



Imagining English: The role of english language in shaping global communication and cultural exchange

R Dewangan

Guest Teaching Assistant, Department of English, Naveen Government College, Rampur, Korba, Chhattisgarh, India

Abstract

The English language has been significantly impacted by globalization. It has altered the dynamics of language itself and affected how English is used. English has frequently been referred to be the "global language," the lingua franca of the contemporary period, due to its widespread usage. English is now the language that is taught as a second language the most often worldwide, despite the fact that it is not an official language in the majority of nations. Every facet of international life, including trade, research, diplomacy, education, and travel, involves the use of English. This age, commonly referred to as the globalization era, is rife with difficulties and rivalries. Everyone is working to improve their fluency in English, which is highly desired in the current environment due to its worldwide impact. Speaking fluent English is widely considered to be one of the most dominant skills in today's environment, where the English language has taken centre stage in all facets of communication. People acquire it through higher education and numerous other learning resources.

Keywords: Globalization, english, communication, multilingualism, intercultural communication, standardization

Introduction

"The English language is nobody's special property It is the property of the imagination: it is the property of the language itself." (Derek Walcott)

The process of integrating many cultures, languages, organizations, nations, etc. from across the world is known as globalization. English is essentially a west Germanic language that comes from England. English is currently widely used as an official language or as a second language. particularly throughout decades of shared affluence. Anglophones are people who speak English as their first or second language. The statistics assessment indicates that English is widely spoken around the world and is utilized by people worldwide. It has the highest score in the whole world, demonstrating the English language's extraordinarily high level of popularity worldwide.

Acceptance of The English Language in Society

Speaking a language gives us the ability to convey our ideas and thoughts in addition to facilitating communication. "A language is a system of arbitrary vocal symbols by which a social group co-operates," according to the two most famous American linguists, Bernard Bloch and George L. Trager. These lines inspire and encourage us to appreciate the importance of language and demonstrate the meaning of the term "globalization," which has become a crucial tool for connecting nations for commercial and other purposes while also enhancing the integrity and positive relationships between them. The most valuable resource, communication, has been triggered by a number of globalization-related factors. As is well known, India was ruled by the British for almost 200 years. When the country gained independence from the British in 1947, it took some time for the first elected parliament to decide on a language that would be advantageous to the official states. The new law of the nation acknowledged at least 23 languages, including English, when the Indian constitution was finally developed and approved by the constitution assembly in 1950. As we

discuss the current situation, proficiency in the English language is crucial. It demonstrates how, in contrast to other languages, English existed before globalization but has now evolved into a universal language.

These days, "trilingual society or multilingualism" is being supported by many other nations. In 1968, the Government of India's Ministry of Education developed three language learning formulas in consultation with the states. According to this formula, the mother tongue should be the primary language, followed by Hindi or English, depending on the state. This means that states that speak Hindi learn English, while states that do not speak Hindi learn Hindi as a second language. In both Hindi-speaking and non-Hindi-speaking states, a third modern Indian language should be used as the second language. Globalization is generally promoted via education. People should now go out and experience the world without fear. Idioms, phrases, loan words, root words, and portmanteau words are all essential to learning a new language.

What Caused English To Become A Universal Language?

According to David Crystal, a language does not become a global or universal language due to its inherent structural characteristics or the size of its vocabulary. Rather, it becomes an international language for one main reason: the political and military might of its people, as well as economic developments that started to operate globally with the help of new communication technologies like the telegraph and telephone radio and the promotion of massive continental organization. British governmental dominance during the nineteenth century was crucial in granting the English language this kind of legitimacy, and it was thanks to this that the English language gained such worldwide prestige. Later, with the advent of the twentieth century, English gained such a high status that it was fully recognized. English language instruction and usage will not only provide the much-needed unifying factor in the

education sector. But it will also bring us into the current world of ideas; it will allow us to stay in the company of the monarchs of the realm of ideas and facilitate the sharing of our own brothers' and sisters' experiences. Because it started in the United States, the Internet has become a global powerhouse in computers and other technology. Because of this, English is also widely used in the scientific community. We are all aware that the English language is currently taught as a foreign language and utilized extensively in the fields of science and technology.

An Indian-American linguist named Braj Bihari Kachru provided a paradigm for using the English language. He defined it in 1985 using three concentric rings that represent English as a foreign language (EFL) and English as a second language (ESL): the inner circle, outer circle, and expanding circle.

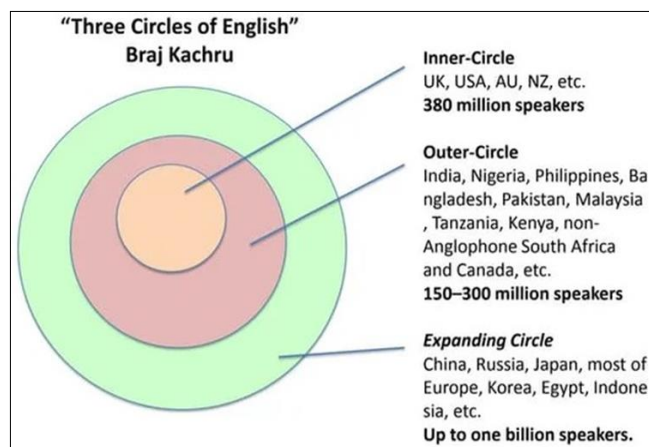


Fig 1: Kachru's Model

A Global Language: What is it?

