What sets humans apart from all other species?
1. LANGUAGE

– a set of sounds, combinations of sounds, and symbols that are used for communication.
• What does language allow us to do that other species cannot?
  – Communicate
  – Reason
  – Create CULTURE
  – Language is the foundation of culture
2. **Mutual Intelligibility**: Means two people can understand each other when speaking.
# Top Ten Languages in the World

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th>Speakers in Millions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chinese</td>
<td>1213</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>329</td>
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<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>328</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arabic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hindi</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bengali</td>
<td>181</td>
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<tr>
<td>Portuguese</td>
<td>178</td>
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<tr>
<td>Russian</td>
<td>144</td>
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<tr>
<td>Japanese</td>
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<td>German</td>
<td>90.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>Percent</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>12.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chinese</td>
<td>0.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tagalog</td>
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<tr>
<td>French</td>
<td>0.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vietnamese</td>
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<tr>
<td>German</td>
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<tr>
<td>Korean</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russian</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italian</td>
<td>0.3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
3. The Language Tree

- 19 Language Families
- Each Family has its own branches
- Each branch has its own groups
- Each group has its own language
- Each language has its own dialects
4. Language Family
A collection of individual languages with a common ancestor
5. Language Branches
A group of languages that share a common origin but have evolved into different languages

• **Language Family**
A collection of individual languages with a common ancestor
• Three Major Branches of Language in Europe

Romance Languages

– French, Spanish, Italian, Romanian and Portuguese
– Areas controlled by Roman Empire
– Local Languages mixed with Latin
Slavic Languages

- Russian, Polish, Czech, Slovak, Ukrainian, Slovenian, Serbo-Croatian and Bulgarian
- Developed as Slavic people migrated into present day Ukraine
Germanic Languages

- English, German, Danish, Norwegian and Swedish
- Expansion of peoples out of Northern Europe
- Particularly Germanic tribes moving into areas dominated by Rome
6. Language Group

Several individual languages within a language branch
– share a common origin in recent past
– few differences in grammar and vocabulary

- Language Branches
  A group of languages that share a common origin but have evolved into different languages

- Language Family
  A collection of individual languages with a common ancestor
• **Languages**

• **Language Group**
  Several individual languages within a language branch
  – share a common origin in recent past
  – few differences in grammar and vocabulary

• **Language Branches**
  A group of languages that share a common origin but have evolved into different languages

• **Language Family**
  A collection of individual languages with a common ancestor
7. Dialects

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

- **Languages**

- **Language Group**
  Several individual languages within a language branch
  - share a common origin in recent past
  - few differences in grammar and vocabulary

- **Language Branches**
  A group of languages that share a common origin but have evolved into different languages

- **Language Family**
  A collection of individual languages with a common ancestor
• **Dialect**: has its own grammar, vocabulary, syntax, and common expressions as well as pronunciation rules that make it unique from other dialects of the same language.
8. Isogloss: A geographic boundary within which a particular linguistic feature occurs
9. **Dialect Chain**: A set of contiguous dialects in which the dialects nearest each other at any place are most closely related.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHINESE DIALECTS</th>
<th>Speakers in Millions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gan</td>
<td>20.6</td>
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<td>Hakka</td>
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<tr>
<td>Huizhou</td>
<td>4.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jinyu</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mandarin</td>
<td>845</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Min Bei</td>
<td>10.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Min Dong</td>
<td>9.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Min Nan</td>
<td>47.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Min Zhong</td>
<td>3.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wu</td>
<td>77.2</td>
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<td>Xiang</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yue</td>
<td>55.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARABIC DIALECTS</td>
<td>Speakers in Millions</td>
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<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Algerian</td>
<td>22.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egyptian</td>
<td>54</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gulf (Iraq)</td>
<td>3.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hijazi (Saudia Arabia)</td>
<td>6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mesopotamian (Iraq)</td>
<td>15.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moraccan</td>
<td>21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Najdi (Saudia Arabia)</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>North Levantine (Syria)</td>
<td>14.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>North Mesopotamian (Iraq)</td>
<td>6.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saidi (Egypt)</td>
<td>19.0</td>
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<td>Sanaan (Yemen)</td>
<td>7.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Levantine (Jordan)</td>
<td>6.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sudanese</td>
<td>16.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taizzi-Adeni (Yemen)</td>
<td>7.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tunisian</td>
<td>9.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
10. **Accent**: A distinctive mode of pronunciation of a language. Usually associated with a particular nation, locality, or social class (e.g. they have a strong southern accent). Refers only to the way words are pronounced.
18. The Indo-European Family

