encompasses languages spoken in the People's Republic of China & several smaller countries in SE Asia
      - No single Chinese language
      - Mandarin is the most-used language in the world & the official language of both the PRC & Taiwan. Most number of native speakers.

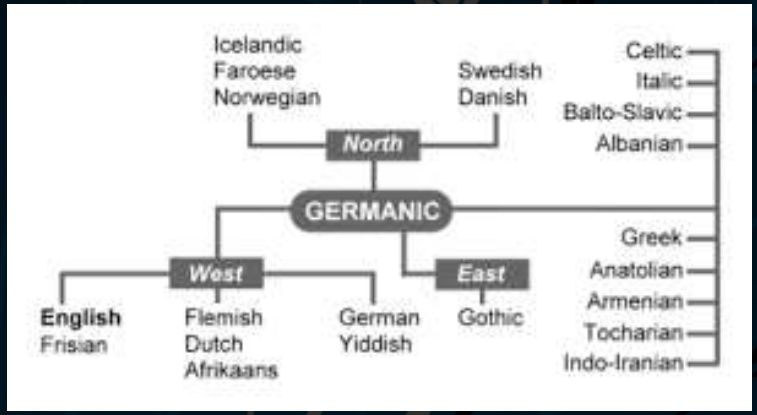
Sino-Tibetan Language Family (20%)

Branches:

- **Sinitic**
  - Mandarin (1075), Cantonese (71),
- **Austro-Thai (77)**
  - Thai, Hmong
- **Tibeto-Burman**
  - Burmese (32)

Chinese languages based on 420 one syllable words with meaning infered from context and tone.

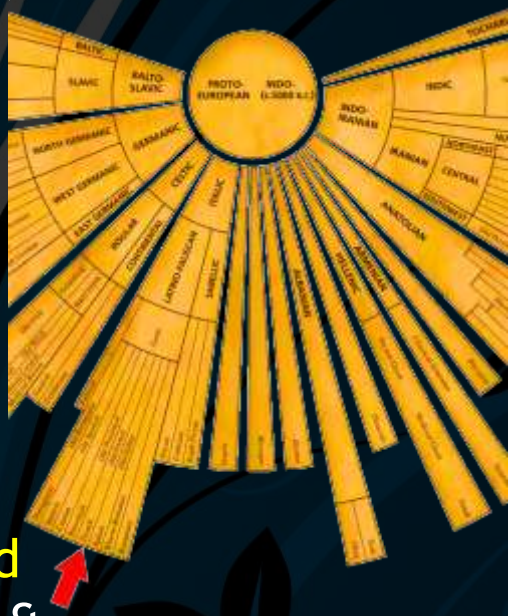
- Four most widely spoken branches
  - Germanic
    - Spoken primarily in NW Europe & North America
    - Divides into High & Low Germanic subgroups
      - English is classified in the Low Germanic group
  - Indo-Iranian
    - Spoken primarily in S. Asia
    - Most speakers of the language branch
    - Subdivided into eastern (Indic) & western (Iranian)



Germanic Branch - English

Diffused throughout the world by hundreds of years of British colonialism. Brought to New World by British colonies in 1600s. Has become an important global *lingua franca* (a language mutually understood and commonly used in trade by people who have different native languages).

- Balto-Slavic
  - Spoken primarily in Eastern Europe
  - Divided into…
    - East Slavic & Baltic Groups – Russian, Ukrainian, & Belarusian
    - West & South Slavic Groups – Polish, Czech, Slovak, & Serbo-Croatian.
- Romance
  - Spoken primarily in SW Europe & Latin America
  - Most widely used are Spanish, Portuguese, French, & Italian
    - Regions where spoken language tend to correspond to political boundaries of Spain, Portugal, France, & Italy.



Which languages share a common ancestor?

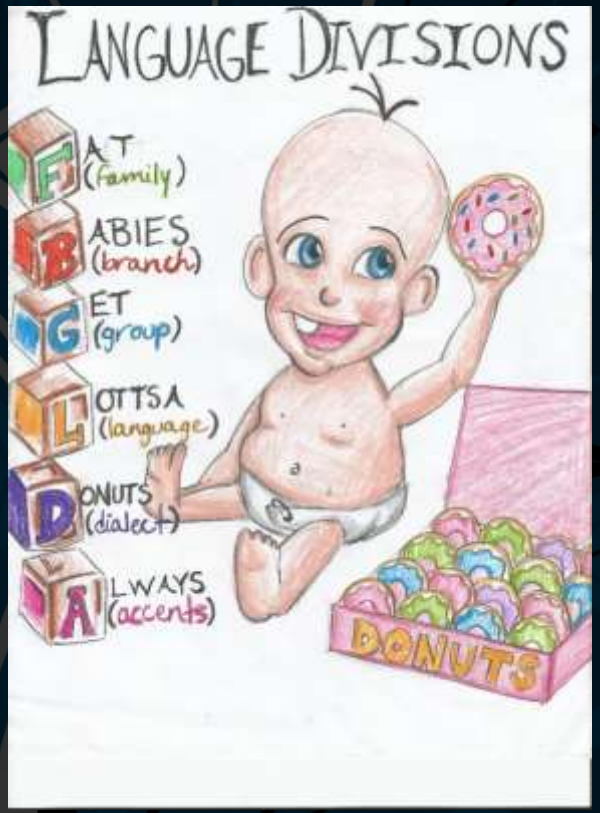
Some Indo-European Shared Words

English	Sanskrit	Greek	Latin	Armenian	Old Irish	Lithuanian
me	mam	eme	me	is	-	mane
father	pitar	pater	pater	hayr	athair	-
mother	matar	mater	mater	mayr	mathair	motina
brother	bhratar	-	frater	elbayr	brathair	brolis
daughter	duhitar	thugater-	-	dustr	-	dukter
cow	gav-	bous	bos	kov	bo	guovs(Latv)
eoh (OE)	asvas	hippos	equus	-	ech	asva, mare
hound	svan	kuon	canis	sun	con	sun
foot	pad	pod-	ped-	otn	-	-
new	navas	ne(w)os	novus	nor	nue	naujas
bears	bharati	pherei	fert	bere	berid	-
two	duva	duo	duo	erku	do	du
three	trayas	treis	tres	erek	tri	trys

