



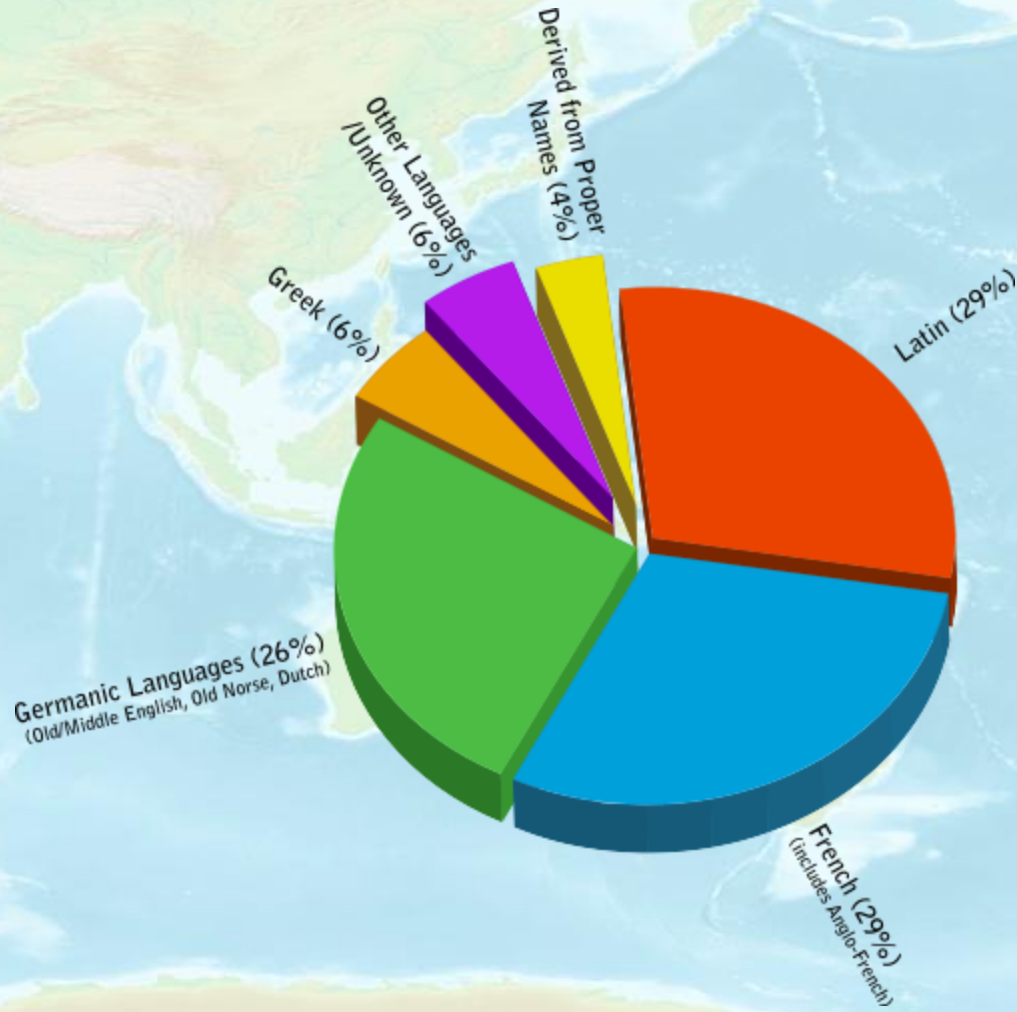
# Ch. 12: Foreign Elements in the English Word Stock

With a bit of Chapter 9 (World English) thrown in for good measure, and some information from the Oxford Dictionaries Website on global varieties of English

# Key Terms

Lexis	World Englishes
Borrowing	Idiolect
Loanword	Geographic dialect
Neo-Latin	Semantic contamination
Etymon (pl. etyma)	Anglosphere
Calque	
Doublet	

# Sources of the ModE Lexis



# Borrowing & Loanwords

- Significant characteristic of English across its history; doublet\
- Pattern is to borrow word & then anglicize it
- Often considerable distance between etymon and final form
- Direct vs immediate sources
- Popular vs learned sources (sites of contact)
- Contemporary word formation using neo-Latin (and sometimes neo-Greek) roots and affixes to create new words, usually in the sciences:

*pneumonoultramicroscopicsilicovolcanoconiosis*

– *Pneumono-* + *-ultra-* + *-micro-* + *-scopic-* + *silico-* + *-volcanico-* + *-coni-* + *osis*

