

# Unit 6.1 Language

## AP Human Geography

**3** Information contained in the worksheet, not just the blanks, is important, but the worksheet alone does not replace the need for a careful reading of the text. pgs.164 - 180

### Field Note: What should I Say?

World maps generalize many of the complexities of daily life. As a geographer you should question what you see, and examine maps at different scales and of different types to draw conclusions about the accuracy of what you see.

The map of Belgium's languages is a good example. Belgium is divided into \_\_\_\_\_ (a Germanic language) region in the north (Flanders) and a \_\_\_\_\_ (a Romance language) region in the south (Wallonia) with the capital, \_\_\_\_\_, officially bilingual in southern \_\_\_\_\_. In the 19c the French speakers controlled the industrial economy and government. With the shift to high technology in the 1960s the economic power shifted to the north. The existence of two separate language communities tends to foster regionalization that separates the citizens of the country.

Brussels serves as the principal capital of the \_\_\_\_\_ (EU). This role may prevent Belgium from splitting into two countries because both Flanders and Wallonia would be unwilling to give up their \_\_\_\_\_. Some have suggested setting up a \_\_\_\_\_ for the European Union (like the District of Columbia in the US).

Language is often \_\_\_\_\_ and is frequently tied to such identify issues as \_\_\_\_\_

### What are Languages, and What Role Do Languages Play in Culture?

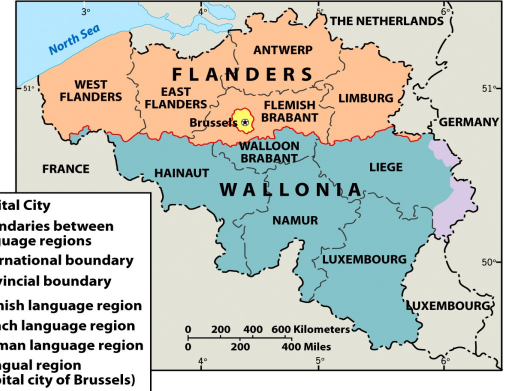


Figure 6.3 © 2010 John Wiley & Sons, Inc. All rights reserved. Adapted with permission from A. B. Murphy, "Belgium's Regional Divergence along the Road to Federation," in G. Smith, ed., *Federalism: The Multitechnic Challenge*. London: Longman, 1995, p. 82.

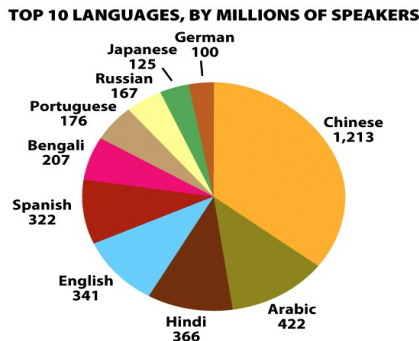
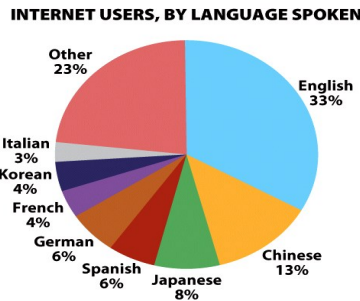
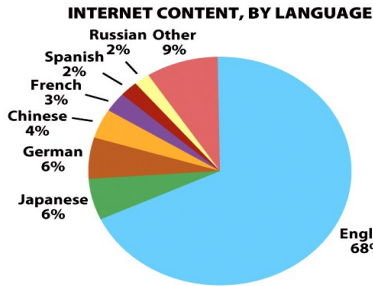


Figure 6.4 © 2010 John Wiley & Sons, Inc. All rights reserved. Adapted with permission from: World Resources Institute (WRI) in collaboration with United Nations Development Program, United Nations Environment Program, and World Bank. 2005. *World Resources 2005: The Wealth of the Poor—Managing Ecosystems to Fight Poverty*. Washington, DC: WRI.

There are two opposing forces in our globalized world: globalization of \_\_\_\_\_ and preservation of \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_.

- \_\_\_\_\_ is a fundamental element of \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ culture.
- The Académie Française was created to \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_ the French language. The French passed a law banning the use of \_\_\_\_\_ in advertisements, television, and radio broadcasts and \_\_\_\_\_ documents. In 1992 they made French the \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ reflects where a culture has been, what it \_\_\_\_\_, & how people \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ things.

According to the chart to the left, what languages have more speakers than English speakers?

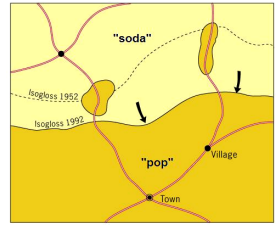
\_\_\_\_\_

- During colonialism many countries, including the US had policies of \_\_\_\_\_ which prevented indigenous people from speaking their native language.
- Language can reveal many things about a culture. Some African cultures have no word for \_\_\_\_\_, while some Asian languages have no \_\_\_\_\_ and no \_\_\_\_\_, revealing the lack of cultural distinction between then and now.
- Language can be used as a \_\_\_\_\_ in cultural conflict and political strife. People opposed to the use of Spanish in the US are leading movements to promote "\_\_\_\_\_ " policies.