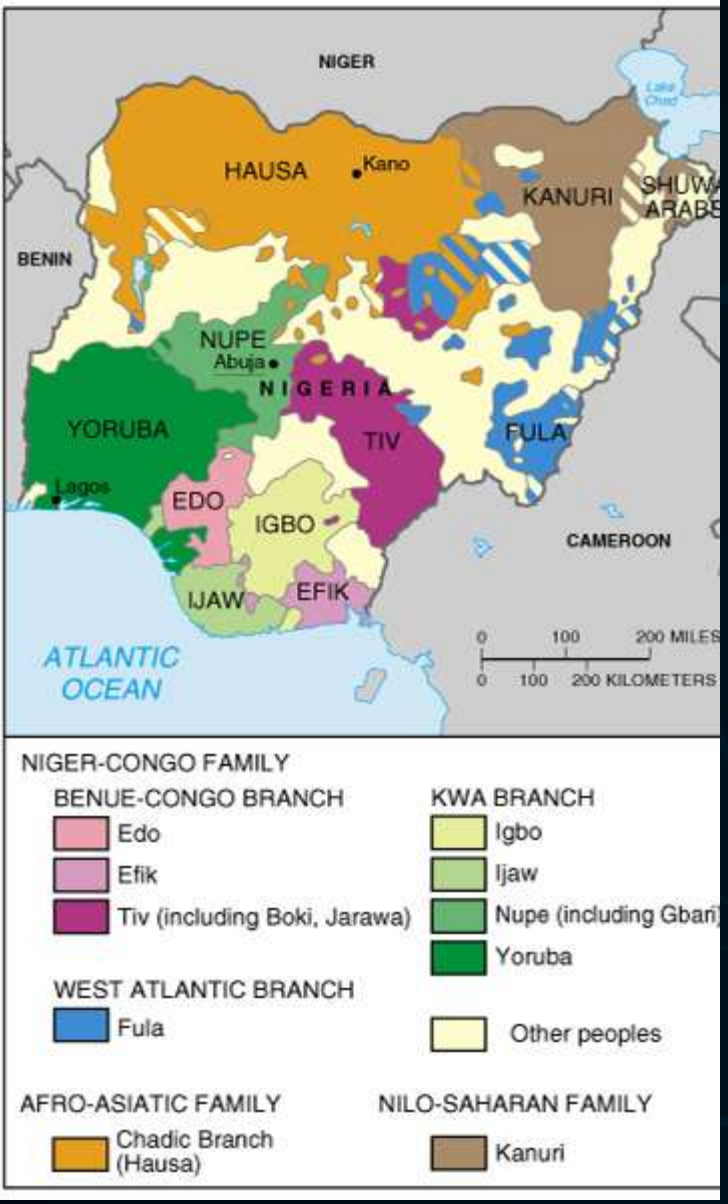
Many Indo-European languages have common words for snow, winter, spring; for dog, horse, cow, sheep bear but not camel, lion, elephant, or tiger; for beech, oak, pine, willow, but not palm or banyan tree.

Division of Language
Create and Visualize an Acronym

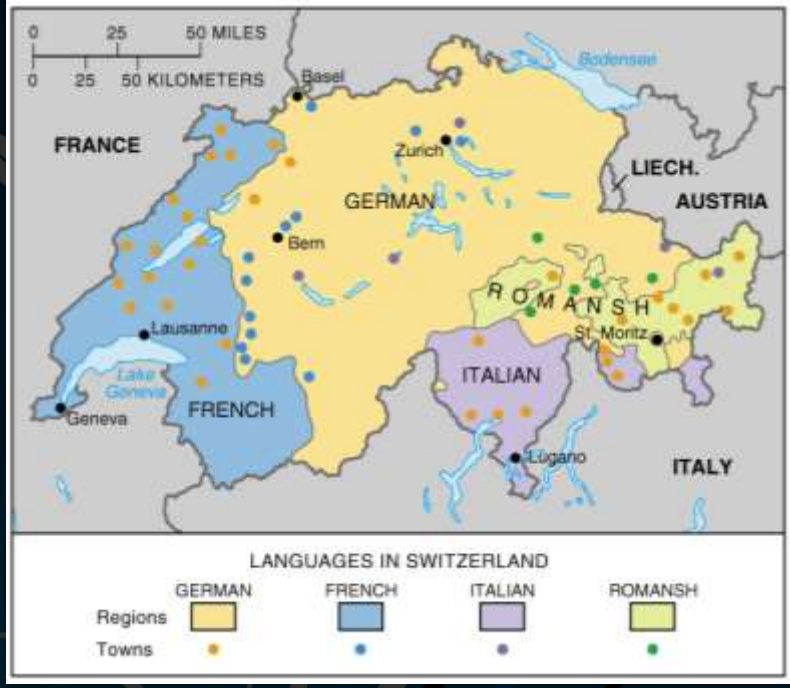
Family
Branch
Group
Language
Dialect
Accent



Language Complexity



Nigeria has more than 400 individual languages!

