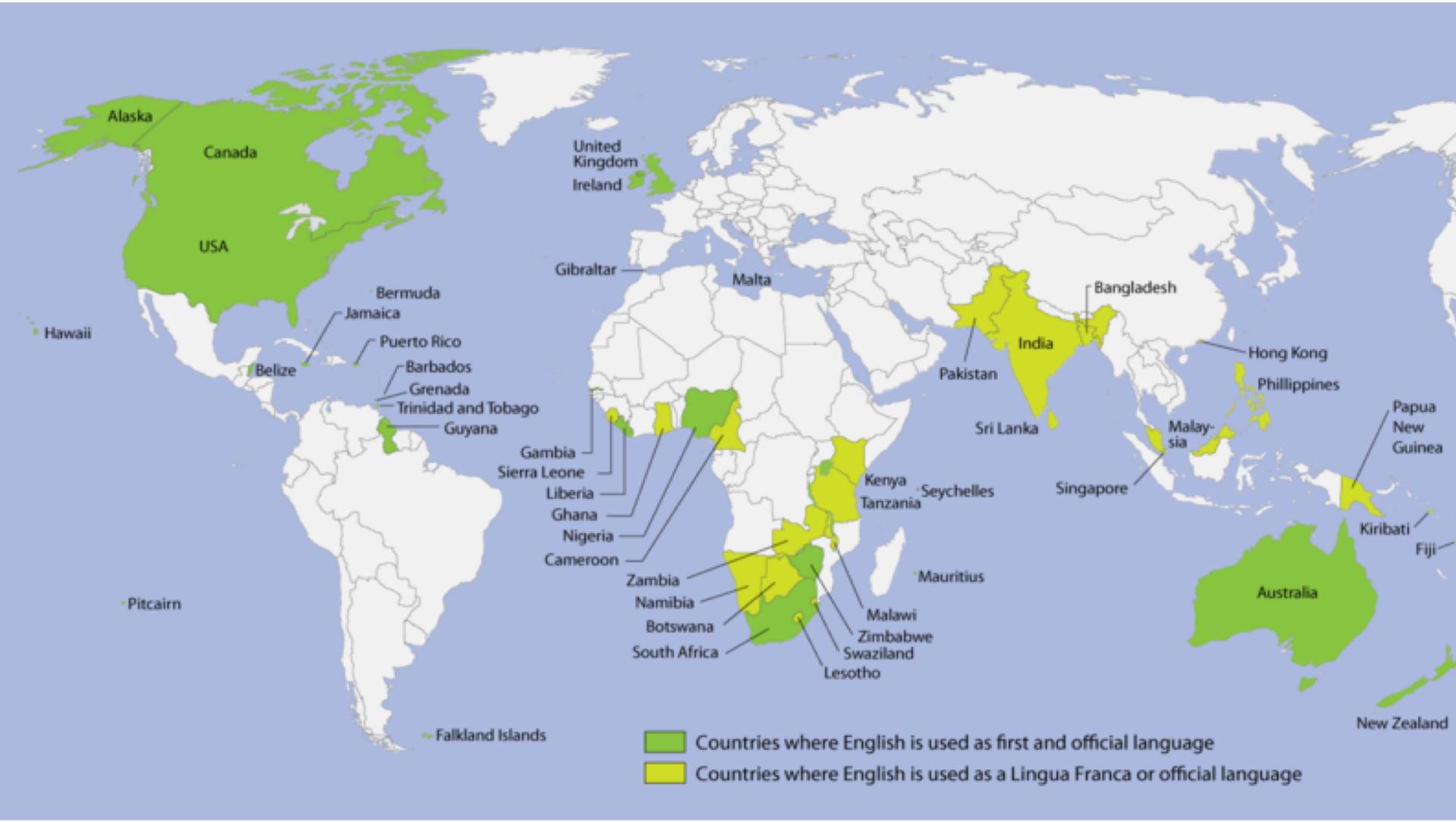
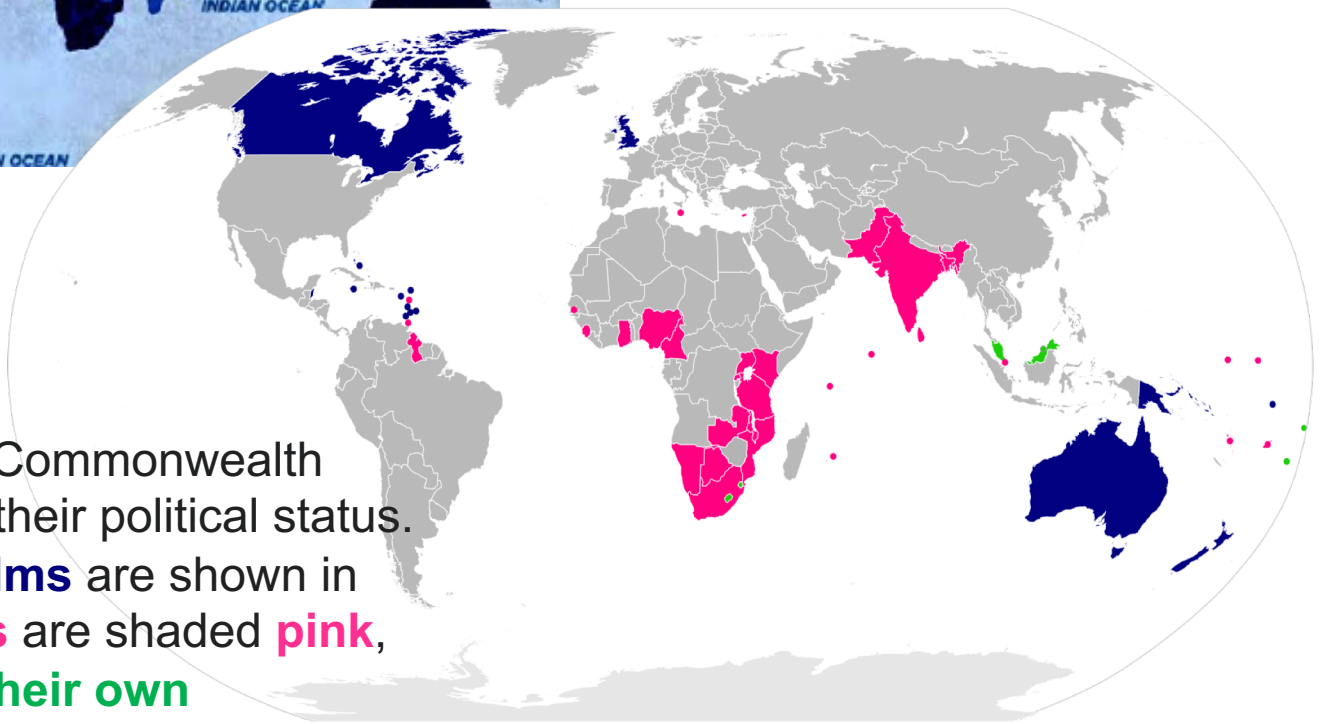
GEOGRAPHICAL AND SOCIOCULTURAL VARIATION OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

