

Unit 3: Day 8

The Diffusion of Language

A series of horizontal stripes in various colors (yellow, green, blue, dark blue, orange, red, white, light green) running across the bottom of the slide.

How do languages diffuse?

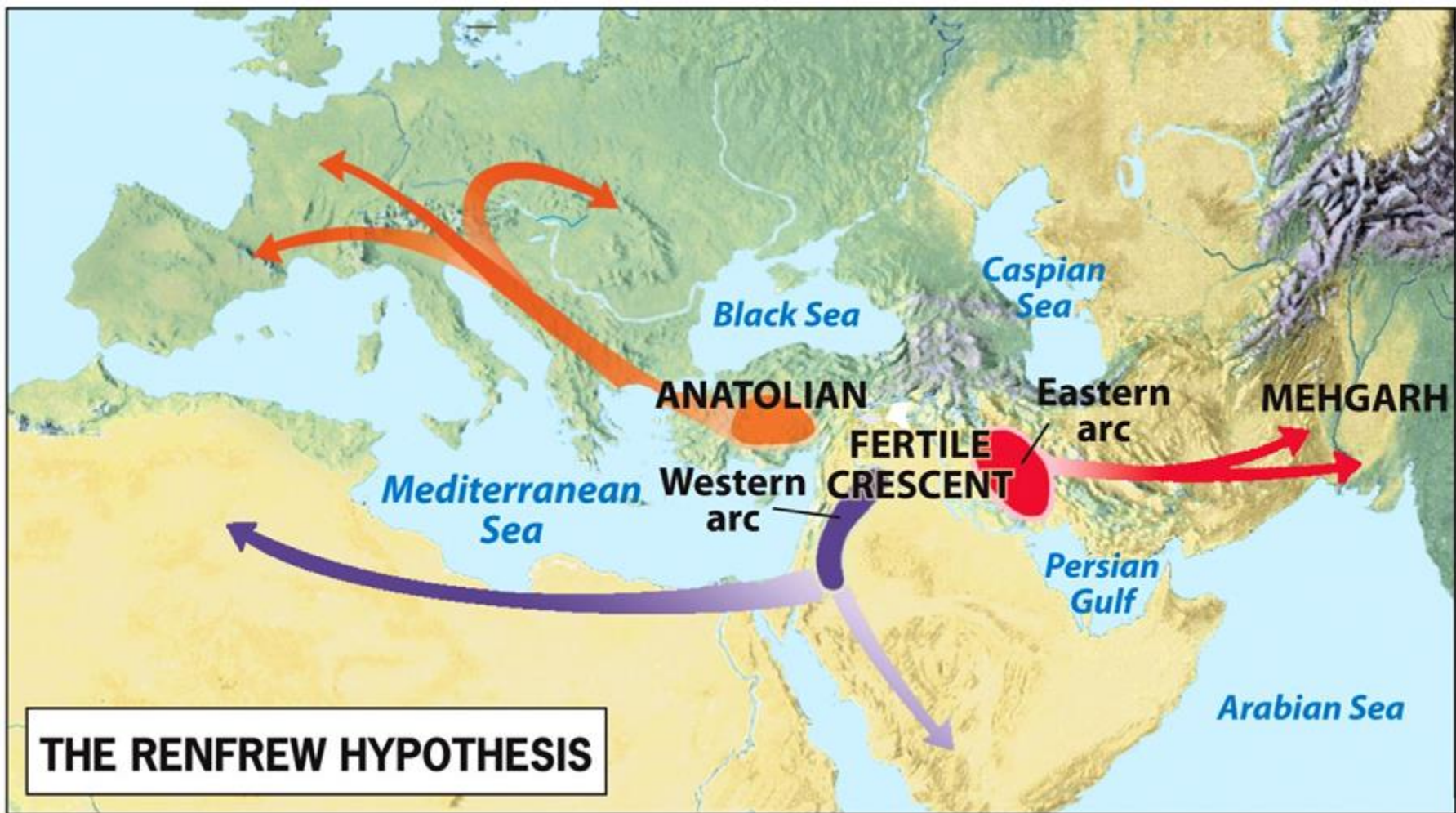
- Human interaction
- Print distribution
- Migration
- Trade
- Rise of nation-states
- Colonialism