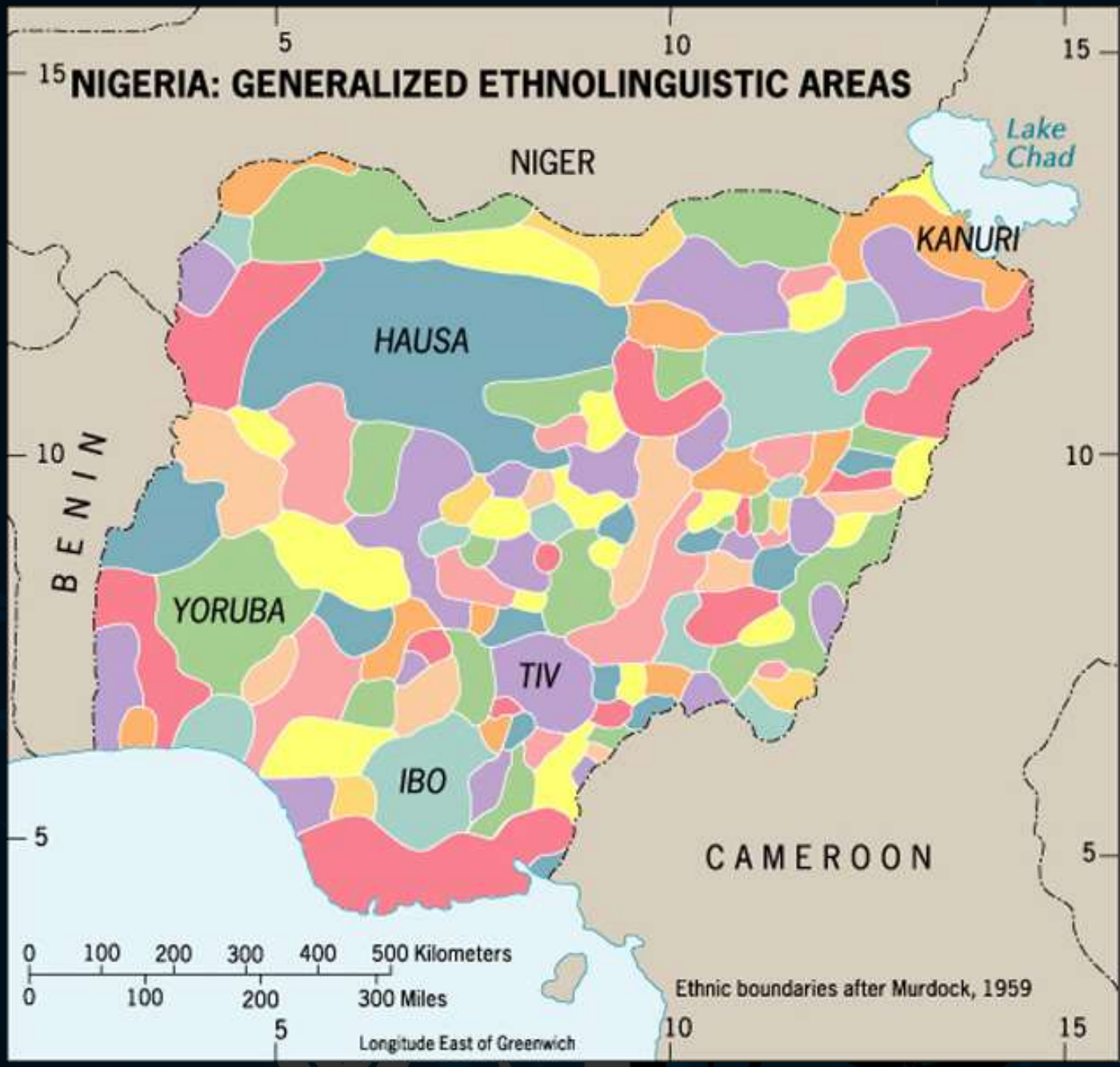


In Nigeria ethnic conflict between southern Ibos and western Yoruba led the government to move the capital to a more neutral central location (Abuja). Many other ethnic battles rage continuously.

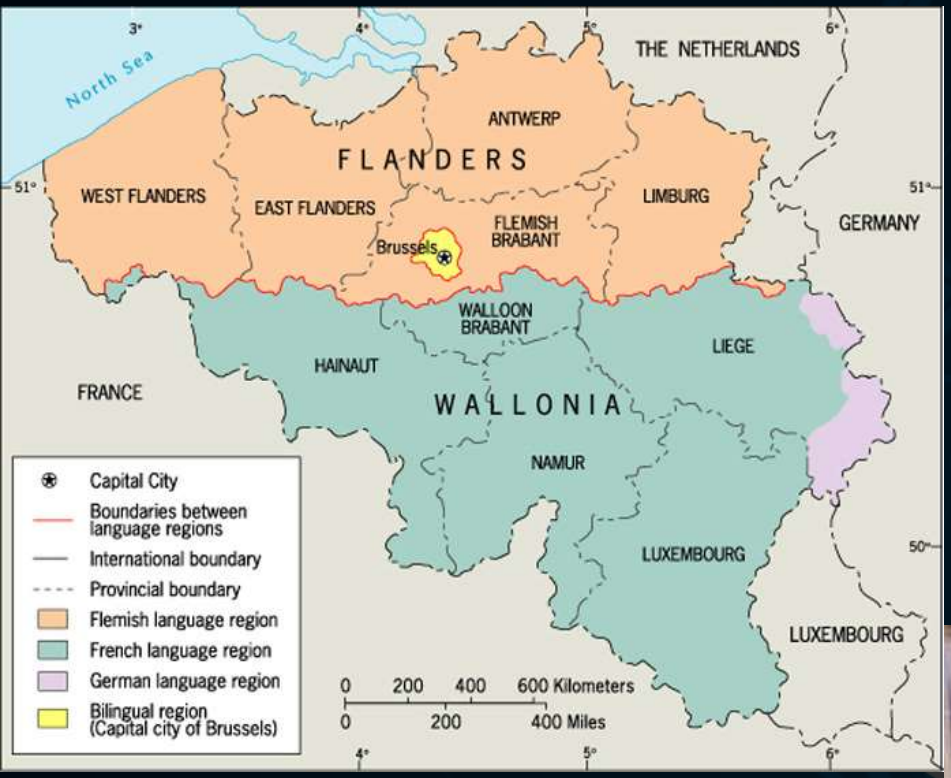
In Switzerland, four official languages, a history of peace and tolerance, and a political system that puts power in the hands of local leaders ensure peace.

Nigeria

more than 400 different languages.