MAP OF ENGLISH-SPEAKING COUNTRIES

http://lovetheenglishlanguage.blogspot.com/2014_10_01_archive.html





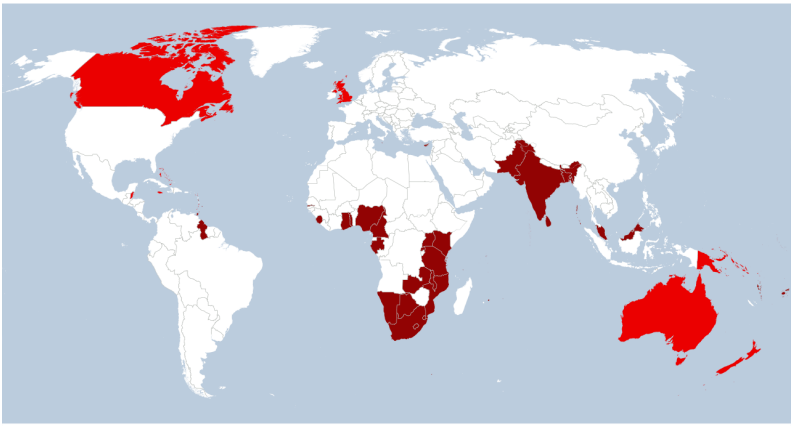


The members of the Commonwealth shaded according to their political status. **Commonwealth realms** are shown in **blue**, while **republics** are shaded **pink**, and **members with their own monarchies** are displayed in **green**.