If a language is introduced to a new group or society, its survival or advancement is dependent on how many people use it as their native tongue. This is because if the number of people using a language declines, the language itself will also disappear. In order to advance the notion that the new field of English had been their greatest option for "real humanistic education," the Association of English was established. As a result, Latin and Greek were eliminated from university and school curriculum. We have seen that English has influenced every aspect of our existence, including political, economic, and scientific aspects. As a result, more individuals are drawn to English than to any other language. As a result, English becomes the dominant language in the area, leading to the extinction of other languages.

In actuality, language loss is caused by at least three reasons. The first has to do with language transmission across generations. Their native language or languages will be lost if parents are unwilling or unable to pass it on to their offspring. The second has to do with how language works. The language will undoubtedly disappear from people's lexicon if it is no longer utilized in everyday communication. The stability of society is the third component. It is dangerous for a language to die in an insecure community. The former Yugoslavia is one instance of this. The purpose of SerboCroatian is to have a single language. But following the holocaust. The Serbo-Croatian is no longer in use. The Croats started speaking Croatian, the Bosnians started speaking Bosnian, while the Serbs

opted to speak Serbian. Thus, the Serbo-Croatian language died because of instability. Similarly, the worldwide prevalence of English is not the only factor contributing to language extinction. Therefore, English does contribute to the endangered language, but it is not the only factor that causes other languages to go. The future of English in relation to other languages worldwide is then determined by the people of those languages.

We may learn how English became the most widely spoken language by using a survey-based horizontal chart. It is evident that the English language's globalization happened quite quickly.

Table 1: Survey of Different Languages Spoken

Language	Family	Total No. of Speakers
English	Indo-European	1.452 Billion
Mandarin Chinese	Sino-Tibetan	1.118 Billion
Hindi	Indo-European	602.2 Million
Spanish	Indo-European	548.3 Million
French	Indo-European	274.1 Million
Modern Standard Arabic	Afro-Asiatic	274 Million
Bengali	Indo-European	272.7 Million
Russian	Indo-European	258.2 Million
Portuguese	Indo-European	257 Million
Urdu	Indo-European	231.3 Million

The Use of English To Promote Intercultural Communication

English and its native culture have not changed. "According to Johnson, a language's ability to succeed or fail is determined by its speakers' strength rather than by its intrinsic characteristics." English is acknowledged by academics as a language of power and influence. The English language's growth and dissemination may be linked to global colonialism; Britain is seen as the primary contributor to the English language's dissemination due to its numerous colonies. This new research provides a fresh viewpoint on how English serves as a tool for communication as well as a mechanism for cultural adaptation that enables more meaningful and in-depth interactions between visitors and local populations. Through the presentation of case studies across a range of tourist locations, this study highlights the distinct cross-cultural communication dynamics that take place in the industry and identifies the methods and tactics employed by regional tourism sectors to get beyond language obstacles. Furthermore, this study adds to our knowledge of how the English language contributes to inclusive and sustainable travel experiences, a topic that has not received much attention in earlier research. In many nations, institutions, and people, English is being marketed as the most important and lingua franca, leading to globalization. One effective method of learning about culture is to examine the functional models found in a language's cultural system. Through intercultural discourse, individuals from one culture share their opinions with representatives of another. The use of English facilitates cross-cultural communication. The study highlights the value of cross-cultural communication while also highlighting its obstacles and other issues. The study's primary goal is to develop innovative ways to facilitate the development of cross-cultural relationships in the fields of education, business, and entrepreneurship. This will enhance business education and foster cross-cultural communication.

Internationalization of The English Language Standardization

The process of establishing a relatively uniform form of English that can be understood worldwide by developing a set of accepted rules for grammar, spelling, pronunciation, and vocabulary is known as "standardization of the globalization of the English language." This makes it easier for people from various English-speaking nations and regions to communicate with one another, even if their native dialects differ. Since English is now extensively used and understood worldwide, there is a need for a standardized form to guarantee that non-native speakers from various backgrounds can communicate clearly. Although there isn't a single "global English," several dialects, such as Standard American English and Anglo English, are frequently used and influenced to serve as benchmarks for standardization. English standardization also has challenges. Some difficulties include the fact that various English-speaking regions have varied vocabulary and pronunciation patterns. Cultural environment can have an impact on language, which could result in miscommunications. Access to information and instruction in a variety of disciplines, including business, science, and technology, is made simpler by a standardized version of English. It makes it easier for people from other nations who might not speak the same native English dialect to communicate with one other. Since English is now widely used in a variety of settings, including business, academia, and diplomacy, a standardized form was required to guarantee successful and transparent cross-cultural communication. Therefore, we must acknowledge that proficiency in the English language is a strategic advantage in worldwide retail locations. In addition to being the language of academic thought, scientific research, technology development, cross-border language trade and negotiations, as well as leisure and enjoyment, it is also the medium of worldwide communication. This support for learning a second language does not imply that our native tongue is being replaced or that its value is being diminished. In our everyday lives, as well as in our national culture and legacy, the national language will always play a role. However, being multilingual or bilingual is a global ability that is necessary for a global citizen who would need to collaborate with people from other countries and disciplines. It implies that speaking two or more languages won't take the place of our original tongue or national language.

Conclusion

An international lingua franca, English is a west Germanic language that was initially used in early medieval England. Many nations have made it their official language. One cannot undervalue the importance of the English language. Countries all around the world have adopted this universal language and flourished as a result. They support one another, exchange ideas, and do many other things that are crucial to their progress. Gaining proficiency in the English language is necessary to access opportunities throughout the world. English is the worldwide language of communication, allowing people from different origins and cultures to connect with one another, promoting global cooperation and understanding.

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