Language and Political Conflict



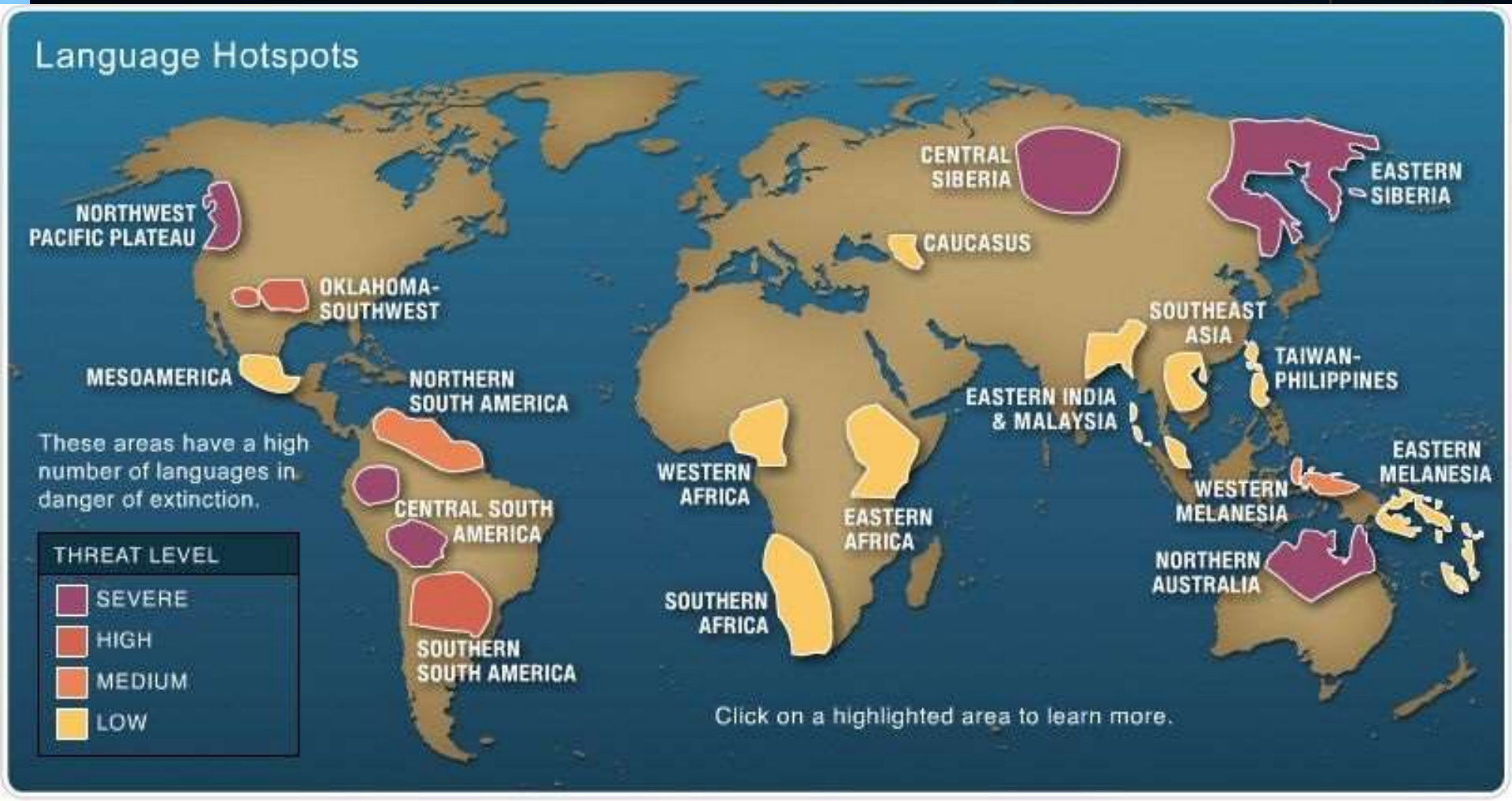
Belgium:

Flanders (Flemish language)

Wallonia (French language)

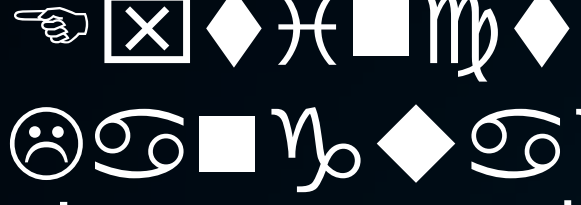
👎♓♦♋□□♏♋□♋■♍♏ □♐ ☹♋■♑◆♋♑♏♦

- Language extinction creates branches on the language tree with dead ends.
  - Representing a halt in interaction between the extinct language & languages that continued
- Linguists predict that at least half of the worlds 6,000 or so languages will be dead or dying by 2050.


Language Hotspots
NORTHWEST PACIFIC PLATEAU
OKLAHOMA-SOUTHWEST
MESOAMERICA
NORTHERN SOUTH AMERICA
CENTRAL SOUTH AMERICA
SOUTHERN SOUTH AMERICA
CENTRAL SIBERIA
EASTERN SIBERIA
CAUCASUS
SOUTHEAST ASIA
TAIWAN-PHILIPPINES
EASTERN INDIA & MALAYSIA
WESTERN AFRICA
EASTERN AFRICA
SOUTHERN AFRICA
EASTERN MELANESIA
WESTERN MELANESIA
NORTHERN AUSTRALIA
These areas have a high number of languages in danger of extinction.
THREAT LEVEL
SEVERE
HIGH
MEDIUM
LOW
Click on a highlighted area to learn more.