King Charles III is Sovereign of 15 Commonwealth realms



15 Commonwealth realms

United Kingdom	Solomon Islands
Canada	Tuvalu
Australia	Saint Lucia
New Zealand	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Jamaica	Belize
The Bahamas	Antigua and Barbuda
Grenada	Saint Kitts and Nevis
Papua New Guinea	

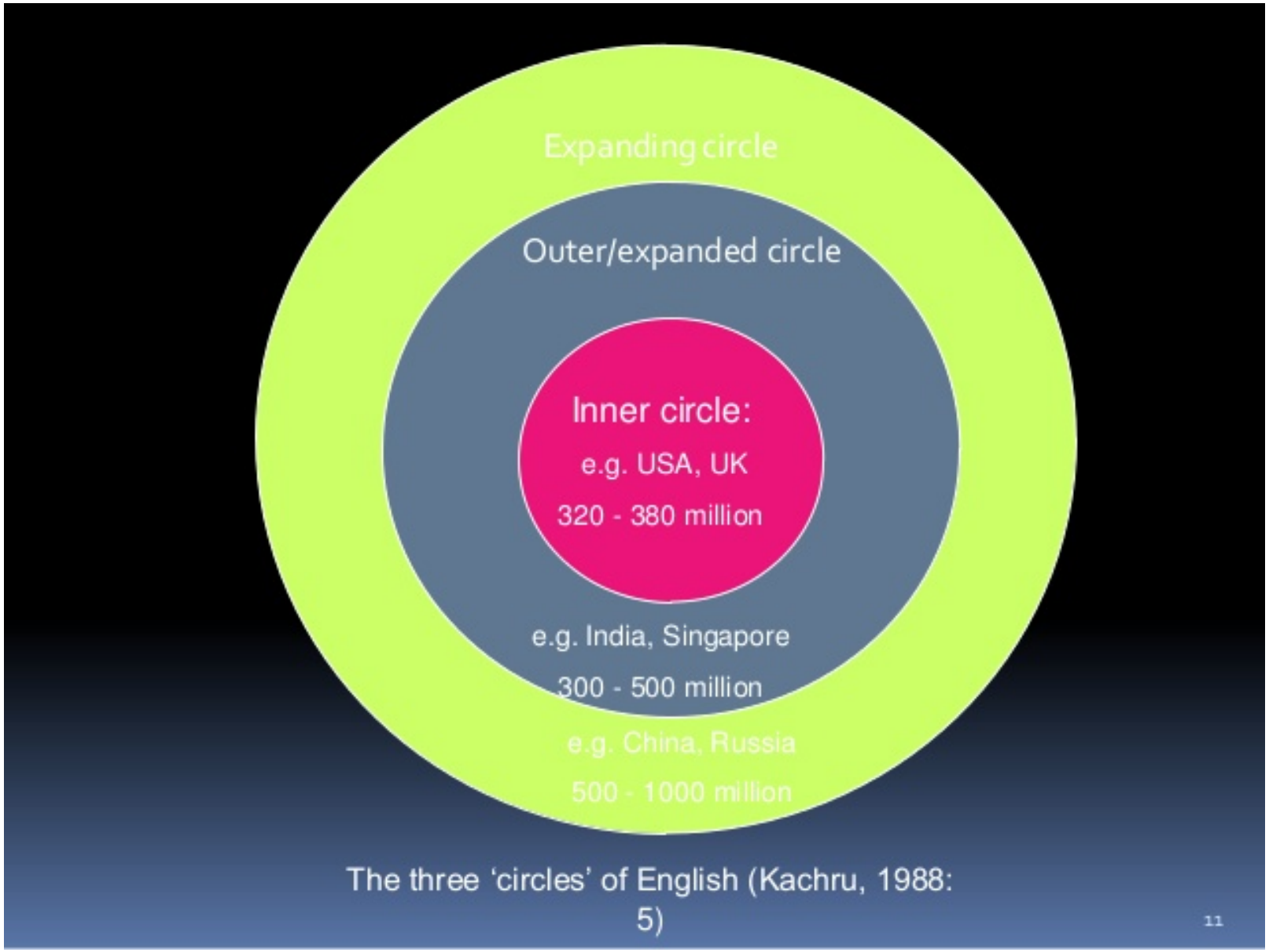
Other Commonwealth nations

BBC

Did you know?

A Commonwealth Realm is a country which has the Queen/King as its Monarch. There are 15 Commonwealth Realms.