- Canada is officially a \_\_\_\_\_ state, but \_\_\_\_\_ promotes the use of the provinces distinctive version of the \_\_\_\_\_. The \_\_\_\_\_ (people of Quebec) have called for more independence and even voted on \_\_\_\_\_ at times. It has passed laws requiring the use of French in \_\_\_\_\_, and allows signs to be in English, as long as the French letters are \_\_\_\_\_ the size.

Language is the \_\_\_\_\_ or the ability for two people to understand each other when speaking.

- Mandarin Chinese and Cantonese Chinese are dialects of the same language, but are not mutually intelligible. Both can \_\_\_\_\_ the standard form of Chinese, but not understand the spoken language dialects.
- Some languages are separate (Serbian and Croatian) but are \_\_\_\_\_.
- Most linguists recognize between \_\_\_\_\_ languages, including \_\_\_\_\_ in India and over \_\_\_\_\_ in Africa.
- Language is \_\_\_\_\_ and advanced societies are likely to have a \_\_\_\_\_ language (published, widely distributed, and purposefully taught)
- Variants of a standard language are called \_\_\_\_\_. Differences in \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ all mark a speaker's dialect. Dialects nearest to each other will be the most similar due to more interaction, those farther away from each other will be \_\_\_\_\_.



- Geographers mark actual differences in the use of words in dialects using a geographic boundary called an \_\_\_\_\_. Bert Vaux studied the words used for soda, pop, and coke as show on the map at the right

### Why are Languages Distributed the Way They Are?

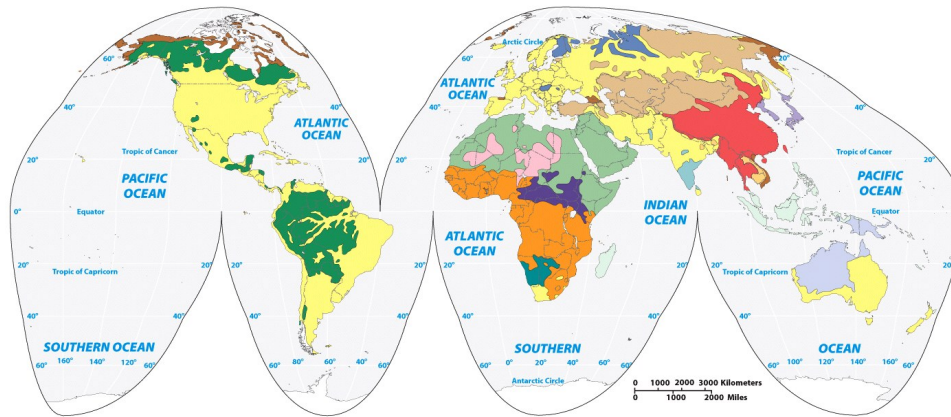


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Languages are classified into  
 (1) \_\_\_\_\_ that are thought to have a shared, but distant origin,  
 (2) \_\_\_\_\_, where the commonalities are more definite and the origin more recent,  
 (3) \_\_\_\_\_ cover a smaller territory, and  
 (4) \_\_\_\_\_ a local or regional variation of a individual language.  
 The \_\_\_\_\_ language family stretches across the greatest extent on the map and has the greatest number of speakers. Within the Indo-European language family, \_\_\_\_\_ is the most widely spoken language of all languages in the world, but \_\_\_\_\_ claims more \_\_\_\_\_ than English. Use the map (p.174-175) to complete the chart below.

Language Family	Major Language(s)	Location
	English	Americas, Europe, SW Asia, Australia, S.Africa
	Chinese	China, SE Asia
	Japanese	Japan, Korea
	Arabic	North Africa, SW Asia
	Teluga	India
	Indonesian	Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Madagascar
	Finnish	Russia, Northern Asia, Finland, Turkey
	Bantu	Sub-Saharan Africa

### Language Formation

Linguists classify languages by examining particular words looking for \_\_\_\_\_ (slight changes in a word across languages in a language family from the present \_\_\_\_\_ to its origin. (e.g Latin lacte (milk) became leche in Spanish, latta in Italian, and lait in French.)

- \_\_\_\_\_ (18<sup>th</sup> c. Englishman) observed that Sanskrit was closely related to ancient Greek and Latin
- \_\_\_\_\_ (19<sup>th</sup> c. German Fairytale author) observed that related languages have similar consonants soften over time (e.g. the v & t **vater** (Ger)...**vadet** (Dut)...**father**(Eng). According to Grimm's theory the consonants became \_\_\_\_\_ as they went \_\_\_\_\_ toward the original hearth.

