‘ELT for a Global World’

Changing English in a changing world

Unit 2
Terminology/Standard varieties

FSA
2015

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Supported by the Higher Education Restructuring Fund allocated to ELTE by the Hungarian Government

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Task

5 groups, each gets one term (see slide 3)

1. Agree on a definition of the term you have been given using the results of your research and the definitions provided on Slides 4-13.
2. Feed back to the whole group.
3. Group discussion.

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Terminology

Terms:

- International English
- English as a global language

  as an international language

  as a lingua franca
- World Englishes

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Terminology

English as a global language; global English

"are not only vague as regards what type of communication they represent, but also imply–wrongly–that English is spoken by everyone around the globe, whereas statistics suggest that around a quarter of the world's population speak English fluently or competently (Crystal 2003: 6)."

(Jenkins, 2007, p. 4)

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Terminology

- **International English**

  implication: “there is one clearly distinguishable, codified, and unitary variety called International English, which is certainly not the case”

(Seidlhofer, 2004, p. 210)

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Terminology

- **English as an international language** (EIL)

1. English in Outer Circle countries:

   English is “localized to meet domestic, intra-national purposes”

2. “English as a globalized means for international communication transcending national boundaries”

(Seidlhofer, 2004, p. 210)

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Terminology

- English used internationally:
  Expanding Circle + speakers of English as native language (Inner Circle) + speakers of indigenized/nativized varieties (Outer Circle)

(Seidlhofer, 2004, p. 210)

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Terminology

- **World Englishes** (WE)

  in all three circles of English but especially within Outer Circle countries

WE "functions generally as an 'umbrella label' for all varieties of English worldwide (world English and international Englishes), but usually refers to 'new Englishes' (institutionalized ESL varieties, or nativized and indigenized varieties)."

(Pakir, 2009, p. 225)

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Terminology

- **World Englishes**

"I feel that the English language will be able to carry the weight of my African experience [...] But it will have to be a new English, still in communion with its ancestral home but altered to suit its new African surroundings."

(Achebe as cited in Widdowson, 2003, p. 42)

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Terminology

- **World Englishes**

These Englishes are “defined not as flawed imitations of Standard English, but as legitimate forms of language that serve the needs of second-language speech communities”

(Modiano, 2009, p. 217).

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Terminology

- **English as a lingua franca**

"a 'contact language' between persons who share neither a common native tongue nor a common (national) culture, and for whom English is the chosen foreign language of communication."

(Firth, 1996, p. 240)

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Terminology

- **English as a lingua franca**

"any use of English among speakers of different languages for whom English is the communicative medium of choice, and often the only option."

(Seidlhofer, 2011, p. 7)

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Terminology

- **English as a lingua franca**

"a specific communication context: English being used as a lingua franca, the common language of choice, among speakers who come from different linguacultural backgrounds."

(Jenkins, 2009, p. 200)

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Contact languages

- pidgin, creole

"A *pidgin* is a language with no native speakers: it is no one's first language but is a contact language. That is, it is the product of a multilingual situation in which those who wish to communicate must find or improve a simple language system that will enable them to do so."

(Wardhaugh, 2006, p. 61)

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Contact languages

- Creole

"In contrast to pidgin, a *creole* is often defined as a pidgin that has become the first language of a new generation of speakers. […] A creole, therefore, is a 'normal' language in almost every sense."

(Wardhaugh, 2006, p. 63)

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Task

In pairs or small groups:

Compare ELF with pidgin languages using the definitions on Slides 14 and 15 as well as definitions from general and specialised dictionaries.

Compare the results of your research with the diagram on Slide 17.