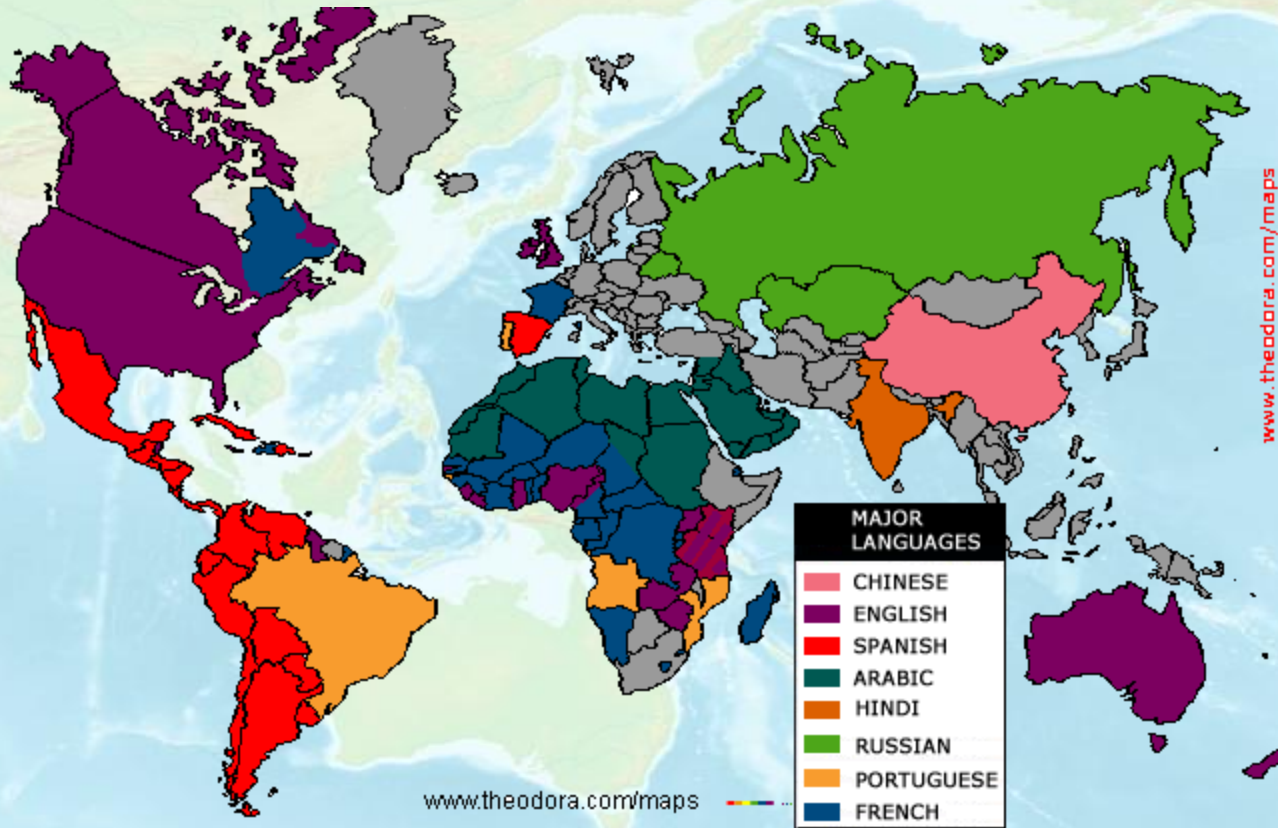
- Calques: *flea market*, *blue blood*, *moment of truth*

# Semantic Contamination



- Confusion of two forms that leads to change: *bedroom suite* to *bedroom suit*
- “*I feel good*” vs “*I feel well*”
- “*Winston tastes good like a cigarette should*”
- Demonstrated to be a factor in mathematics and science learning

# Major World Language Distribution



# 6 Official Languages of the United Nations

- The six official languages of the United Nations are
  - Arabic
  - Chinese (Mandarin)
  - English
  - French
  - Russian
  - Spanish

