

English as a Lingua Franca (ELF)

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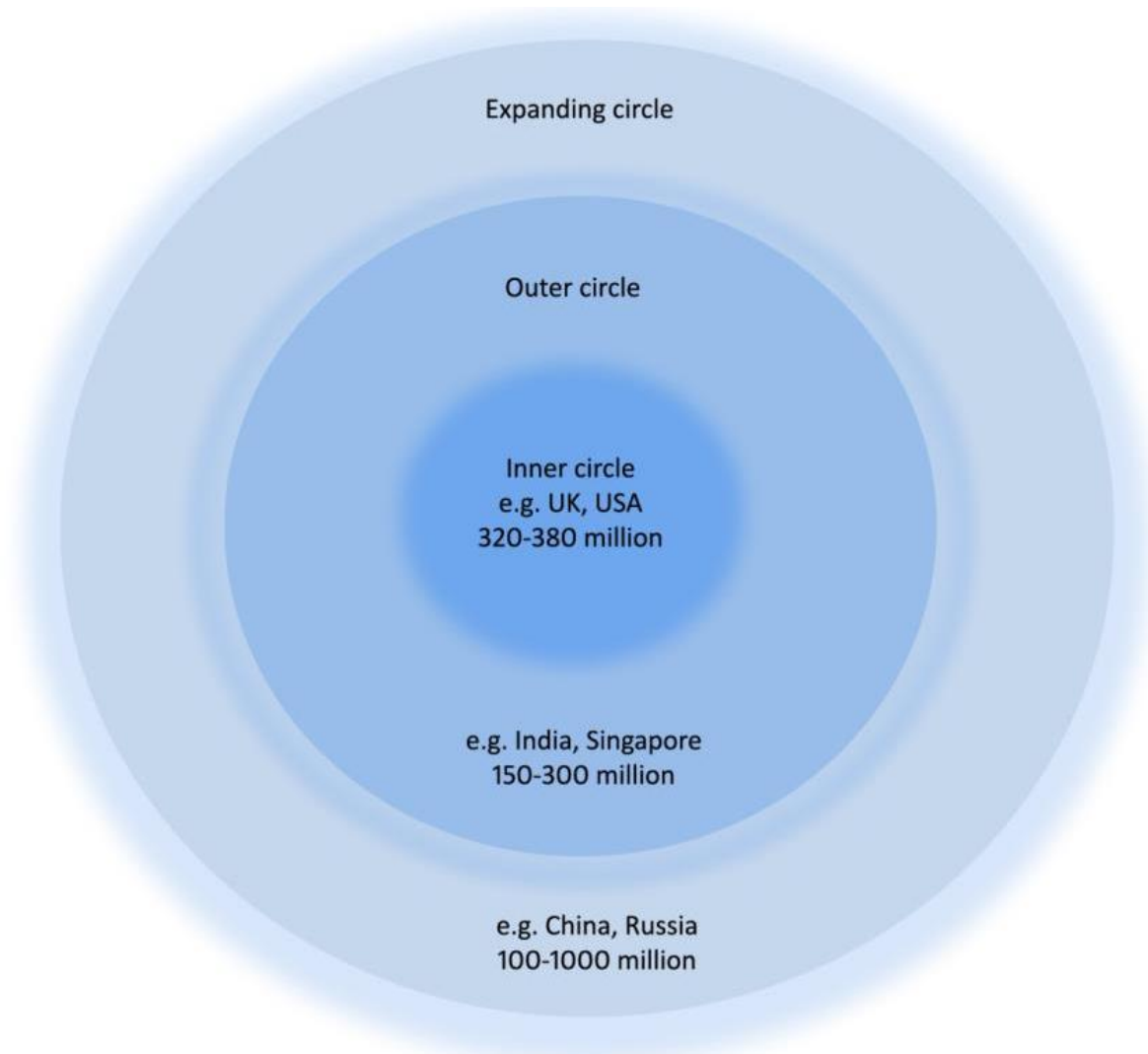
ACTIVITY 1

Before we begin, think about **your own experience** as a user of English, as well as the discussion in the **‘Using English’** main section of the Course

- In what **contexts** is English used around the world, for what **purposes** and among **whom**?
- **Why** would you say English is a **global** language nowadays? In your opinion, do we actually **need** a global language?