- Anthropologist Wade Davis estimates that half of the world's languages are endangered.
- Most are lost because one group dominates another, ad the dominant language is privileged.
- Two dimensions to characterization of endangerment…
  - Number of users who identify with a particular language
  - Number & nature of the uses or functions for which the language is employed

Definitely Endngrd - Severely Endngrd - Critically Endngrd - Extinct
Safe - Vulnerable
577 Critically Endangered Languages
Source: UNESCO Endangered Language Atlas, 2013
The Language Conservancy

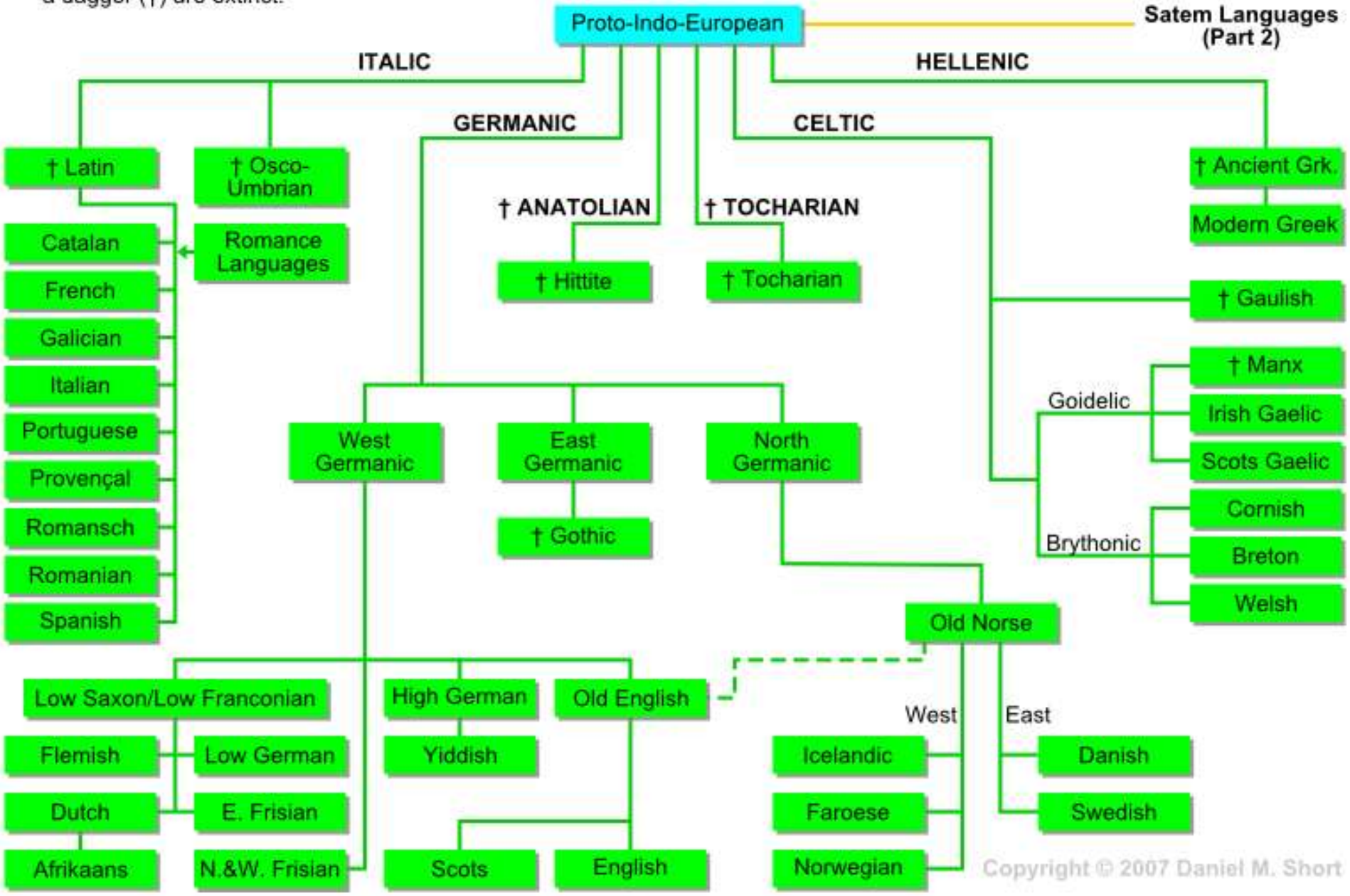


- Languages can become extinct when all descendants perish or when they choose to use another language.
- Does not occur overnight
  - Takes place across generations
- Presently 473 languages
  - 46 in Africa, 182 in Americas, 84 in Asia, 9 in Europe, & 152 in Pacific
- Possible to deduce a large part of an extinct language
  - Backward reconstruction – track sound shifts & hardening of consonants “backwards” towards the original language.

Indo-European Languages

Part 1: Centum Languages

Languages marked with a dagger (†) are extinct.



