

WORLD ENGLISHES Q&A SESSION

Wednesday, December 9, 2020, 8:00-9:00 pm Turkey Time
with Lina Jurkunas | moderated by Nihan Erdemir



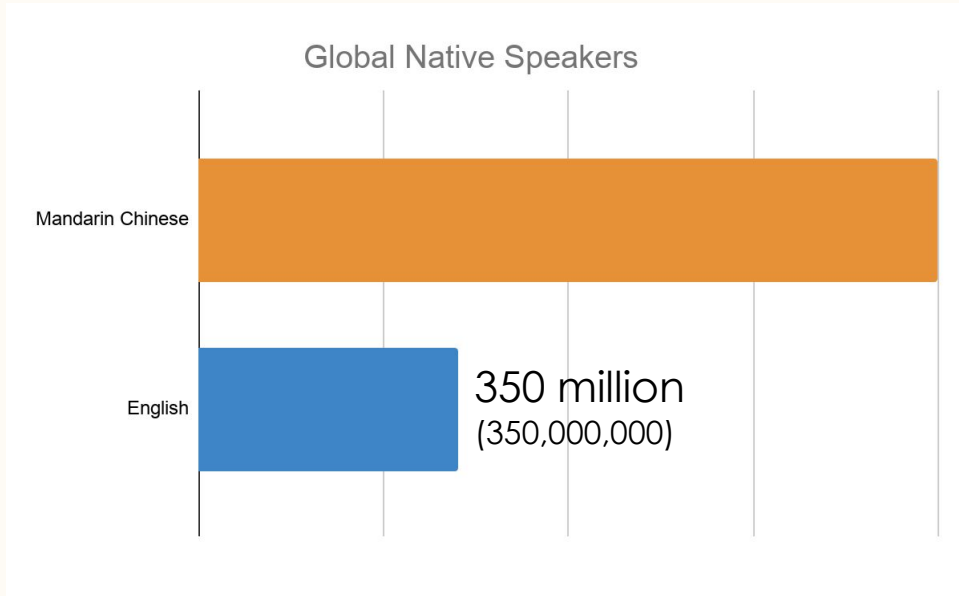
Unless you are asking a question, please MUTE your microphone



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- Content may be used to showcase Lina Jurkunas's work with English language learners.





1 billion
(1,000,000,000)

350 million
(350,000,000)



*Post your answer in
the chat box!*

If there are nearly 1 billion native speakers of Mandarin Chinese and only 350 million native speakers of English, why isn't Mandarin Chinese the world's international language?

AGENDA

- 1) **Introductions** [5 mins]
- 2) **Your questions, Lina's answers**
[45-50 mins]
- 3) **Wrap Up** [5-10 mins]