- The single largest language family
  - 150 languages
  - Three billion speakers.
  - Languages include
    - Hindi and Urdu (400 million)
    - Bengali (200 million)
    - Spanish (300 million)
    - Portuguese (200 million)
    - French (100 million)
    - German (100 million)
    - Russian (300 million)
    - English (400 million) in Europe and the Americas.
28. Diffusion of Proto-Indo-European

- Two Major Theories
  - Conquest
  - Dispersal or Agricultural
29. Conquest Theory

• Early speakers of PIE (proto-indo-european) spread from east to west on horseback
• Overpowered earlier inhabitants through warfare and technology
• Sound shifts show long period of divergence moving slowly west
Hearth was Kurgan Empire (modern day Ukraine)
30. Dispersal or Agricultural Theory

- PIE diffused westward with the diffusion of agriculture / farming
- Farming innovation spread – replaces hunting and gathering
- Farmers complete spread across Europe in about 1500 years
- Some non-farmers hold out and their languages do not change – example Euskera in the Basque region of Spain.
- Agricultural theory also known as Renfrew Hypothesis
Hearth was Anatolia Region (modern day Turkey)
• **FRQ FUN**

• Read the article linked below and answer the FRQ.
  

  a. Identify the source area of IndoEuropean language advocated in the article.

  b. Discuss two supporting evidences for the Anatolian theory from the article and one supporting evidence for the Kurgan theory.
11. The Afro-Asiatic Family

- 240 languages
- 250 million speakers.
- Includes ancient Egyptian, Hebrew, and Aramaic, as well as the great Nigerian language Hausa.
- The many dialects of Arabic alone are spoken by as many as 200 million people.
12. The Dravidian Family

• These are the "old" languages of India
• 150 million speakers.
• Best known are Tamil and Telugu.
13. The Sino-Tibetan Family

- Includes 250 languages.
- Mandarin Chinese alone is spoken by one billion people!
14. The Austronesian Family

- Includes 1000 different languages
- Spoken by about 250 million speakers
- Malay and Indonesian (essentially the same language) account for about 140 million.
- Other examples include
  - Madagascar in Africa
  - Tagalog in the Philippines
  - Many languages of the Pacific Islands, from Hawaiian in the north Pacific to Maori in New Zealand.
15. The Amerind Family (North America)

- includes nearly 600 languages
- 20 million speakers.
- Some of the best known are
  - Ojibwa
  - Dakota (or Sioux)
  - Cherokee
  - Hopi
  - Nahuatl (or Aztec)
  - Mayan languages.
16. The Amerind Family (South America)

• Well known languages include
  – Quechua (Inca)
  – Guarani
  – Carib.
  – The Andean language sub-family (which includes Quechua) numbers nearly nine million speakers!
A map of South America showing various linguistic regions and geographical areas.
17. The Niger-Congo Family

• The largest sub-Saharan African family of languages
• includes some 1,000 languages
• Close to 200 million speakers.
• Includes
  – Mandinka
  – Swahili
  – Yoruba
  – Zulu
19. Proto-Tongue

- Language developed nearly 2.5 million years ago
- All original speakers communicated in the proto-tongue or original language
- As speakers diffused through migration, language divergence occurred and new languages and dialects spawned from the proto-language
Out of Africa Route
Into India and Peopling of Eurasia
Based on Recombinational Analysis
20. Language Divergence: Occurs when speakers of the same language scatter and develop variations of that original language to meet their needs in new surroundings.

- As human groups came into contact with new concepts they created new words to describe them.
21. Language convergence: When peoples with different languages have consistent spatial interaction and their languages collapse into one.
22. Language Shift: When speakers come into contact with other languages, a blending of the two languages can occur.
23. Language Replacement: Occurs when invaders replace the language of those places they conquer.
24. **Reverse Deconstruction:** Process to trace the path of a language’s diffusion. Tracks 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)
25. **Sound Shifts**: Slight change in a word across languages over time. Used to find linkages among languages.
Language Isolate: A language with no relationship to other languages, did not descend from an ancestor common with any other language. Language isolates are in effect language families consisting of a single language. Examples Basque and Korean.
26. Deep Reconstruction

• An attempt to recreate an ancient language using reverse deconstruction.

• Technique using the vocabulary of an extinct language to recreate the language that proceeded the extinct language.
27. Nostratic Language: Believed to be the ancestral language of PIE as well as the Kartvelian, Uralic-Altaic, Afro-Asiatic and Dravidian language families.
32. Standard Language: a language that is published, widely distributed, and purposefully taught.

   Government usually plays a big role in standardizing a language.
36. **Lingua Franca**

- A common language used among speakers of different languages for the purposes of commerce and trade.

