

Weeks 1-2: Basic linguistic terminology

I. vocabulary-related terms (*lex-* terms)

- A. lexicon
- B. lexeme

II. grammar-related terms

A. word-level grammar

- 1. morphology and *morph-* terms
- 2. free and bound morphemes
- 3. inflectional and derivational morphemes

B. sentence- or phrase-level grammar

- 1. syntax
- 2. analytic
- 3. synthetic

III. pronunciation- and sound-related terms (*phon-* terms)

- A. phonology
- B. phoneme
- C. minimal pair
- D. allophone
- E. prosody

IV. other linguistic terms and concepts

- A. semantics
- B. pragmatics
- C. language as arbitrary and conventional(ized)

Weeks 2-3: The International Phonetic Alphabet and articulatory descriptions

I. consonants

A. places of articulation

1. bilabial
2. labiodental
3. interdental
4. alveolar
5. alveolopalatal
6. palatal
7. velar
8. glottal

B. manners of articulation

1. stop
2. fricative
3. affricate
4. nasal
5. liquid
6. lateral
7. retroflex
8. glide (semivowel)

C. vocal cord activity

1. voiced consonants
2. voiceless consonants

II. vowels

A. places of articulation

1. height
2. frontedness

B. other vowel qualities and characteristics

1. tense / lax
2. length
3. monophthongs and diphthongs

Week 3: The Indo-European hypothesis and language relatedness

I. the Indo-European language family

- A. I-E languages
- B. Proto-Indo-European

II. non-Indo-European languages

III. Sir William Jones

- A. Sanskrit, ancient Greek, and Latin
- B. the Indo-European hypothesis

IV. August Schleicher: *Stammbaumtheorie*, or 'family tree' theory

- A. regularity hypothesis
- B. relatedness hypothesis
- C. *Ursprache* and *Grundsprache*
- D. problems with theory

V. Johannes Schmidt and *wellentheorie* ('waves of innovation')

Week 4: Germanic languages evolve from Proto-Indo-European

I. external development

- A. archaeological data
- B. migration patterns
- C. geographical proximity and language change

II. internal development

- A. prosodic changes
- B. lexical developments
- C. grammatical changes
 1. P-I-E → Germanic verb forms
 2. reduction of P-I-E case system in Germanic
 3. development of Germanic prepositional system
 4. number and gender in P-I-E and Germanic

Week 4: Germanic languages evolve from Proto-Indo-European (continued)

II. internal development

C. grammatical changes

5. development of dental preterite in Germanic

- a. strong and weak verbs
- b. ablaut

6. inflectional system and word order

D. phonological changes

- 1. stability of Germanic vowels
- 2. First Sound Shift (aka First Consonant Shift)

- a. Grimm's Law
- b. Verner's Law

Weeks 5-7: Old English

I. England before English

- A. indigenous people
- B. languages spoken in the British Isles before English
- C. Roman occupation

II. external history of Old English

A. immigration, conquests, and invasions

- 1. Germanic tribes
- 2. Picts and Scots
- 3. "Danes" (Vikings)

B. historical and literary documents from OE period

- 1. surviving OE poetry
- 2. prose works
- 3. key figures (Bede, Alfred the Great)

Weeks 5-7: Old English (continued)

III. Internal history and features of OE

A. phonology

1. consonants

- a. changes from Germanic
- b. new phonemes
- c. allophonic vs. phonemic status

2. vowels

- a. major vowel changes from Germanic to OE
- b. front mutation (or i-umlaut) and impact on morphology

B. orthography

1. the *futhorc*
2. the Latin alphabet

C. grammar: syntax and morphology

1. synthetic grammatical system
2. morphology and inflections
3. word order
4. strong and weak declensions of nouns and adjectives
5. strong and weak verbs (ablaut and dental preterite)
6. grammatical gender
7. pronouns and case; pronoun conservatism

D. OE Lexicon

1. wordstock and sources of loanwords
2. compounding and affixing
3. survival of OE words in PDE

Weeks 8-10: Middle English

I. the Norman influence

A. political and social significance

B. linguistic impacts

1. language contact and English grammar
2. Norman French and the English lexicon

C. who were the Normans?

1. Scandinavian connection
2. adoption of French culture
3. relationships with French kings

D. English and Norman relations before the invasion

1. Æthelred
2. Edward the Confessor

E. events leading up to the invasion

1. death of Edward
2. regional earls in England
3. Harold Godwinson as heir
4. claim of William, Duke of Normandy
5. English attitudes toward French

F. invasion(s)!

1. Harald Hadrada's claim to the throne
2. Norman invasion and Battle of Hastings

G. political aftermath: what the invasion meant for England

1. to the victors go the spoils
2. English nobility
3. English resistance
4. the role of the Church