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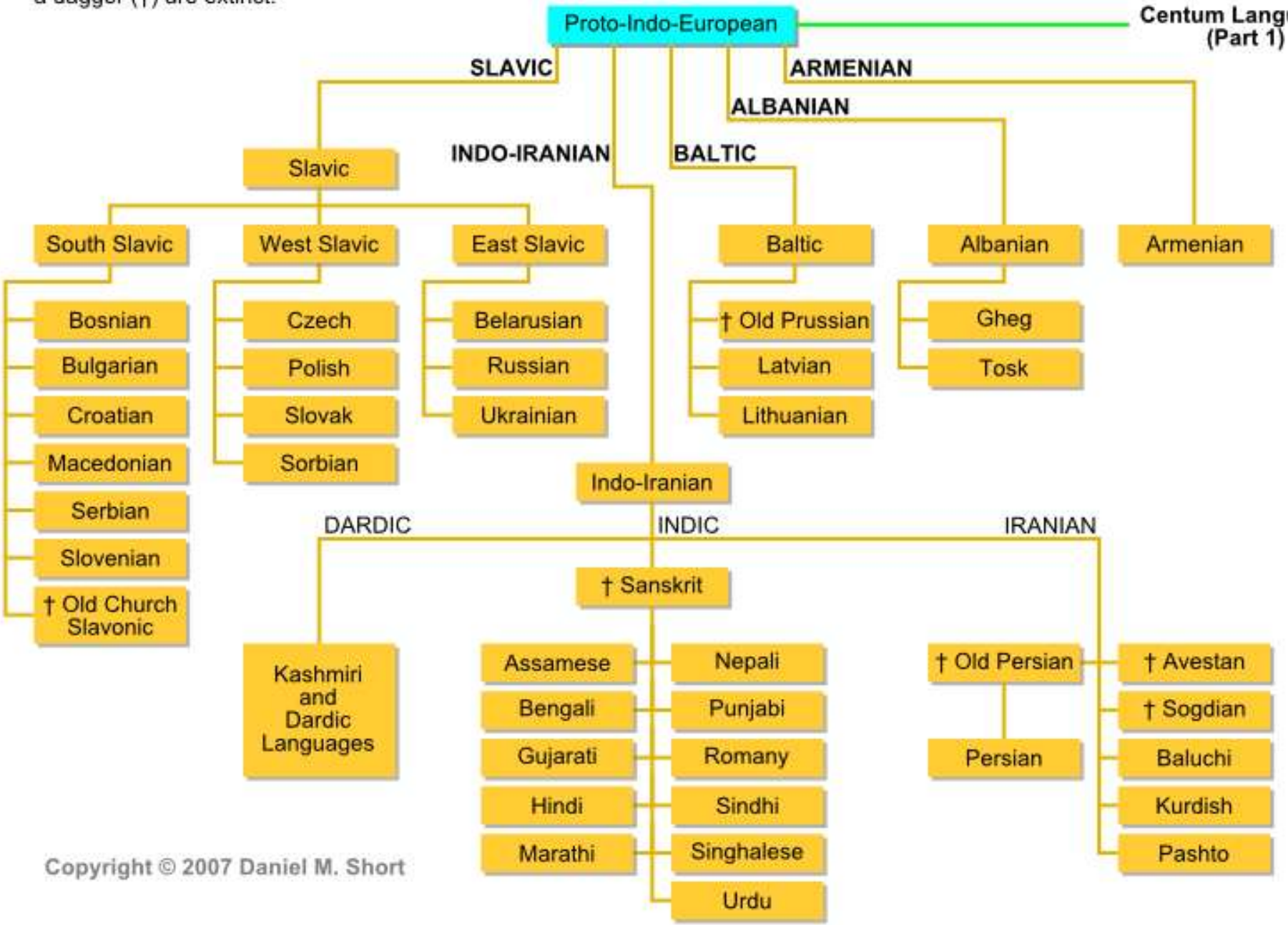
Indo-European Languages

Part 2: Satem Languages

Languages marked with a dagger (†) are extinct.



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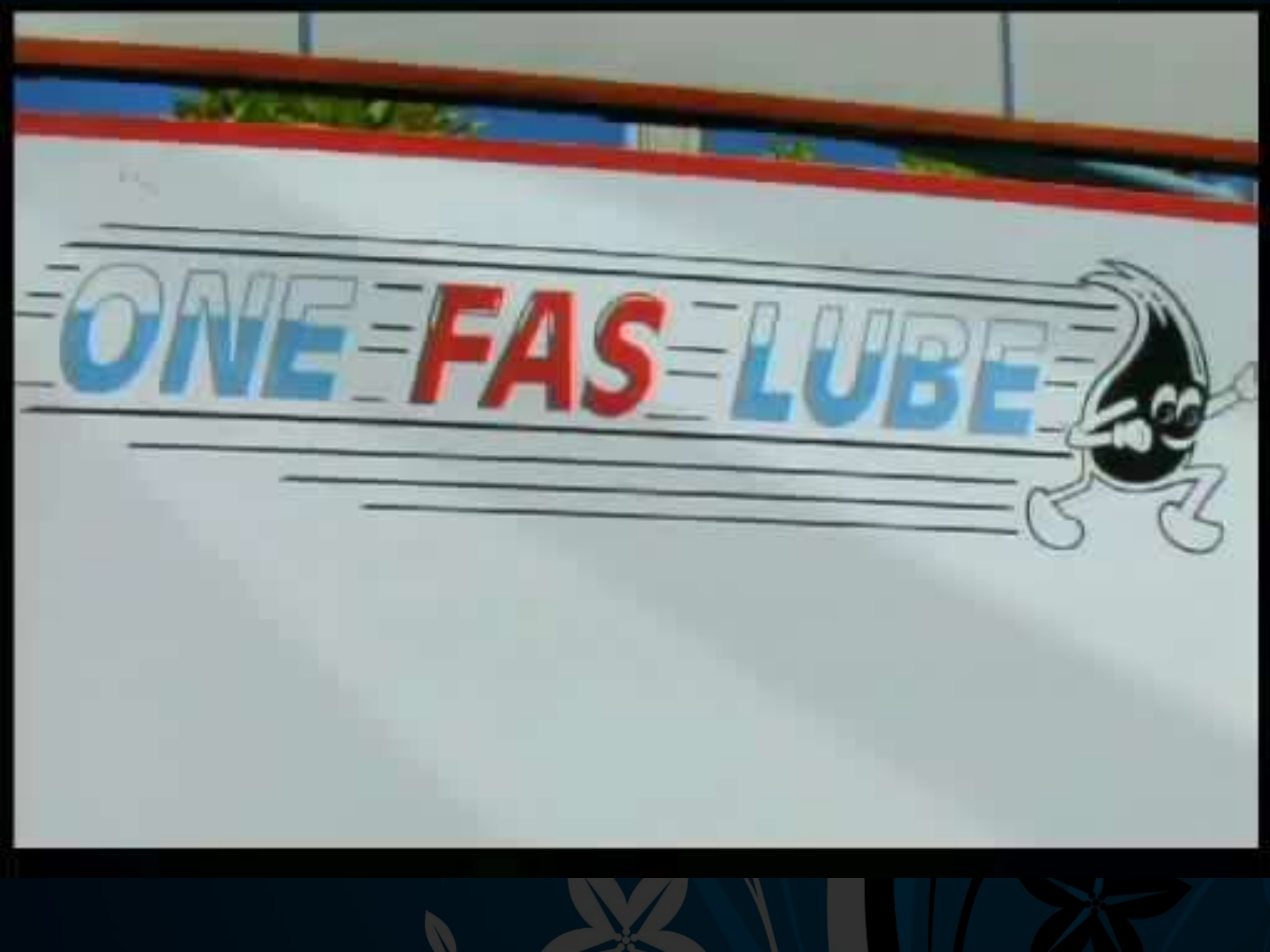
- Lingua Franca
  - A language used among speakers of different languages for the purpose of trade & commerce
  - Can be a single language, or a mix of two or more.
  - English became lingua franca during colonial period.
- Pidgin Language
  - A language created when people combine parts of two or more languages into a simplified structure & vocabulary.
- Creole language
  - A pidgin language that has developed a more complex structure & vocabulary & has become the native language of a group of people.