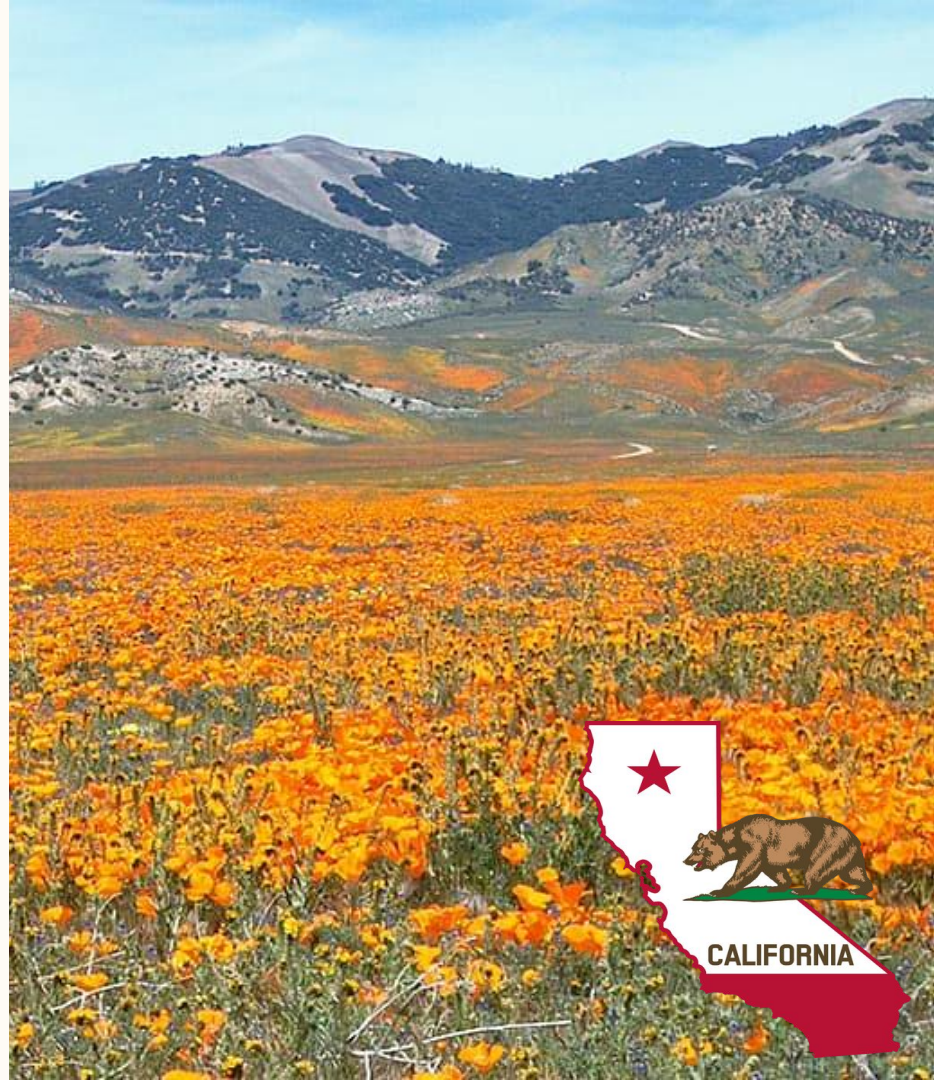


Who is Lina?

- From California
- Master's in TESOL
- Working with English learners for 7 years
- Lived and taught in Turkey
- Teacher for English Language Programs

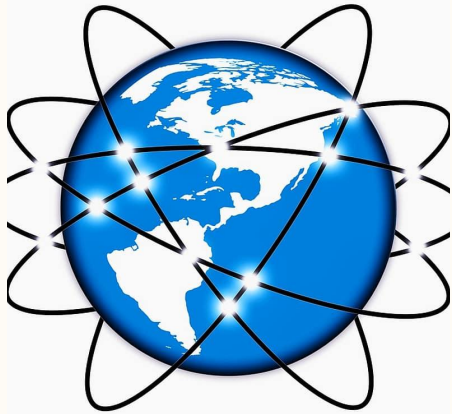


ENGLISH
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QUESTION 1

Hüseyin, One Group to Rule Them All



What are the main reasons for English having become the international lingua franca? What may be the negative and positive consequences?

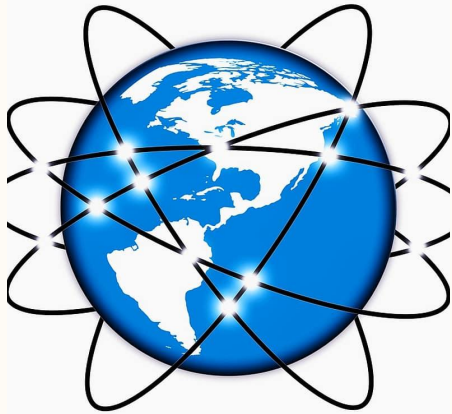
- What do you think are the reasons?

POLL!

- **Reasons** English is a lingua franca
 - British colonization of other lands: U.S., Canada India, Africa, AUS, NZ
 - Globalization
 - The Age of the Internet
 - English mass media
 - US as a global super power

QUESTION 1

Hüseyin, One Group to Rule Them All



What are the main reasons for English having become the international lingua franca? What may be the negative and positive consequences?