- From Jones and Grimm's a hypothesis was proposed that an ancestral Indo-European language called \_\_\_\_\_ was the hearth of ancient Latin, Greek, and Sanskrit.
- Linguists use a technique called \_\_\_\_\_. By attempting to deduce a part of the vocabulary of an \_\_\_\_\_ it could be possible to go even further and re-create the language that preceded it, That technique, called \_\_\_\_\_, has yielded important results.
- Vladislav Illich-Svitych & Aharon Dolgopolsky worked independently and then together to identify an ancient ancestor of the Proto-Indo-European language, the \_\_\_\_\_. Nostratic is believed to also be the ancestral language of the \_\_\_\_\_ of the southern Caucasus region, the \_\_\_\_\_ (Hungarian, Finnish, Turkish, and Mongolian) and \_\_\_\_\_ languages of India, and the \_\_\_\_\_ (Arabic) Speakers were hunter-gatherers (no words for domesticated plants)
- Language \_\_\_\_\_ - spatial interactions by speakers break down and the language fragments into dialects and then into discrete tongues.
- Language \_\_\_\_\_ - when languages have consistent spatial interaction, two languages can collapse into one.
- Languages may also become \_\_\_\_\_ (cease to be used).

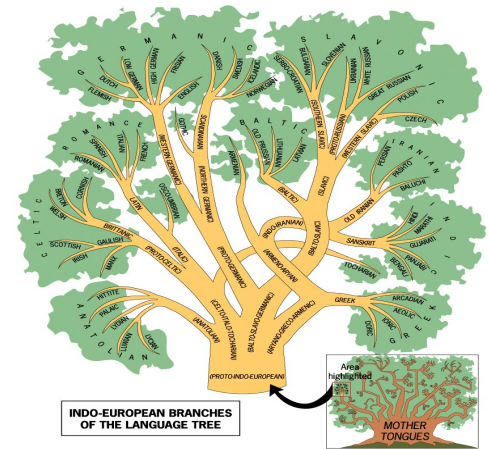


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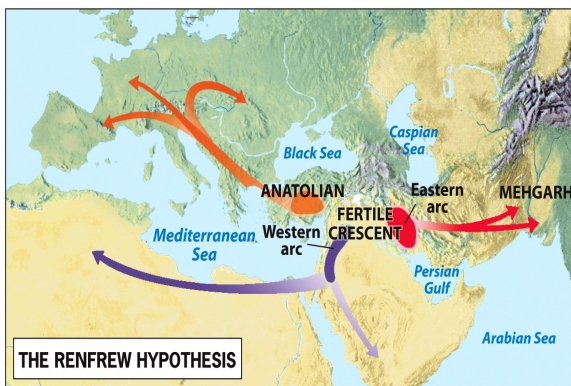


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The \_\_\_\_\_ Model – proposed that three areas in and near the agricultural hearth of the Fertile Crescent gave rise to three language families

- (1) from Anatolia (Turkey) diffused the \_\_\_\_\_
- (2) west of the Fertile Crescent diffused the languages of \_\_\_\_\_
- (3) from the Fertile Crescent's eastern arc ancient languages spread into Iran west to India (later replaced by \_\_\_\_\_)

The \_\_\_\_\_ Theory suggests that the Proto-Indo-European language spread from east to west on horseback, overpowering earlier \_\_\_\_\_ and beginning the diffusion and differentiation of the tongue.



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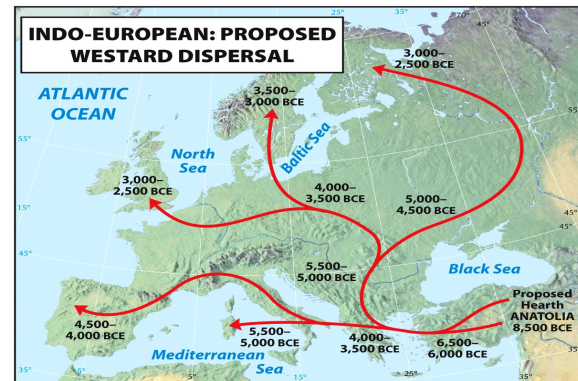


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The \_\_\_\_\_ Theory – suggests that the Proto-Indo-European diffused westward with the diffusion of agriculture. (The Etruscan survived until the Roman times and the **Basque's Euskera** language isolated in the Andorra Mountains between France and Spain survives to this day.) Support for the Ag Theory came from analysis of genes of individuals from locations around Europe.

We still do not know where the hearth of the Proto-Indo-European language was located, but about 1/2 of the world's people speak languages derived from it.

The **GREENBERG HYPOTHESIS** (proposed by Joseph Greenberg in 1987) suggests that there are only three language families of indigenous American languages. (1) **Amerind** – the super family & most widely distributed, (2) **Na-Dene** – spoken in what is now NW Canada, Alaska & the US Southwest, (3) **Eskimo-Aleut** – concentrated along the Arctic.