Origins of Proto-Indo European Language

Renfrew Hypothesis: Began in the Fertile Crescent, and then

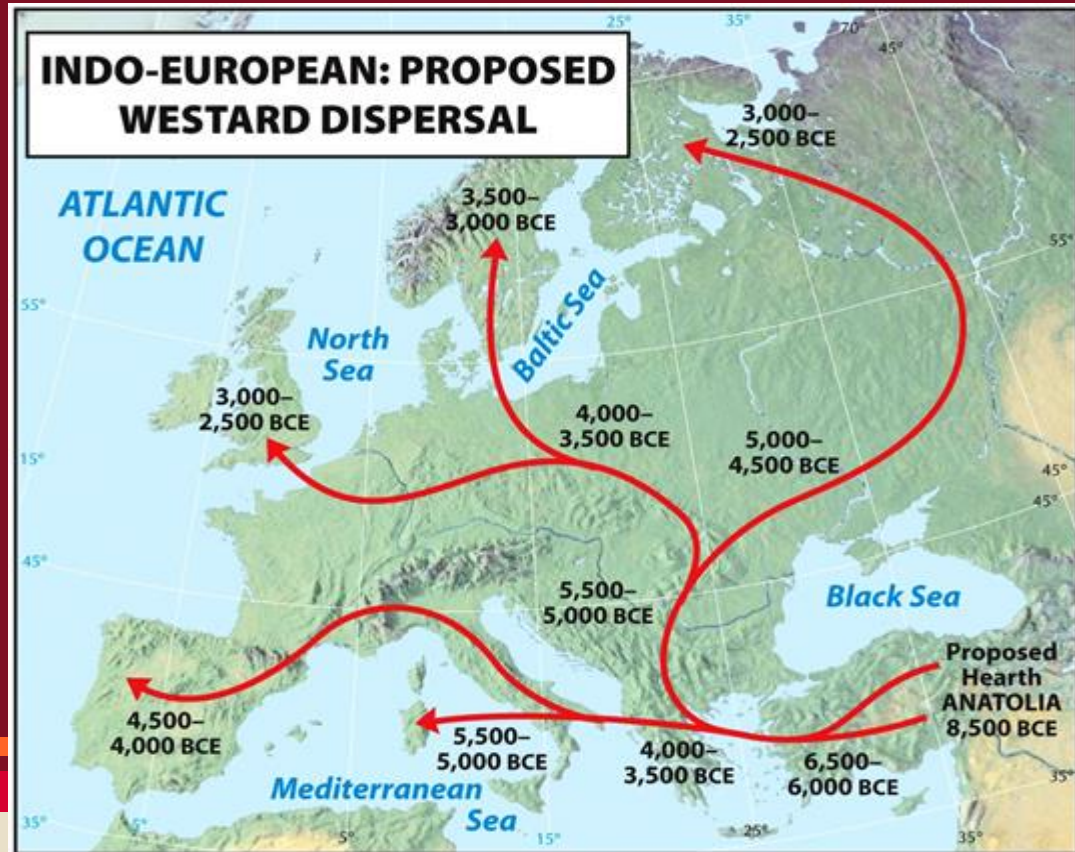
- Europe's languages from Anatolia
- North Africa and Arabia's languages from the Western Arc of Fertile Crescent
- Southwest Asia and South Asia's languages from the Eastern Arc of Fertile Crescent



THE RENFREW HYPOTHESIS

Agricultural Theory

With increased food supply and population, migration of speakers from the hearth of Indo-European languages into Europe



Dispersal Theory

- From the hearth eastward into present-day Iran
- Around the Caspian
- Into Europe



ISOLATED LANGUAGE - a language that is not related to any other languages and thus not connected to any language families. Examples include Basque and Korean.



Pre Indo European Survivor

- The best example of an isolated language in Europe is Basque.
- Basque is spoken by 1 million people in the Pyrenees Mountains.

