

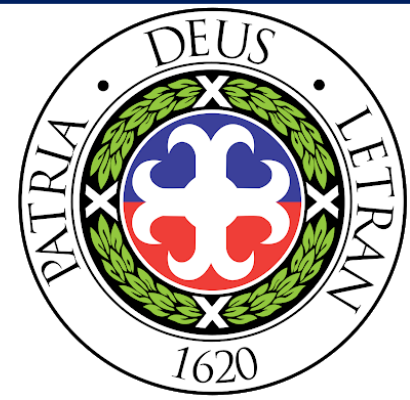
Exploring English through the different Englishes: The case of Philippine English

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also
TRICAL ENGINEERING, SOCIAL
ENGINEERING, SOCIAL
Eng-lish /'ɪŋɡlɪʃ/
■ noun 1 [U] the language
Australia and
I nee

At the end of this talk:

- Understand how English has gained multiple identities over time;
- Explore the issues related to the different varieties of English;
- Engage in **linguistic activism** (e.g., when you're in a party or a class and hear someone say something wrong, you'd know how to respond to that person in a kind, informed way to get people to start thinking differently about language)

Discuss with a partner or group:

- What is English?
- Have you heard of “Englishes” before? If yes, tell us where you first heard of it.
- What language(s) do you speak with your family? With friends?
- Have you been to other countries? Did you notice anything different in the way they talk to you in English?

Overview: The important questions

What?

When?

Who?

Why?

Where?

How?

What is English?

- One of many written/spoken languages in the world in addition to others (e.g., Japanese, Xhosa, Swahili, Toki Pona, Bahasa Malay, etc.)
- **“A privileged language” or the language of the global village**
 - **LINGUA FRANCA:** English has no ethnicity. It belongs to everyone as **a language of communication and has a strong presence.**
 - Many countries use it for **various** purposes (e.g., trade, education, governance, etc.).

Who explores English? Philippine English?

- **Linguists:** Experts who study language in a scientific manner
 - **Phonetics and Phonology:** Sounds of language
 - **Morphology and Syntax:** Structure of words and sentences
 - **Semantics and Pragmatics:** Meanings of words
 - **Sociolinguistics:** How language is used by people or society
 - **And other sub-areas...**

You can be a linguist, too!

Who explores English? Philippine English?

Linguistics:

It is a **science** that explores **what languages are, how each of them look/sound like, how they all relate, and how we use them.**

Who explores English? Philippine English?



Who explores English? Philippine English?



What did English go through?

- English evolved through **space** and **time**.
- **EVOLUTION ACROSS TIME:**
 - Old English
 - Middle English
 - Modern English
 - Age of World Englishes



What did English go through?

Spread of English

Diaspora

Colonization

Technology



The Washington Post

- A young boy and his father were coming home from a day at the farm. Suddenly, their car started making some strange noise and they had to stop. The father parked the car in a muddy car park and got up. The boy was scared, but his father told him everything would be okay. The father opened the hood of the car when it started raining. Luckily, they had an umbrella in the car, so he worked hard to solve the problem. The boy calmed down and enjoyed looking at the stars.
- After a few minutes, he heard his father say, “Son, the car is fixed. Let’s go. It is getting late, but we’re still far from home. Mother will be worried.”

What are World Englishes?