- **Positives:**
 - global communication (news, business, academic articles) & global relationships
 - easier to travel
 - the internet is mostly in English
 - diplomacy
- **Negatives:**
 - NESs viewed as “superior” - *not okay!*
 - Many NESs don’t care about learning an L2, L3...
- **6,000** different languages around the world!!
- Each one of them has its own unique identity

QUESTION 2

Buse, Sunshine Group



English is used as a lingua franca in the world. Are you proud of this or what are your other feelings about this situation as a native speaker? Are there any benefits of English as a lingua franca for you or your acquaintances?

- Reasons English is a lingua franca
- Am I proud? No.
- Does this fact help me? Yes.
- Benefits:
 - travel and information: road signs, hotel signs
 - communication worldwide
- Lucky to have learned as my L1

QUESTION 3

Esra, Celestial Group



When colonizers settled in a land, they felt themselves superior to natives and made them feel inferior. Colonized people made an effort to adapt to English but their English was seen as "broken." How do you feel about this attitude towards natives and their accents and some people's attitude towards non-native speakers' accents in the present day?

- How do YOU feel about this?

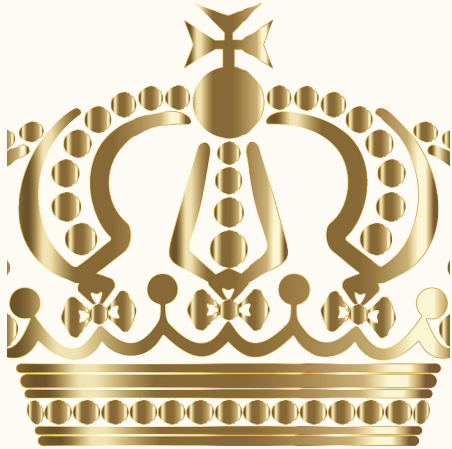


Thumbs up: I feel great about this!
Thumbs down: I don't like this.
Thumbs sideways: I'm not sure.

- EVERYONE has an accent!
- It's part of your identity and what makes you unique

QUESTION 4

Nisa, Reporter Teachers
Group

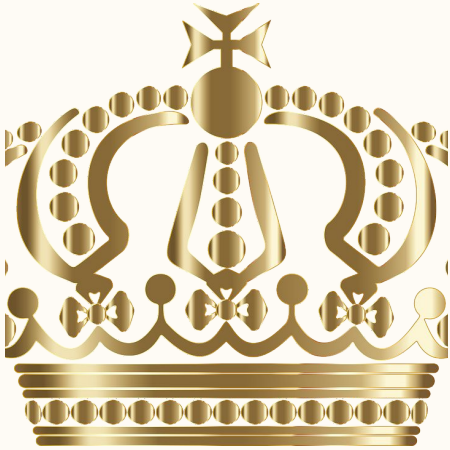


Do you think this is fully true like there is a really proper and prestigious use of language? Or is it just a thought because native speakers see themselves superior to others?

- Do you think one variety of English is superior? **POLL!**
- **“That is history for me; it has gone out the window.”** (David Crystal, *The myth of the native speaker*, 2019)
- **“Varieties of language do not actually have prestige in themselves.** These varieties acquire prestige when their speakers have high prestige.” (Milroy, 2001, p. 532)

QUESTION 4

Nisa, Reporter Teachers
Group



Do you think this is fully true like there is a really proper and prestigious use of language? Or is it just a thought because native speakers see themselves superior to others?

- BUT standardization does help us to communicate
- Intelligibility (able to be understood)

QUESTION 5

Esma, Spicy Group



In Turkey some people have an inferiority complex because of their pronunciation and level of English while speaking. Do you think this inferiority complex is because of the norms in Turkey or because of the way foreigners behave toward us?