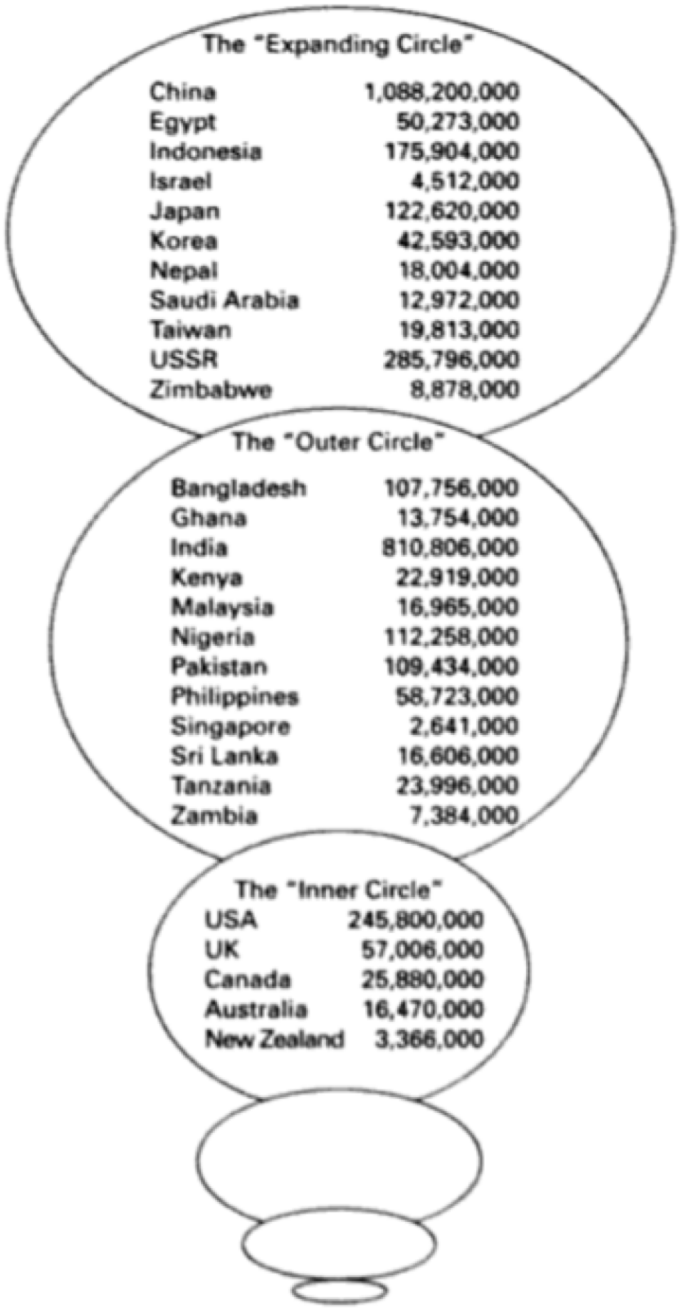
BRAI KACHRU'S CIRCLES OF ENGLISH



The three 'circles' of English (Kachru, 1988: 5)

KACHRU'S THREE-CIRCLES OF ENGLISH: PROBLEMS

- based **on geography & genetics** vs the way speakers **identify with the use** of English (e.g. Singapore);
- - **"grey areas"** (transition from EFL > ESL: Sweden, Belgium, Switzerland, Argentina, Sudan, etc) ;
- - bilingual + mutilingual speakers (**different languages for different functions** > L1, L2, L3?);
- **similar proficiency** in different circles (e.g. ESP);
- -**similar situation** in different countries is implied (number of speakers?)



UPSIDE-DOWN TREE MODEL

BE and AE –
separate varieties

vs

other Englishes
have affinities with either one or the other



Figure A3.2 Strevens's world map of English
Source: Strevens (1992: 33)

CIRCLE MODEL 2

- Does **World English Standard exist**?

- Why do **standard and stangard(izing)** varieties come together?

- Why do **regional and social** varieties come together?



Figure A3.3 McArthur's circle of World English
Source: Crystal (1995: 111)

CENTRIPETAL MODEL

- A **complete break** with historical and geographical criteria;
- **Where do we set a line** between strong and mild regional accents; proficient and non-proficient speakers?