PIDGIN - a form of speech that adopts simplified grammar and limited vocabulary from a lingua franca, used for communication between speakers of two different languages.

Examples include Hawaiin Pidgin and the creoles of West Africa that resulted from the slave trade.

"No eat da candy, Bruddah, it's pilau. Da thing wen fall on da ground."


ONE FAS LUBE

Give us da food we need fo today an every day.
Hemmo our shame, an let us go
Fo all da kine bad stuff we do to you,
Jalike us guys let da odda guys go awready,
And we no stay huhu wit dem
Fo all da kine bad stuff dey do to us.
No let us get chance fo do bad kine stuff,
But take us outa dea, so da Bad Guy no can hurt us.
Cuz you our King.
You get da real power,
An you stay awesome foeva.
Dass it!”

Matthew 6:9-13 “The Lord’s Prayer”

- Taken from Da Jesus Book, a twelve year effort by 6 linguists to translate the New Testament into Hawaiian Pidgin, published 2001

CREOLE - a language that results from the mixing of a colonizer's language with an indigenous language. Often they are pidgins.

New Orleans' French Quarter

Can you guess which colonizing language is the base for each of the following creole examples?

a. mo pe aste sa banan
b. de bin alde luk dat big tri
c. a waka go a wosu
d. olmaan i kas-im chek
e. li pote sa bay mo
f. ja fruher wir bleiben
g. dis smol swain i bin go fo maket

I am buying the banana
they always looked for a big tree
he walked home
the old man is cashing a check
he brought that for me
Yes at first we remained
this little pig went to market

CREOLE - a language that results from the mixing of a colonizer's language with an indigenous language. Often they are pidgins

New Orleans' French Quarter

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French based Seychelles Creole
English based Roper River Creole
English based Saran
English based Cape York Creole
French based Guyanais
German based Papua New Guinea Pidgin
German English based Cameroon Pidgin

Key Terms

DIALECT - a regional variety of a language distinguished by pronunciation, spelling, and vocabulary.

Social Dialects - can denote social class and standing.

Vernacular Dialects - the common, slang, speech of a region.

Term	*Meaning*	*Location*
Is he fair dinkum?	Is he real or genuine?	Australia
Why I declare!	That's remarkable!	Deep South (U.S.)
Fishin' in the crick	Fishing in the creek	Middle Atlantic States
snap peas	beans eaten in the pod	South (U.S.)
mosquito hawk	dragon fly	South (U.S.)
darning needle	dragon fly	Northern (U.S.)

What is the difference between an accent and dialect?

An *accent* is the way that particular person or group of people *sound*. It's the way somebody pronounces words, the musicality of their speech, etc.

A *dialect* describes both a person's accent *and* the grammatical features of the way that person talks.

Accents

ISOLATED LANGUAGE - a language that is not related to any other languages and thus not connected to any language families. Examples include Basque and Icelandic.

Basque Spain

- Cultural geography Yi-Fu Tuan, studied the role & function of language in shaping of places.
  - By naming a place, people in effect call that place into being.
- Geographers call place names toponyms
  - Imparts a certain character on a place
  - Reflects the social processes in a place
  - Can give use a glimpse of the history of a place

- When people change the toponym of a place, they have the power to wipe out the past
- Major reasons people change toponyms
  - After decolonization
  - After a political revolution
  - To memorialize people or events
  - To commodify or brand a place.

- Example:
  - Small town in Wales
  - Feared loss of the Welsh language & despised the role English had played in diminishing the Welsh language
  - Wanted to boost their local economy & attract tourists.
  - Renamed their town: Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerchwyrndrobwllllantysiliogogogoch