Weeks 8-10: Middle English (continued)

I. the Norman influence

H. language and social class in England

1. the working class and the ruling class
2. status of French and English languages in England
3. English and French relations
 - a. connections with continental Europe
 - b. Normandy
 - c. English holdings in France

II. Why we speak English today, and not French

A. King John England loses Normandy

1. political implications
2. effects on language

B. a setback for English: the French in England and their friends in high places

C. rise of English nationalism

D. the Hundred Years War (1337-1453)

E. emergence of the middle class in England

1. the plague
2. effects on labor and wages
3. Peasants' Revolt
4. prosperity of craftspeople and merchants
5. what the English language has to do with any of this

F. English as 'prestige' language of England

1. a new literary tradition
2. legal proceedings
3. literacy in English

III. internal changes and characteristics of Middle English

A. problems in documentation of early ME

B. variation and change

C. a new standard

Weeks 8-10: Middle English (continued)

III. internal changes and characteristics of Middle English

D. loanwords

E. spelling

F. language standards and the relationship between written OE and written ME

G. ME phonology

1. consonants

- a. stability of consonant system
- b. voicing of fricatives (phonemic)
- c. distribution of consonants

2. vowels

a. general vowel issues

- i. instability of English vowel system
- ii. limitations of English alphabet
- iii. scholarly controversy regarding vowel sounds

b. qualitative vowel changes from OE to ME

c. key vowel development: /ə/ becomes phonemic

- i. unstressed syllable reduction
- ii. morphological consequences

d. quantitative vowel changes from OE to ME: phonemic vowel length

H. ME grammar

1. morphology: further reduction of inflectional endings

2. syntax: a shift from synthetic to analytic grammatical system

- a. language contact
- b. connection to phonological changes
- c. fixing of word order

Weeks 8-10: Middle English (continued)

III. internal changes and characteristics of ME

I. ME lexicon

1. developing characteristics of English vocabulary in general, including in PDE

- a. large size
- b. tendency to borrow

2. characteristics of ME lexicon in particular

- a. loanwords
- b. adaptability of new words
- c. French/Latin-derived words vs. Germanic words
- d. diversity and stylistic variation
- e. new words and common word-formation mechanisms

Weeks 11-12: Early Modern English

I. External history: technological, cultural, and political Influences on the language

A. technology

1. new printing technologies

- a. Caxton
- b. early printing in Asia
- c. Gutenberg
 - i. moveable type
 - ii. Gutenberg Bible

2. effects of printing on language

- a. spelling
- b. literacy
- c. English translations of classical works
- d. London dialect as prestige variety

Weeks 11-12: Early Modern English (continued)

I. External history: technological, cultural, and political influences on the language

B. culture

1. the Renaissance

- a. loanwords
- b. style of English writers
- c. prestige of classical languages vs. English

2. religious transformations, especially the Protestant Reformation

- a. split of Protestants from Catholic Church
- b. King James Bible (1611)
- c. secular education

3. renewed English nationalism

C. commerce

1. Industrial Revolution

- a. urban population growth
- b. upward mobility
- c. language authorities
- d. technical vocabulary

2. exploration, colonization, and trade

3. the American Revolution

4. the export of English around the world

II. language consciousness

A. English as scholarly language

- 1. French and Latin as prestige languages
- 2. the trouble with English

Weeks 11-12: Early Modern English (continued)

II. language consciousness

B. the beginnings of prescriptivism in English

1. claims of “inadequacy” of English vocabulary

- a. “inelegance” of English wordstock
- b. language of law, science, and medicine
- c. role of Latin
- d. debates over borrowing and language “purity”

2. problems with English spelling

- a. influx of French
- b. sound changes in English
- c. relationship between spelling and pronunciation
- d. spelling reform

- i. proposals for reform
- ii. ‘fixing’ of spelling

C. dictionaries

- 1. a product of language consciousness
- 2. Cawdrey and Cawdrey, *A Table Alphabeticall* (1604)
- 3. Johnson’s *Dictionary of the English Language* (1755)

D. an English language academy?

- 1. proponents of academy
- 2. objections to academy
- 3. American English and the academy idea

E. codification of English grammar

- 1. emergence of prescriptivism and language consciousness
- 2. class mobility
- 3. education and literacy

Weeks 11-12: Early Middle English (continued)

F. the Age of Reason

1. science, technology, and medicine
2. emphasis on logic, reason, and organization
3. Newton and Linneaus

G. belief in 'divine' quality of language

1. beliefs about language origins
2. universal grammar
3. deviation from and restoration of divine qualities
4. Latin as model
5. beliefs about inflectional languages

H. 18th-century grammarians and important publications

1. Priestly, *The Rudiments of English Grammar* (1761)
2. Lowth, *A Short Introduction to Grammar* (1762)
3. Webster, *Plain and Comprehensive Grammar* (1784)

I. some long-term effects of prescriptive grammarian movement

III. Internal history of Early Modern English

A. EMod phonology

1. consonants

- a. system-wide differences between ME and EMod
- b. establishment of consonant system

2. spelling and phonology

- a. literacy
- b. borrowing

Weeks 11-12: Early Modern English (continued)

III. Internal history of Early Modern English

A. EMod phonology

3. vowels

a. the Great Vowel Shift

- i. phonemic vowel length
- ii. chain shift?

b. approximate dates

- c. effects on relationship between pronunciation and spelling
- d. what happened?