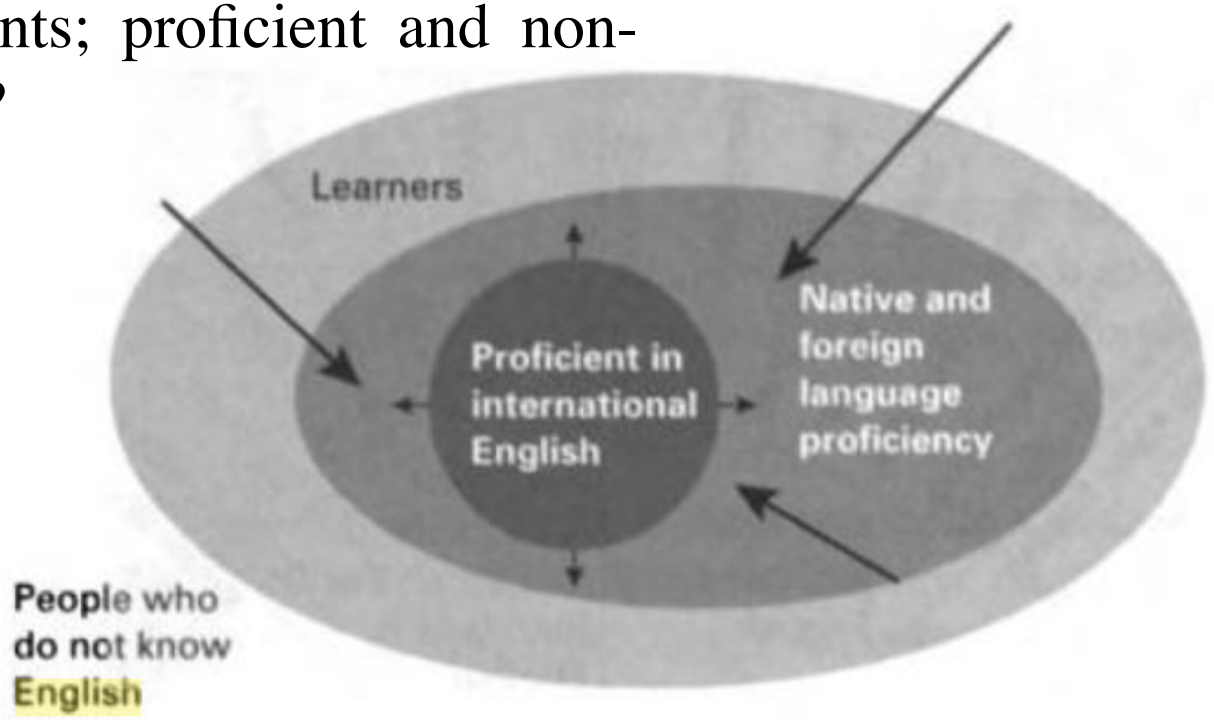


Figure A3.4 Modiano's centripetal circles of international English

Source: Modiano (1999a: 25)

TYPES OF VARIATION

new Englishes

- From the 1st diaspora;
- Developed naturally;
- Pre-colonial native use;
- Non-nativized but developed the features of their own

New Englishes

- From the 2nd diaspora;
- Developed through education;
- Not natively used;
- A range of functions;
- Nativized and developed the features of their own

LEVELS OF VARIATION

- pronunciation

- consonants (RP *wet* >*vet* – Indian English);

-non-aspirated (RP *p, t,k, > b,d,g* – Malaisian English);

-glottal stop (RP *cat* > *ca* – Cockney);

-voiceless (RP *feed* > *feet* – West African English, Papua New Guinean);

-not distinctive (RP *r* > *l* - Hong Kong, Singapore);

-vowels (RP *matter* > no schwa sound *matta* – African Englishes)

VARIATION IN GRAMMAR

- a tendency not to mark nouns for plural
- a tendency to use a specific/non-specific system for nouns rather than a definite/indefinite system, or to use the two systems side by side
- a tendency to change the form of quantifiers
- a tendency not to make a distinction between the third person pronouns *he* and *she*
- a tendency to change the word order within the noun phrase.

VARIATION IN GRAMMAR: ACTIVITY

up to twelve *year* of schooling (India)

and they know all four *dialect* (Jamaica)

Pilipino is only one of the *subject* (Philippines)

Everyone has *car* (India)
I'm not on *scholarship* (East Africa) } non-specific

I'm staying in *one* house with three other (India)
There! Here got *one* stall selling soup noodles (Singapore) } specific

Don't eat so *much sweets* (Singapore)

Some few fishermen may be seen (West Africa)

I applied *couple of places* in Australia (India)

When I first met my husband, *she* was a student (East Africa)

My mother, *he* live in kampong (Malaysia; a 'kampong' is a small settlement)

A *two-hour exciting* display (Ghana)

Dis *two last* years (Papua New Guinea)

Ninety over cheques (Singapore/Malaysia)