Internet Hosts

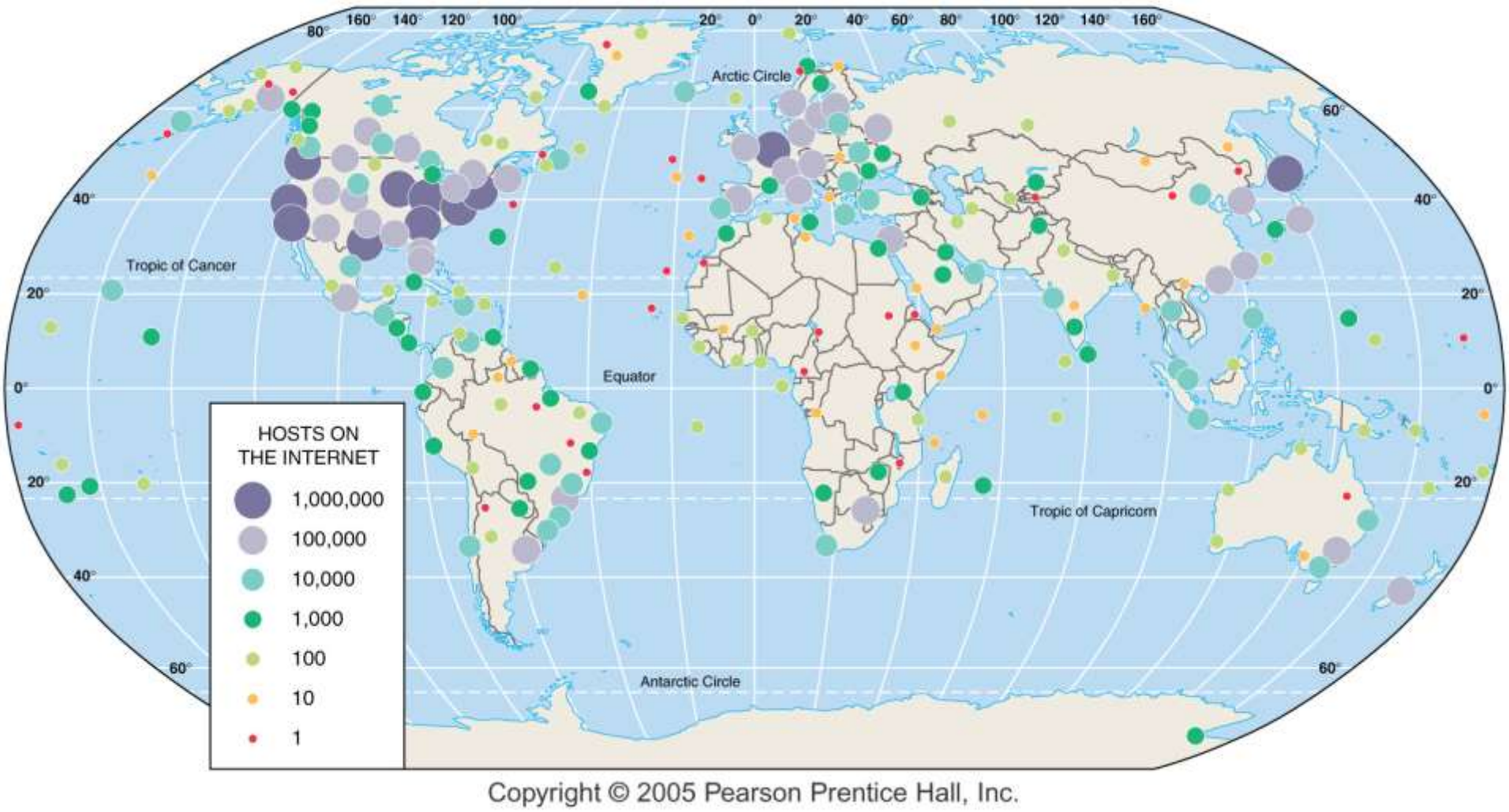

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Fig. 5-1-1: A large proportion of the world's internet users and hosts are in the developed countries of North America and western Europe.

Internet Hosts, by Language

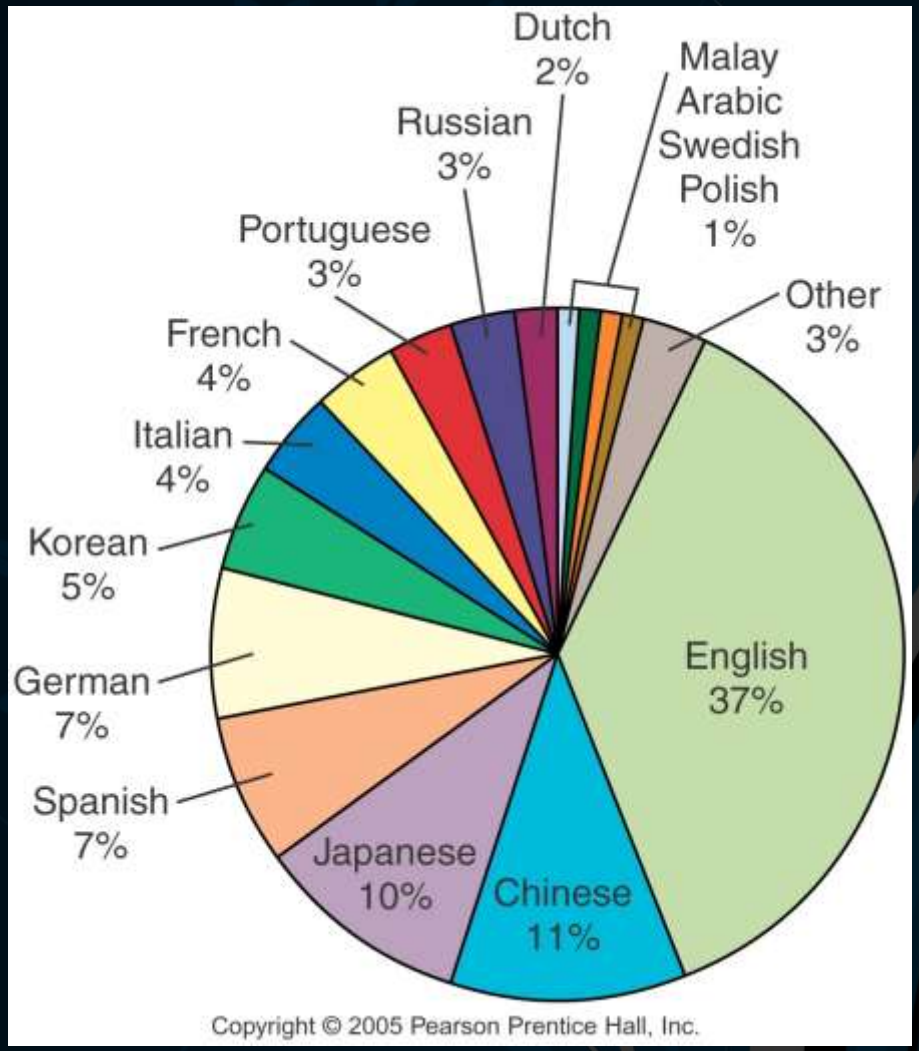

Fig 5-1-1a: The large majority of internet hosts in 1999 used English, Chinese, Japanese, or European languages.