Spoken by the Basque and in no way related to any other language family in Europe

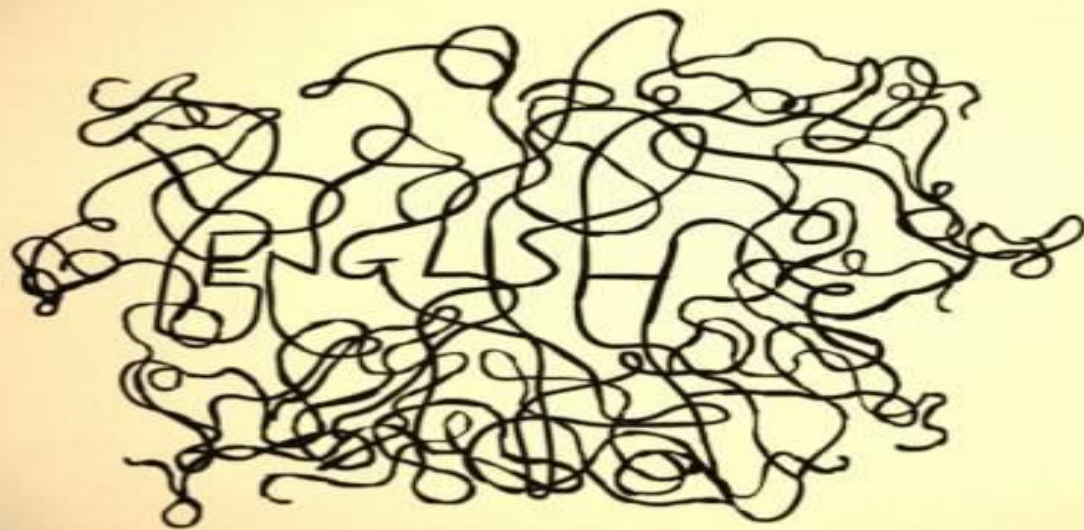


An unchanging Language: Icelandic

- Unlike Basque, Icelandic is related to other languages.
- Icelandic's significance is that over the past thousand years it has changed less than any other in the Germanic branch.

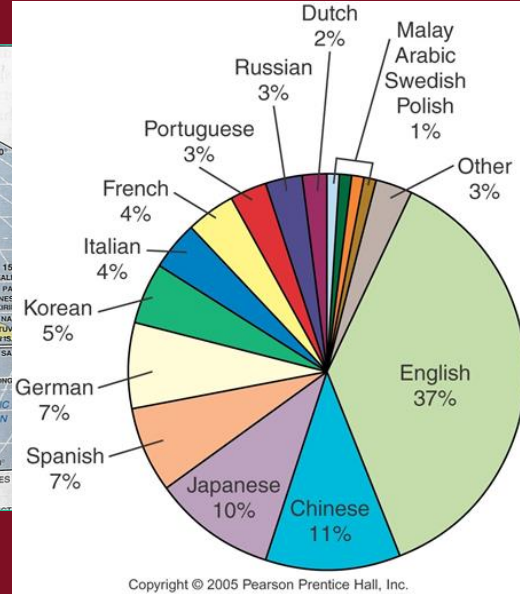
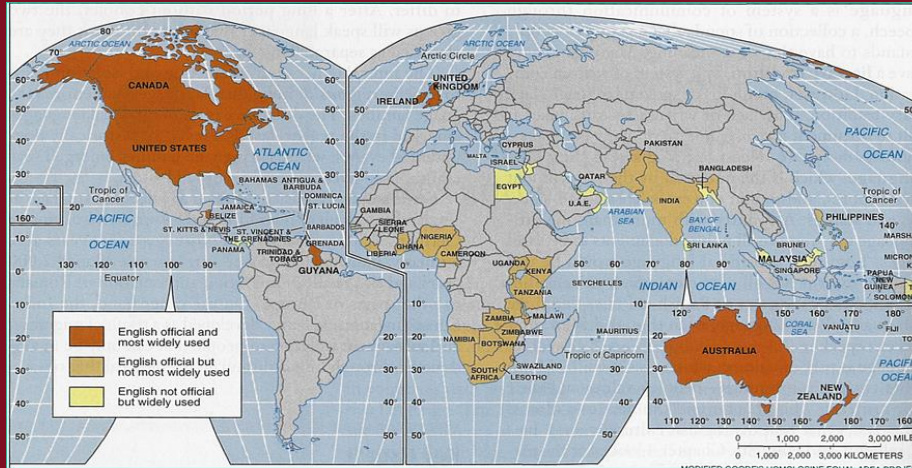


Diffusion of English in 10 Minutes



English as a Lingua Franca

- English as lingua franca for
 - Commerce
 - Science
 - Travel
 - Business
 - Popular culture
- Continued use of native languages for day-to-day activities



Some facts about English

- English is spoken as a first language by 427 million
- English is spoken as a second language by another 350 million
- English is the most widely taught language in over 100 countries
- In 70 countries English has official status:
 - more than any other language