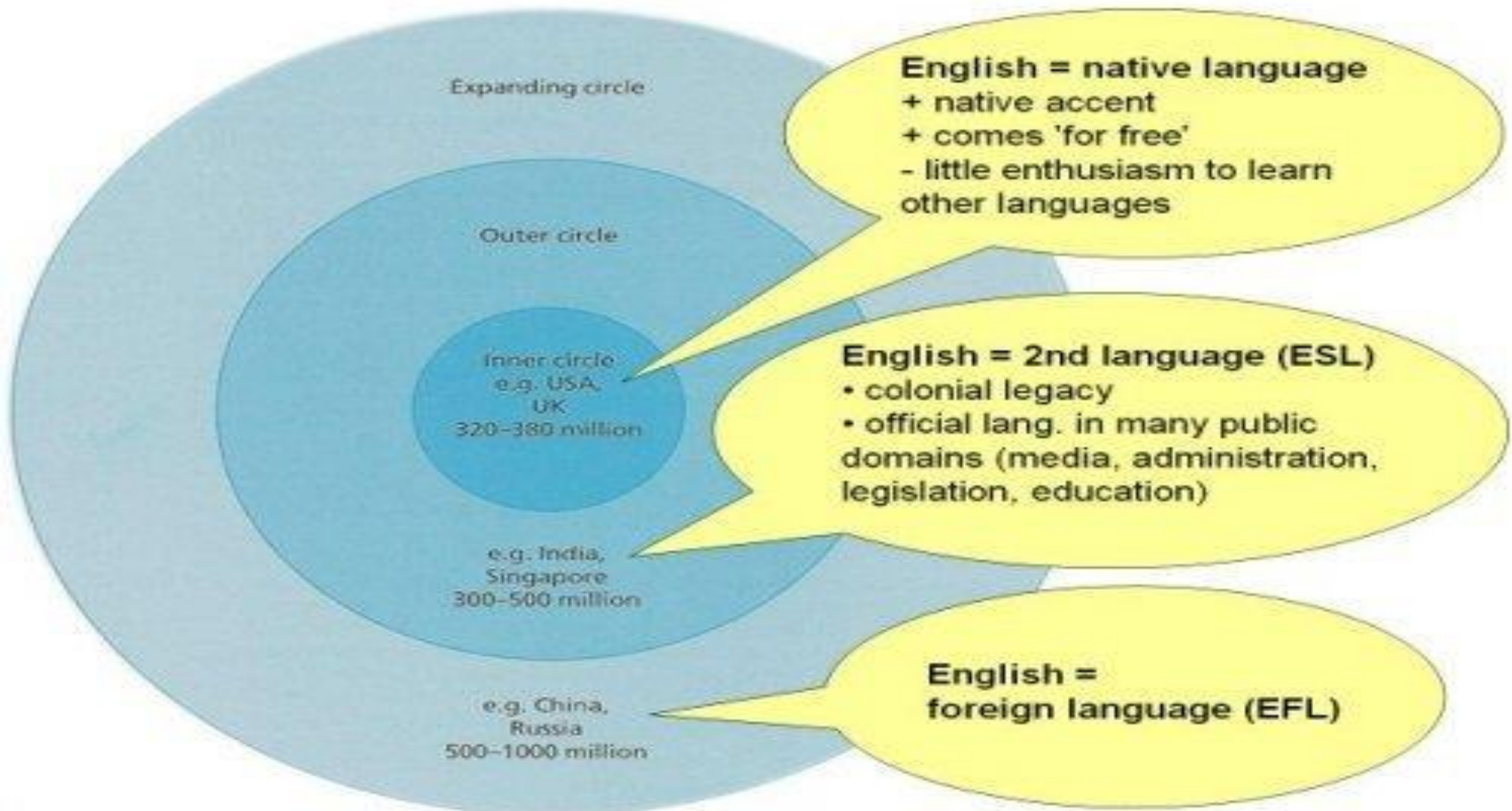
- **Key figures:**

Braj Kachru (L)

Yamuna Kachru (R)

***Proponents of the
World Englishes
framework***





What are World Englishes?

- ❖ Symbolizes the multicultural identity that English has acquired over time
- ❖ Pluricentricity or multiplicity of the language (i.e. like the hydra), where each variety has distinctive features
- ❖ **English is diverse:** no single base of authority and prestige
- ❖ Highlights **inclusivity**: it's all about WE-ness



Photo Courtesy of Shutterstock

What are World Englishes?

“Native” Varieties

Traditional varieties spoken by “native” speakers, which influenced younger varieties.

Examples: British English and American English

These varieties are found in areas where English was never spoken, but was imposed by colonial masters. It is also influenced by local languages.

Example: Philippine English, Singaporean English

“Nativized” Varieties

What is Philippine English?