Click the **link** under the video to share your views if you haven't done so yet

Three-circle Model of World Englishes



(Kachru, 1985)

Three-circle Model of World Englishes

INNER CIRCLE	OUTER CIRCLE	EXPANDING CIRCLE
Norm providing	Norm developing	Norm dependent
Endonormative varieties	Nativized varieties	Performance varieties
English as a Native Language (ENL)	English as a Second Language (ESL)	English as a Foreign Language (EFL)

Three-circle Model of World Englishes —some critical reflections

- Based on **geography/genetics** rather than on speakers' **use** of English
- **Grey area** between Inner and Outer circles and between the Outer and Expanding circles
- Difficulty in defining speakers based on their **proficiency**
- Overlooks **linguistic diversity** in countries **within** a particular circle

(Jenkins, 2009a)

ACTIVITY 2

Watch the videos “**How English became a global language**” (by Jeff Roy, an ESL teacher) and “**Global English with David Crystal**” (a famous linguist)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-YDGxVNuxO0>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WZl1EjxxXKw>

Both speakers highlight that English is a **global** language due to the **power** of people who speak it

- In your opinion, does this **power** refer only to **native speakers** (e.g. British soldiers, American businessmen)? What has been the **role** of **non-native speakers** in the global spread of English?

Click the **link** under the video to share your views

Why is English an International Lingua Franca?

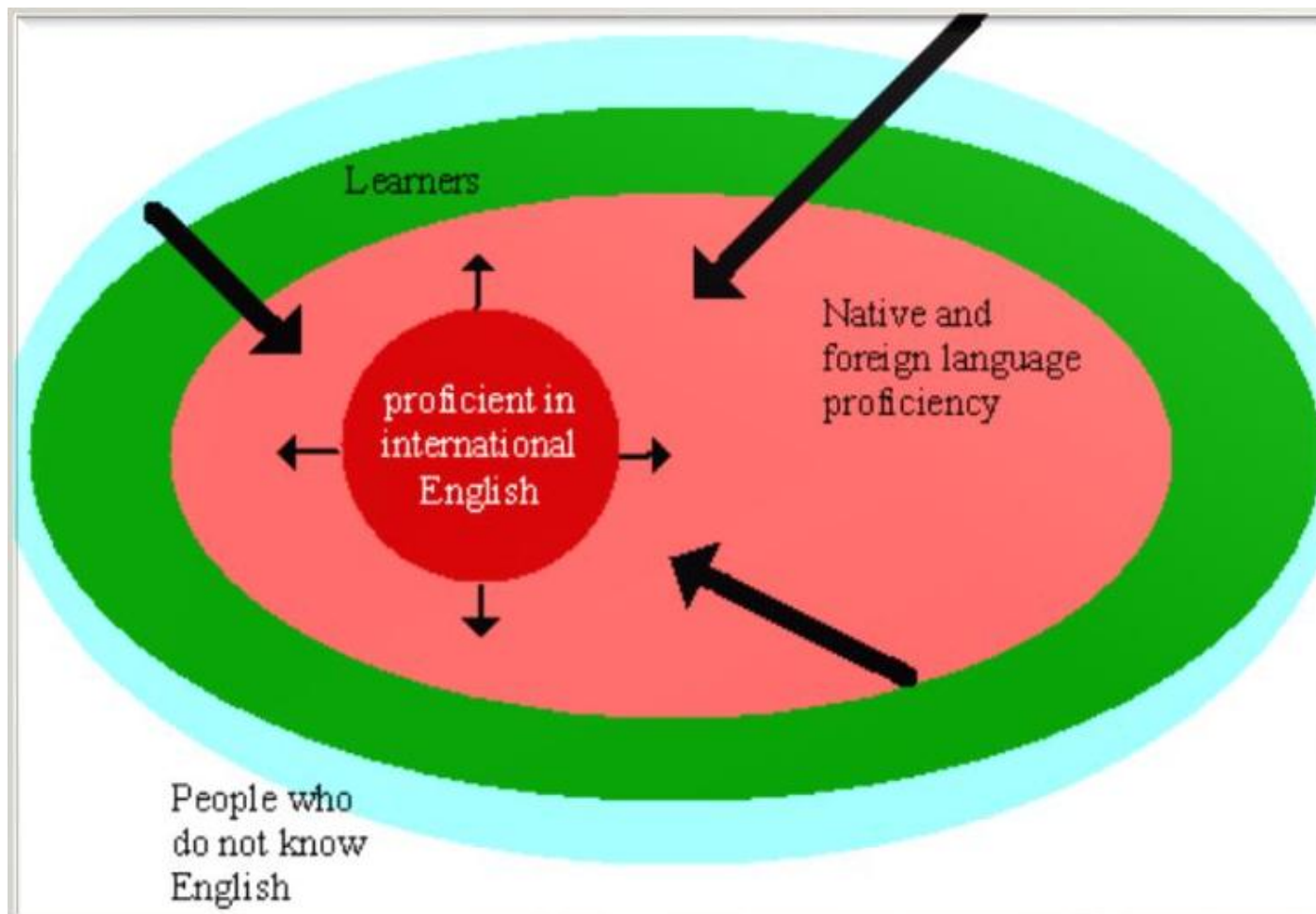
“The present-day world status of English is primarily the result of two factors: the **expansion of British colonial power**, which peaked towards the end of the 19th century, and the emergence of the **United States as the leading economic power** of the 20th century. It is the latter factor which continues to explain the position of the English language today.” (Crystal 2003: 106)