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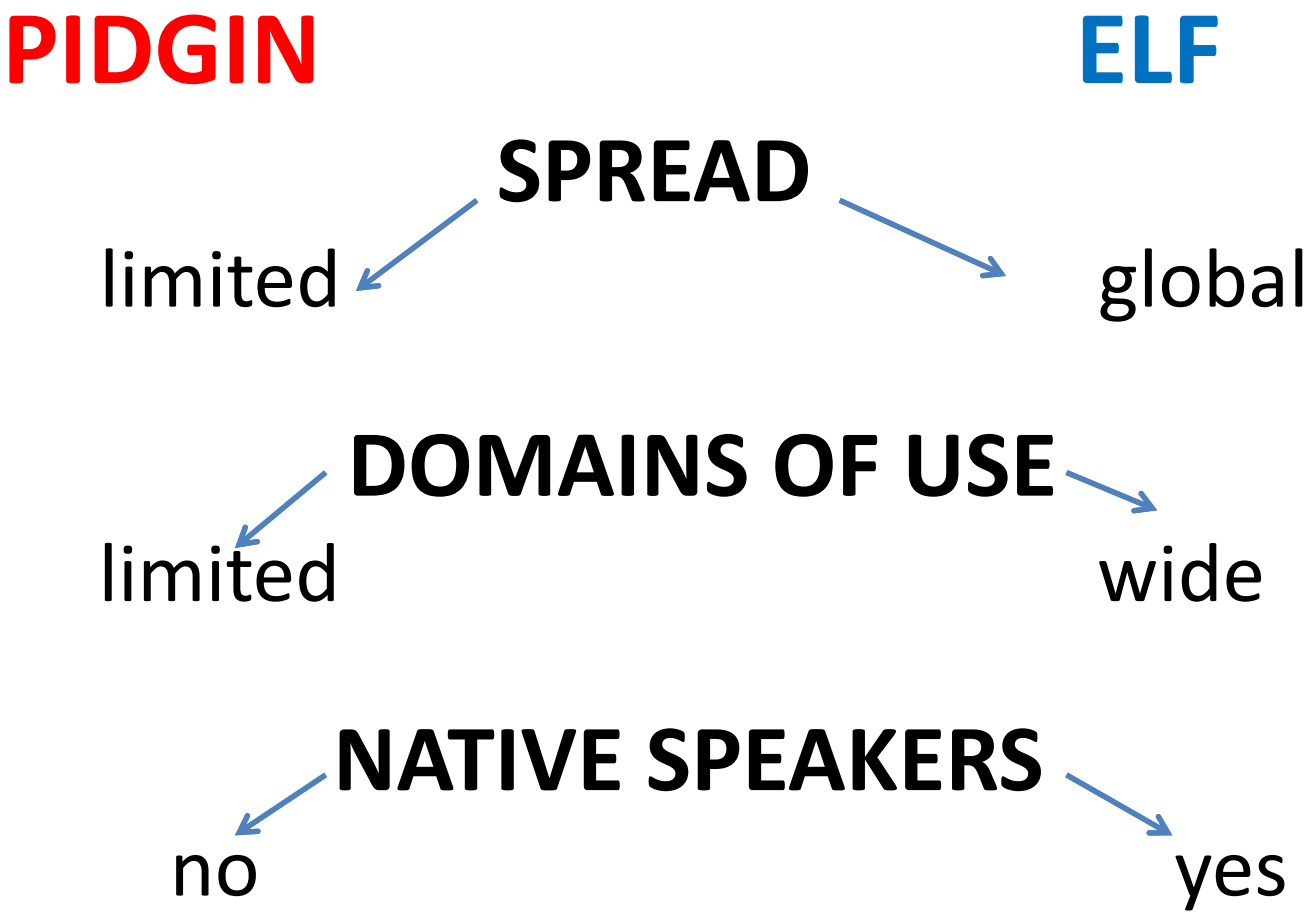
ELF v. pidgin



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Task

Introductory class discussion

1. What is the difference between a dialect and an accent?
2. Which variety of English is taught in schools in Hungary?
3. How does Standard English differ from non-standard varieties? Give examples.

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Standard varieties

standard variety of language (standard dialect):

- ”relatively uniform”;
- free from regional variation;
- codified norm;
- high esteem and social prestige;
- regarded as acceptable for the educational system.

(Swann et al. , 2004, p. 295)

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Standard varieties

non-standard variety (non-standard dialect, vernacular):

1. “the most casual speech style in the linguistic repertoire of a speaker” (Labovian definition);
2. “used when talking to friends, family in informal contexts”;
3. “acquired in childhood”.

(Swann et al., 2004, p. 327)

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Standard varieties

Does it count if I don't speak the standard variety?

In the UK (Trudgill, 1999, p. 3)

- 12-15 percent use standard dialect;
- max. 5 percent use RP, standard pronunciation.