- ❖ A transplanted language that shows how one can follow the footsteps of the parent variety while also maturing on its own
- ❖ Not just “English in the Philippines” but “Philippine English”
- ❖ Possibility: Philippine Englishes (Gonzales, 2017)



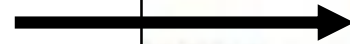
When do we recognize new Englishes?

Butler
(1997)

1. Distinct Accent
2. Distinct Lexicon
3. Distinct History
4. Distinct Literary Texts
5. Codification

When do we recognize new Englishes?

1. Distinct Accent



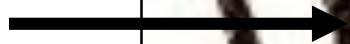
Syllable-timed

2. Distinct Lexicon



Siesta, salvage, wherein

3. Distinct History



Dating as far back as the arrival of the Thomasites

4. Distinct Literary Texts



Fiction and non-fiction texts!

5. Codification



Reference grammars, research,
**textbooks, dictionaries

How is Philippine English distinct?

Phonology

Grammar

Lexicon

Other
(discourse)
features

How is Philippine English distinct? (a) Phonology

Taken from Tayao (2011)

- ❖ **Partial list of segmental Features (i.e. vowels and consonants)**
 - ✓ Substitution of /f/ and /v/ with /p/ and /b/
 - ✓ Use of /t/ and /d/ instead of /θ/ and /ð/
 - ✓ Use of /s/ in place of /z/
 - ✓ Tendency to use a trilled /r/ instead of a rolled or one-tap
 - ✓ Adding a vowel before a prosthetic /s/ (e.g. spiritual as 'is-pi-ri-tu-wal') or between consonant clusters (e.g. trial as 'ta-ra-yal')

How is Philippine English distinct? (a) Phonology

Taken from Tayao (2011)

❖ Partial list of suprasegmental features

- ✓ Use of syllable-timed rhythm instead of stress-timed rhythm
- ✓ Where is the stress in the following words?
 - Set 1: colleague, govern, menu, baptism, hazardous, pedestal
 - Set 2: thereby, dioxide, percentage, utensil
 - Set 3: adolescence, antecedent

How is Philippine English distinct?

(b) Grammar

1. Llamzon (1969): Filipinisms for his section on PE Grammar
2. Alberca (1978), Gonzalez & Alberca (1978), Gonzalez (1985): PE in media
3. Bautista (1982): English of the nursemaids; (2000a, b): the grammar of SPE; 2004: the modal *would*; and (2006): the grammatical features of PE vis-à-vis other Englishes
4. Gonzalez, Jambalos, & Romero (2003): PE across generations
5. Nelson (2005): expressing future time in PE
6. Schneider (2005): on the subjunctive in PE
7. Hundt (2006): concord patterns with collective nouns
8. Borlongan (2007): The perfective aspect in Philippine English
9. Borlongan (2008): Tag questions in Philippine English

How is Philippine English distinct?

International Corpus of English: Philippines

- 1 million – word corpus
- 500 texts; 2,000 words per text
 - 300 spoken English (approx. 600,000 words)
 - 200 written English (approx. 400,000 words)

How is Philippine English distinct?

ICE-PHI – Spoken Texts (300)

Dialogues (180)	Private (100)	Conversations (90)
		Phone calls (10)
	Public (80)	Class Lessons (20)
		Broadcast Discussion (20)
		Broadcast Interviews (10)
		Parliamentary Debates (10)
		Cross Examination (10)
		Business Transaction (10)

How is Philippine English distinct?

ICE-PHI – Spoken Texts (300)

Monologues (120)	Unscripted (70)	Commentaries (20)
		Unscripted Speeches (30)
		Demonstrations (10)
		Legal presentations (10)
	Scripted (50)	Broadcast News (20)
		Broadcast talks (20)
		Non-broadcast talks (10)

How is Philippine English distinct?

ICE-PHI – Written Texts (200)

Non-printed (50)	Student Writing (20)	Student Essays (10)
		Exam Scripts (10)
	Letters (30)	Social Letters (15)
		Business Letters (15)

How is Philippine English distinct?