Power of the people who speak it → Non-native speakers

Domains of use

- International relations
- International organizations
- Research
- Education (esp. university level)
- Publicity/advertisements/trademarks/shop names
- Business
- Popular culture (e.g. songs – hip-hop, rock, metal – films, television, computers/gaming)
- Mass media – Internet
- Interaction with foreigners

Modiano's Centripetal Circles of International English (1999a)

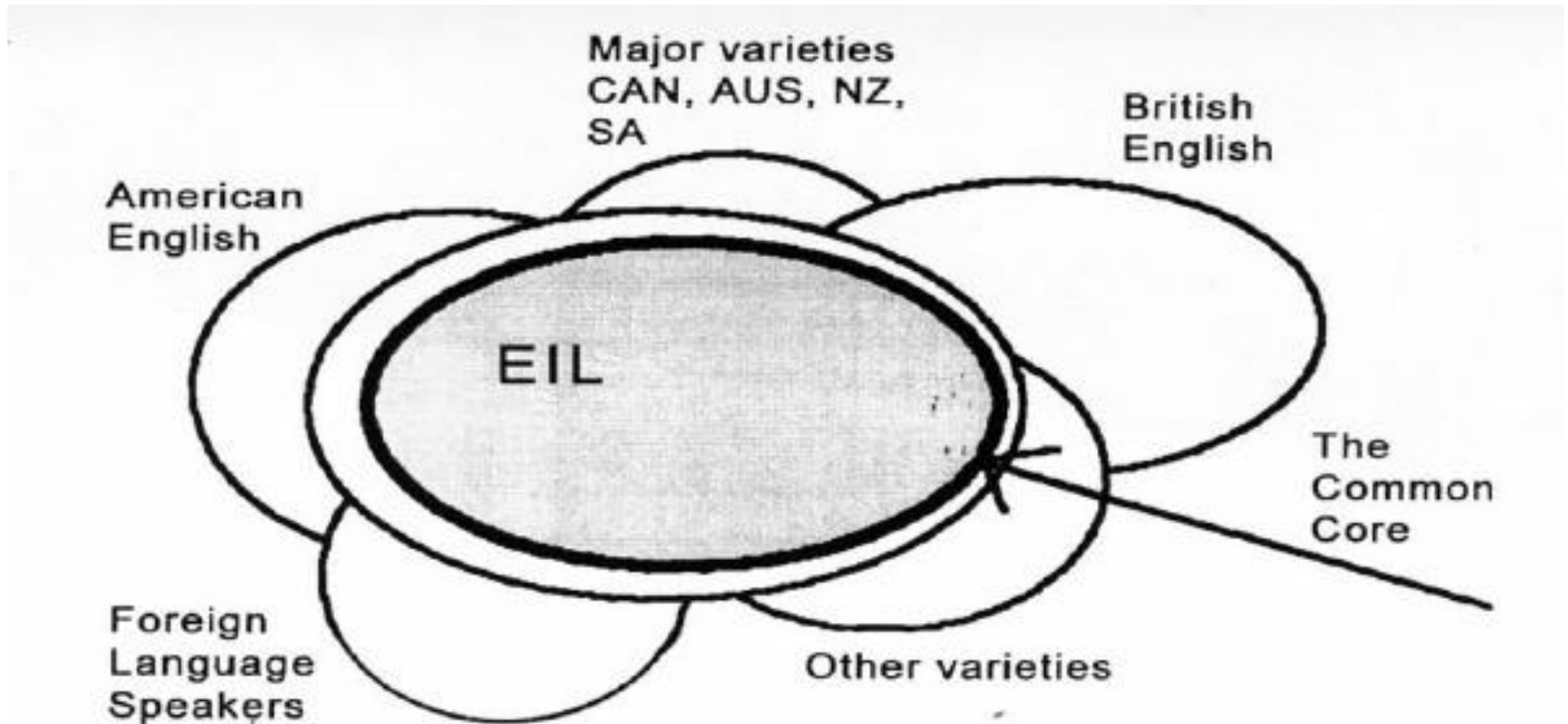


Modiano's Centripetal Circles of International English (1999a) – some critical questions

- What makes a **regional accent strong** or **non-strong**?
- How do we define **proficiency in international English**?

(Jenkins, 2009)

Modiano's English as an International Language (1999b)



Modiano's English as an International Language (1999b) – some critical questions

- How can we distinguish **core** from **non-core** features?
- Should we consider features of **native varieties** as '**major**' distinguishing them from features of **other varieties**, such as Indian English?
(Jenkins, 2009)

EFL vs. ELF

English as a Foreign Language (EFL)	English as a Lingua Franca (ELF)
Part of modern foreign languages	Part of World Englishes
Deficit perspective	Difference perspective
Metaphors of transfer/interference/ fossilization	Metaphor of contact/ evolution
Code-mixing and -switching seen as interference errors	Code-mixing and -switching seen as bilingual resources

(Jenkins, 2009b: 144)

English as a lingua franca

Lingua franca: “General term for a second acquired language system that serves as **a means of communication between speakers of different first languages** (or extremely distinct dialects), e.g. Latin (in the middle ages) and Arabic (as the universal language of Islam).” (Bussman, 1996: 687)