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Standard varieties

Does it count if I don't speak the standard variety?

In the world

Speakers of English (Jenkins, 2003, pp. 14–15):

- Native: 350 million;
- Non-native: 1.35 billion.

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Standard varieties

Dialect vs accent

dialect = (regional) variety of a language, with its own grammar and lexical differences;

accent = pronunciation variety.

(Swann et al., 2004, p. 2)

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Standard varieties

UK:

Local dialect (grammar, vocabulary) goes with its own accent

Standard dialect = **Standard English**:

can be spoken with any local accent and with the non-localised accent, RP

RP = Received Pronunciation: can only be spoken with standard English grammar

(Trudgill, 2000, pp. 7-8)

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Standard English varieties

Some major features of Standard Englishes

- Single negation;
- copy-correlative question tags*: isn't?, aren't, wouldn't?*, etc.;
- *was*/*were* distinction maintained in paradigm.

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Standard English varieties

Some major features of non-standard Englishes

- Double and multiple negation;
- Invariant question tags: *innit?*, *is it so?*, etc.;
- Invariable *was* or invariable *were* in paradigm.

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Received pronunciation

Received Pronuncation vis-à-vis

- Southeastern local variety = Cockney
- Southestern supralocalising variety = Estuary English (EE)

In the following tables:

ticked boxes = linguistic features where Estuary English and Cockney are identical
(based on Wells (1998), Rosewarne (1994), Coggle (1993) and Haenni (1999); adapted from Eitler (2010))

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Received Pronunciation

Phonological features of RP and their counterparts

EE	RP	Cockney
☒ /hænd/	☒ /hænd/	H-dropping in content words: /ænd/ *hand*
☒ /θɪŋk/, /fa:ðə/	☒ /θɪŋk/, /fa:ðə/	TH-fronting: /fɪŋk/ *think*, /fa:və/ *father*
☒ /mauθ/	☒ /mauθ/	MOUTH vowel monophthong: /ma:f/
☒ /'bʌtə/	☒ /'bʌtə/	T-glottaling within a word before a vowel: /'bʌʔə/ *butter*
☑ /'hæpi/	☒ /'hæpɪ/	tense vowel in HAPPY: /'hæpi/
☑ /'teɪk ɪʔ/	☒ /'teɪk ɪt/	T-glottaling finally: /'teɪk ɪʔ/
☑ /'mɪok/	☒ /mɪlk/	vocalisation of preconsonantal/final /l/: /'mɪok/ *milk*
☑ /'tʃu:zdʌɪ/, /rɪ'dʒu:s/	☒ /'tju:zdeɪ/, /rɪ'dju:s/	yod-coalescence in stressed syllables: /'tʃu:zdʌɪ/ *Tuesday*, /rɪ'dʒu:s/ *reduce*

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Standard English with RP

Some morphological features of Standard English spoken with an RP accent together with their counterparts

EE	**Standard English spoken with an RP accent**	**Cockney**
invariable *there is*	*there is, there are*	invariable *there is*
Present Tense: generalisation of *-s*	Present Tense: no generalisation of *-s*	Present Tense: generalisation of *-s*
Past Tense plural: generalisation of *was*	*were, was*	Past Tense plural: generalisation of *was*
real, quick, slow, (not as frequently as in Cockney)	*really, quickly, slowly*	*real, quick, slow*

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Received Pronunciation

Some syntactic features of Standard English spoken with an RP accent together with their counterparts

EE	Standard English spoken with an RP accent	Cockney
get off of the bench, get up out my seat	*from*	no data in literature (= n. d.)
out the window	*out of*	n. d.

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Received Pronunciation

Some lexical features of Standard English spoken with an RP accent together with their counterparts

EE	**Standard English spoken with an RP accent**	**Cockney**
cheers	*thanks; bye*	no data in literature (= n. d.)
basically (frequent use)	*basically*	n. d.
busy line (US)	*engaged line*	n. d.
it's down to you (US)	*it's up to you*	n. d.

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Task

Task for Unit 3

1. Research: Find a corpus collecting data for each of Kachru's circles
2. Collect arguments for and against the following statement:

   English is a threat to other languages and multilingualism

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