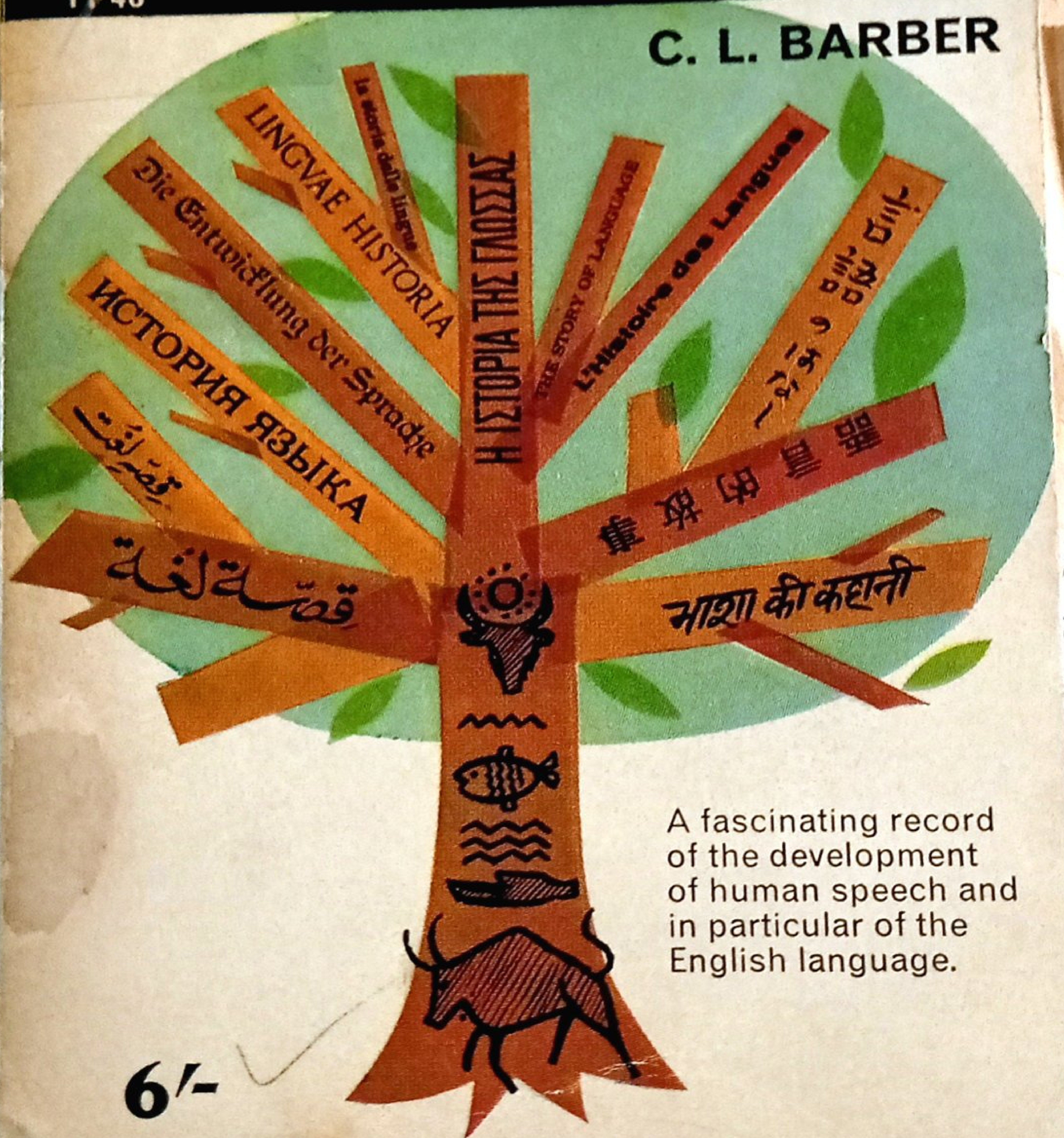




# the story of LANGUAGE

TP48

C. L. BARBER



A fascinating record of the development of human speech and in particular of the English language.

6/-



425

W409

## CONTENTS

CHAPTER	PAGE
PREFACE . . . . .	vii
I WHAT IS LANGUAGE? . . . . .	9
II THE ORIGIN OF LANGUAGE AND THE INVENTION OF WRITING . . . . .	27
III THE FLUX OF LANGUAGE . . . . .	51
IV LANGUAGE FAMILIES . . . . .	70
V THE INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES . . . . .	79
VI THE GERMANIC LANGUAGES . . . . .	103
VII OLD ENGLISH . . . . .	121
VIII THE VIKINGS IN ENGLAND . . . . .	142
IX THE NORMAN CONQUEST . . . . .	150
X MIDDLE ENGLISH . . . . .	167
XI EARLY MODERN ENGLISH . . . . .	188
XII ENGLISH IN THE SCIENTIFIC AGE . . . . .	205
XIII ENGLISH AS A WORLD LANGUAGE . . . . .	224
XIV CHANGES IN MEANING . . . . .	239
XV ENGLISH TODAY AND TOMORROW . . . . .	257
GLOSSARY . . . . .	263
SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER READING . . . . .	288