  - For example English is considered the lingua franca of academics
31. HISTORY OF ENGLISH in 10 minutes

• [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H3r9bOkYW9s](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H3r9bOkYW9s)
• Rome leaves Britannica
• Anglos move in from Northern Germany (Angloland – England) bringing native language to the Island
• Christian Church established – continues mixing of Latin and Anglo/English
• Vikings invade – mix some vik language in
• Normans (French) Invade – French becomes language of power, English language of the poor and powerless
• 100 year war – French out – English the language of power
• English Empire – Colonize and spread English around world – mixing thousands of languages with English
Over centuries English is established as a dominant language in
- Literature (Shakespeare)
- Science
- Religion (King James Bible)
- Dictionaries (standardized which makes spread easier)
- Economics (Capitalism)
- Internet
33. **Monolingual State** a country in which only one language is spoken
   - Japan, Iceland, Denmark

34. **Multilingual State**
a country in which more than one language is in use
   - India, Peru, United States
35. Official Language
Language adopted by the government. Usually selected by elite and becomes the language of courts and government.
37. **Pidgins:** When people who speak two or more languages are in contact and they combine parts of their language in a simplified structure and vocabulary

- Is a second language for everyone who uses it
- Often used in business or work supervision
- Very simplified – think 2 year old speech
38. Creole: Language that evolves when a pidgin becomes the first language of a group of speakers.

- May lose their mother tongue from disuse
- More complex grammatical structure and enhanced vocabulary
- Think 4-5 year old speech
Nigerian Creole

- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D8GRpu6c71I
• Us two bin get hard time raising dog
• The two of us had a hard time raising dogs
• John them stay cockroach the kaukua
• John and his friends are stealing the food
• More better I bin go Honolulu for buy om
• It would have been better if I’d gone to Honolulu to buy it
• Mo pe aste sa banan
• I am buying the banana
• French based Seychelles Creole

• A waka go a wosu
• He walked home
• English based Cape York Creole

• Ja fruher wir blieben
• Yes, at first we remained
• German based Papua New Guinea Pidgin
39. Language Extinction: When a language is no longer used.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eiW59UUUivc0

• http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/south_asia/8498534.stm
Language Hotspots

These areas have a high number of languages in danger of extinction.

THREAT LEVEL
- SEVERE
- HIGH
- MEDIUM
- LOW
Countries with most languages at risk

- **Unsafe**: 9.6%
- **Endangered**: 9.4%
- **Highly endangered**: 15.5%
- **Extinct**: 3.7%

As % of world total

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Safe</th>
<th>Unsafe*</th>
<th>Endangered†</th>
<th>Highly endangered‡</th>
<th>Extinct§</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>62.7</td>
<td>9.6</td>
<td>9.4</td>
<td>15.5</td>
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<td>United States</td>
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<td>Brazil</td>
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<td>Indonesia</td>
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<td>Papua New Guinea</td>
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<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* Most children speak language but restricted to certain domains
† Children no longer learn language at home
‡ Youngest speakers are grandparents or older
§ Since 1950. No speakers left

Source: UNESCO
DON’T INSIST ON ENGLISH

• http://www.ted.com/talks/patricia_ryan_ideas_in_all_languages_not_just_english?language=en
• **Language Extinction Case Study**
  – Choose a language currently on the brink of extinction.
  – Research the language and respond to the following prompts
    • Where is the language spoken
    • How many currently speak the language
    • Provide a brief history of the language (think 60 second history of English).
    • Identify 3 factors leading to the languages extinction.
    • One page write up in notebook.
40. **Toponym:** Place names

41. **Toponymy:** The place names of a region or the study of place names.
Toponyms

• Naming things is one of the primary purposes of language

• Study of toponyms can give you insight into immigration patterns, colonial influence, religion, language and cultural diffusion.
  – “burg” = city – German roots
  – Hamburg – City in Germany
  – Pittsburgh – City in United States
• Place names often consist of two parts
  a generic classifying part - River
  a specific modifying, or particular part - Red

In English the specific usually comes first
  Red River
  Two Oregon Examples

In French the generic usually comes first
  River Rouge
  Two examples - anywhere
42. Postcolonial Toponyms

• After colonies became independent countries they often changed place names.
43. Post Revolution Toponyms: Place names changed after a revolution.

– St Petersburg was changed to Leningrad after the Russian Revolution and has now been changed back after the fall of communism
44. Memorial Toponyms: Change in place name to memorialize an important person or event.

- 3 Examples?
10 Toponym Types

- Descriptive
- Associative
- Commemorative
- Commendatory
- Incidents
- Possession
- Folk
- Manufactured
- Mistakes
- Shift
- DEFINE EACH AND FIND TWO EXAMPLES NOT IN TEXTBOOK