“[English is **no longer**] English as we have **known** it, and have **taught** it in the past as a foreign language,” but ‘a **new phenomenon**’ now recognized as **English as a Lingua Franca.**” (Graddol 2006: 11)

English as a lingua franca

“(...) the English that is **taught** (...) is usually **not** the English that is **learnt** and (...) it is the English that is **learnt** that is put to **use** in international communication. If English is really to be taught for international communication, then it would seem to make sense to find out **how it is actually used** for international communication, that is to say **how it functions as a lingua franca.**”

(Seidlhofer, 2011: 194)

ACTIVITY 3

Watch the video “**David Crystal - What do you most enjoy about the English language?**”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SqkIv79KBTw>

Crystal says that what he likes most in English is that it **is changing** as people ‘play’ with it creatively

- In your opinion, in what ways can English **change** (e.g. in grammar) as **non-native speakers** use it as a lingua franca? How do **you** personally **feel** about those changes? **Why?**
- What do **you** like most in English? **Why?**

Click the **link** under the video to share your views at the **Forum** of this section

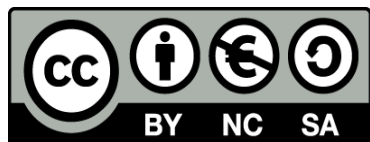
What follows

- **Defining** English as a lingua franca
- **Key issues** in using English as a lingua franca
- The English as a lingua franca **discourse**
- Using **communication strategies** in English as a lingua franca interactions
- **Translanguaging** and English as a lingua franca

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