ICE-PHI – Written Texts (200)

Printed (150)	Academic (40)	Humanities (10)
		Social Sciences (10)
		Natural Sciences (10)
		Technology (10)
	Popular (40)	Humanities (10)
		Social Sciences (10)
		Natural Sciences (10)
		Technology (10)

Limitations of the ICE

- Biermeier (2008): a corpus is only a selection of texts and can never provide the full lexicon of a speech community
 - 1) some forms may not be a lexicon of a given variety,
 - 2) it could be due to the selection of texts in that corpus.
- Bautista (2006): no claims of representativeness in the collected texts for the ICE

Features of Philippine English: Syntactic Structure

As described by Bautista (2009)

❑ One of the + Singular Noun

“That’s *one of the related problem* we will also be discussing”

❑ Ø + Majority

“But a survey done by Pulse Asia shows *majority* of their respondents want President Estrada to keep his post”

❑ Such + Ø Singular Noun

“But the President said he is willing to do that for the sake of the people if *such act* would bring down the oil prices”

Features of Philippine English: Syntactic Structure

As described by Bautista (2009)

☐ Assure + Ø Indirect Object

“in fact they’re risking life and limb but uh uh they ***are rest assured*** that these elections are going to be peaceful”

“The President ***assured*** he is not merely laying down the basis to declare martial law”

“Cronyism is dead, President ***assures***”

☐ Wherein

“Yes one potential danger if you have fall-outs from the volcanic eruption is you get a very irritating skin disease ***wherein*** you have a li-frickle-like uh spots”

How is Philippine English distinct?

(c) Lexicon

- **Loan words (from Spanish and local languages):** *asalto* ‘surprise party’, *estafa* ‘fraud’, *querida* ‘girlfriend’, *carabao* ‘water buffalo’
- **Neosemanticisms (common words with new meanings):**
 - **Ballpen (=ballpoint pen):** The international form is *ballpoint*.
 - **Double dead:** Pork/fish/chicken/beef that have died of some disease but sold for human consumption.
 - **Color-coding (=restriction):** In Metro Manila, it has nothing to do with the color, because this scheme restricts vehicles based on the last digit on the plate.
 - **Give (=installments):** “Pay me in two gives!”
 - **Other examples:** tasty, salvage, plastic, pumping (MTRCB term), toxic, memo

How is Philippine English distinct?

(c) Lexicon

- **Neologisms (new forms for meanings indicated in other words):**
 - Backgrounder – act of giving a background
 - CR (comfort room)
 - Masteral – master's; used by DepEd and CHED
 - Passporting – processing of passports
 - Presidentiable, senatoriable...
 - Routinary



How is Philippine English distinct?

(c) Lexicon

- **Neologisms (new forms for meanings indicated in other words):**
 - Deep (puristic or hard to understand)
 - Stick (cigarette)
 - High blood (tense or upset)
 - Blow out (treating someone with a meal)
 - Motel (hotel for premarital or extra-marital affairs)
 - Balikbayan box (box where Filipinos returning from abroad put all their shopping)

How is Philippine English distinct?

(c) Lexicon

• Are these Filipinisms?

- Wait a moment
- Fill out the form.
- Eat all you can.
- Five-six
- Find your height.
- Green jokes
- Slippers
- Take out

- Rubber shoes
- Maong pants



Who speaks Philippine English?

Why should we care?

“It is all about inclusivity or WE-ness.”



Gretchen McCulloch ✓
@GretchenAMcC



Why should we care?

- ❖ Talking about WE would mean talking about its hegemony.
- ❖ **Problems or Issues**
 - ❑ Linguistic imperialism: Other languages are 'conquered'
 - ❑ Language death: Other languages are dying
 - ❑ Linguistic inequality: Speakers of other languages are belittled

Why should we care?

- ❖ There are more native speakers than non-native speakers!
- ❖ We need to be more accepting of language change and variation.
- ❖ **Problem: Persistence of discrimination against NNES**
 - ❑ Some people continue to think that native varieties are better than others even if they are equal by default.
 - ❑ Not all varieties then are equally positioned
 - ❑ **Example:** discrimination between NESTs and NNESTs

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THANK YOU!

also
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■ *noun* 1 [U] the la
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THINKSTOCK