B. EMod Grammar

1. verbs

- a. strong and weak verbs
- b. regular and irregular verbs
- c. anomalous verbs
- d. state of inflections

2. nouns

- a. case
- b. gender
- c. number

3. pronouns: inflection and conservatism

4. adjectives

Weeks 13-15: Later Modern English, American English, and World Englishes

I. English gets around

A. old-school globalization (see also: *colonialism* and *imperialism*)

1. impacts of English on the rest of the world

- a. England takes its show on the road
- b. export of the English language
- c. English as a native language outside the British Isles
- d. English as a widely spoken second (or third or fourth) language
- e. "official" English

2. impacts on the English language itself

- a. new loanwords
- b. divergence of American and British varieties
- c. other new Englishes

B. after the revolution(s)

1. political milieu

- a. American and French Revolutions
- b. re-thinking of distribution of power, from monarchy to democracy
- c. some linguistic consequences

2. American English after the Revolution

- a. desire for independence from overseas rule
- b. American English as symbol of national identity
- c. speech accommodation theory and divergence
- d. Webster's *American Dictionary of the English Language* (1828)
- e. American attitudes toward word-borrowing
- f. spelling English in North America: more attempts at reform

- i. Ben Franklin
- ii. Noah Webster
- iii. Isaac Pitman and Alexander Ellis
- iv. 20th- and 21st- century reform attempts

Weeks 13-15: Later Modern English, American English, and World Englishes (continued)

I. English gets around

C. technology in the 19th century and beyond

1. developments in agricultural technology

- a. greater production capabilities and larger-scale production
- b. migration from rural areas to urban centers

2. the Industrial Revolution

- a. decline of political power of land-holding European aristocracy
- b. eradication of peasant class
- c. shift in power to urban centers
- d. establishment of new social class system

3. effects of technological advances on language

a. external factors

- i. social networks
- ii. social and geographical mobility
- iii. language contact
- iv. speaker diversity

b. linguistic consequences

- i. leveling for mutual intelligibility
- ii. regional variation
- iii. social variation

D. new Industrial Revolutions in the 20th-21st centuries

1. science and technology

2. lexical impacts on the language

- a. loanwords
- b. functional shift
- c. compounding
- d. affixing
- e. clipping

Weeks 13-15: Later Modern English, American English, and World Englishes (continued)

I. English gets around

D. new Industrial Revolutions in the 20th-21st centuries

2. lexical impacts on the language

f. back formation

g. coinage

h. acronyms and initialisms

II. American English

A. linguistic diversity of early immigrant settlers in North America

B. forced immigration of Africans via the slave trade

C. immigration waves in the 19th and 20th centuries

D. later 20th- and 21st-century immigration

E. the English that immigrants heard when they got here

F. contact, assimilation, and language change

III. The future is now: New-school globalization and English around the world

A. lexical borrowing and loaning

B. mutual intelligibility in the English-speaking world

a. literacy in English-speaking countries

b. conservatism and relative stability of writing system

C. media and technology: the transmission of English around the world

1. linguistic impacts on speakers

a. mutual intelligibility

b. a global "standard"

c. English as lingua franca of technology and commerce

d. desire for English-language learning in non-English-speaking countries

Weeks 13-15: Later Modern English, American English, and World Englishes (continued)

III. The future is now: New-school globalization and English around the world

2. impacts on the language

- a. variation
- b. contact-driven change
- c. mutual unintelligibility of varieties of English?

3. the economics of English

- a. English as commercial lingua franca
- b. the English-teaching industry

D. English: fit to be a “world language”?

1. external factors

- a. uniqueness of English-speaking culture
- b. technology and media

2. internal/linguistic claims made in favor of English

- a. lexical diversity
- b. grammatical features

3. internal/linguistic claims against English

- a. problematic spelling system
- b. idiomatic usages
- c. analytic grammatical system

4. external (social/cultural) claims against English as a world language

- a. cultural homogenization
- b. exacerbation of economic inequalities
- c. increase in monolingualism of English speakers
- d. loss of indigenous languages