- the key is **communication**
 - *producing language in a way that is understood by another and being able to understand another person*
- perfection and native-like speech is not important if communication occurs
- In school: *Grammar-focused, memorizing, lectures*
- *Hard to gain confidence!*

QUESTION 6

Emirhan, Night Owls Group



Given the idea that students are looking to achieve the native accent as their ultimate goal of language learning, what do you think about taking British English or American English as the model for foreign language teaching? Do you think taking one of these two languages as the model for foreign language teaching would be harmful or beneficial for language learners' education and how?

- Which variety of English do you prefer?
 - American English, British English, another variety of English, no preference
- **“There is no such thing as homogeneity in a language!”**
(David Crystal)
- Communication is the key
- Accents are identity
- Teach VARIETIES of English to increase intelligibility

POLL!

QUESTION 7

Medine, Teachers Group

English is a common communication language in Turkey, so we use English as a lingua franca. Did you notice any difference in terms of language skills (pronunciation, writing, reading..) between the other nations who also use English as a lingua franca and us?



- More similarities than differences
- Unique things:
 - Fascination with poetry translation
 - Pronunciation habits (sentence inflection)
 - No gender pronouns in Turkish (he/she) just “o”
 - super cool and even better!

QUESTION 8

Selman, Group 1

(rephrased) What is the effect on different varieties of English and accents as cultural exchange increases throughout the world?



- **“Chaos will not happen as long as the teaching is good.”** (David Crystal)
- boring to just be around language and culture that you know
- Possibilities and hopes:
 - more and more “loan words”
 - adopt things that they like from other varieties and languages
- Example:
 - “afiyet olsun” and “sıhhatler olsun”

QUESTION 9

Dursun, Star20 Group

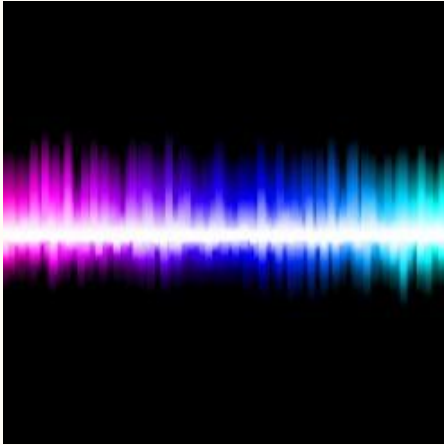


Among the theories of origin for pidgins and creoles, which do you think are close to reality? (e.g. the independent parallel development theory, the nautical jargon theory, the theory of monogenesis and relexification, the baby-talk theory, a synthesis)?

- Linguistic experts - not me!
- Pidgin:
 - no native speakers
 - arises quickly out of a need to communicate
 - a compromise between languages
 - less dominant takes on vocab of dominant but uses grammar of L1
 - contexts limited at first but then expand
- Creole:
 - usually starts as a pidgin
 - when a pidgin is passed on to enough people's children and becomes their native language, then it becomes a creole
 - Examples: Haitian Creole (based on French, 12 million native speakers), Jamaican creoles (based on English)

QUESTION 10

Ayşe, Blue Group



Have you ever heard a pidgin language? If yes, how do you feel when you hear a pidgin language? Does it sound like a completely different language or does it sound like a different version of English?

- Important note: not all pidgins and creoles are based on English!!
- Do a YouTube search yourself!
 - Jamaican Creole or Bislama (English Creole spoken in Vanuatu)
- Have I heard a pidgin or creole? Yes.
 - Example, TV show “The 100” an English creole is used
- Spanish vs. Portuguese
- Each pidgin and each creole is a different language

Wrap Up



Resources

English as a Lingua Franca - Why Did English Become the International Language? by Langfocus <https://youtu.be/iqDFPU9YeQM>

The myth of the native speaker with David Crystal by Canguro English <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p-kZLP2FWUI>

What are Creoles and Pidgins? And What`s the Difference? by Langfocus <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qqJI7SdS9Gg>

Jamaican Patois/Patwah words that everyone should learn part 2 by Jamaican Patwah https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XjS1hl_Sc5A

Pidgins and Creoles.

https://www.uni-due.de/SVE/VARS_PidginsAndCreoles.htm

American English. For English Teachers Around the World.

<https://americanenglish.state.gov/>



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