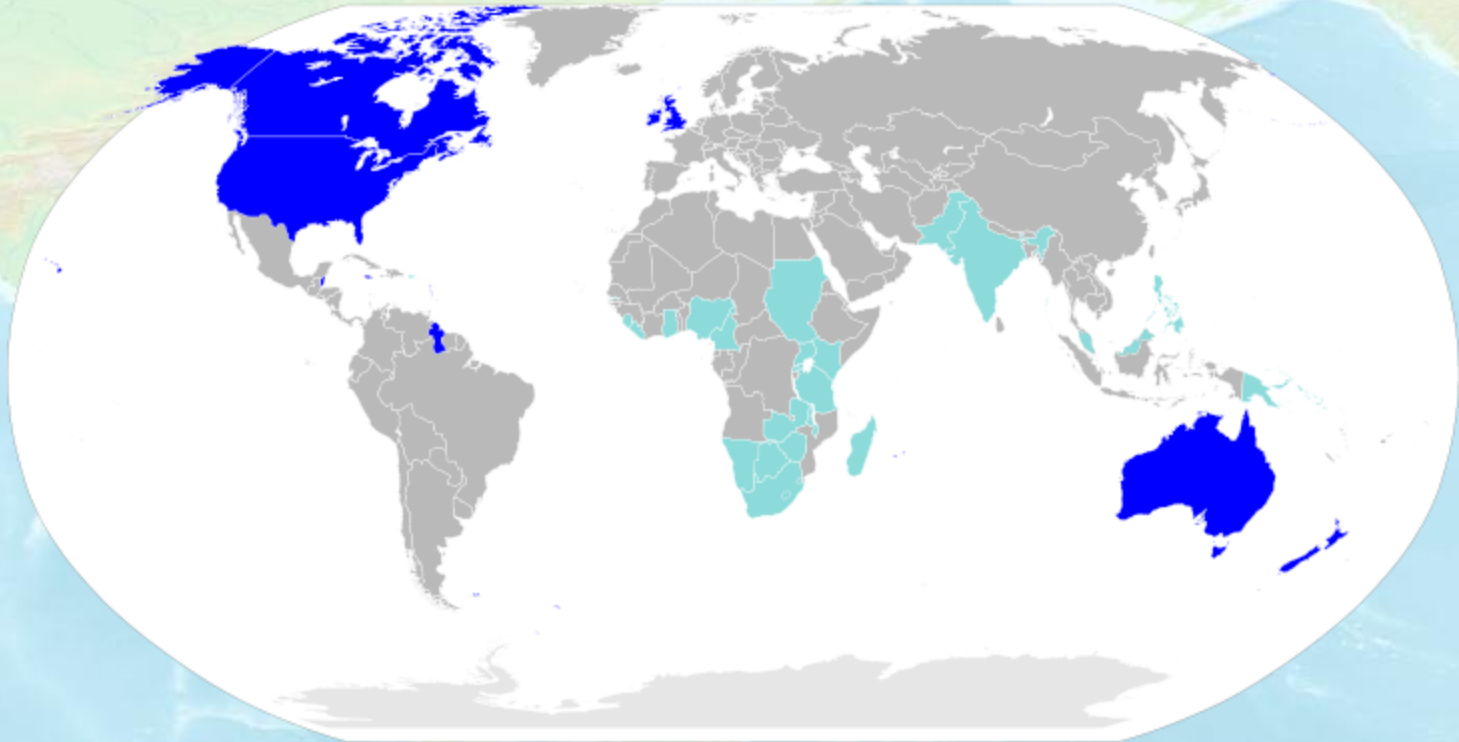


# Historical Awareness of World English

- John Jamieson's *Etymological Dictionary of the Scottish Language* (1808) recognized that there was a difference between the Scottish variety of English and the English of England.
- John Bartlett's *Dictionary of Americanisms* appeared in 1848, acknowledging that a distinct variety of English had arisen across the Atlantic.
- *OED* (1884-1928) documented not just British English words, but also words from the varieties of English found in Australasia, the Caribbean, Asia, Africa, and North America, despite criticisms.



# The Anglosphere



**Dark Blue**= Native speakers

**Turquoise**= English an official language if not first language

David Graddol estimated a total of 750 million L1 (first or native language) plus L2 (second or nth language) speakers of English in [his Future of English Report](#) for the British Council (2000).

# US English (from the OED's perspective)

- The countries where English is spoken as L1 or L2 account for about 49% of the world's population.
- US English is particularly influential, on account of America's dominance of cinema, television, popular music, trade, and technology, including the Internet. But now it's first among equals, not the most dominant player.
- Many terms that enter an Oxford dictionary from the US quickly become established in British English: some examples from the last ten years or so are *geek*, *nerd*, and *24/7*.
- Many US equivalents for British terms are familiar: *sidewalk* for *pavement*, *checkers* for *draughts*, *cookie* for *biscuit*, and *vest* for *waistcoat*. Other differences are more subtle.
- Some words have a slightly different form, e.g. *dollhouse* (US)/*doll's house* (Brit.), *math* (US)/*maths* (Brit.), *tidbit* (US)/*titbit* (Brit.), while American constructions that are strange to British ears include *I just ate*, *teach school*, and *a quarter of ten* (rather than *a quarter to ten*).

# Some disquieting facts...

- Between 9 and 26% of Americans can hold a [conversation in a foreign language](#).
- [Half of all Europeans](#) are bilingual. Japan has three years of compulsory English study in middle school.
- There is little political or community impetus to push the acquisition of second languages in the U.S.:  
<http://roomfordebate.blogs.nytimes.com/2010/02/07/will-americans-really-learn-chinese/>



# Australian and New Zealand English

- The vocabularies of Australian and New Zealand English are very similar.
- Both have been enriched by words and concepts from the hundreds of indigenous languages that pre-dated European settlers, only about fifty of which continue as first languages.
- The line between formal and informal usage is perhaps less sharply drawn in Australasian English than it is elsewhere.
  - suffixes such as *-o* and *-ie*, giving us expressions such as *arvo* (afternoon), *reffo* (refugee), and *barbie* (barbecue), are freely attached to words even in more formal contexts.

# Aussie English: Return of the Medieval Dinosaurs



# Indian English

- The role of English within the complex multilingual society of India is far from straightforward. Together with Hindi it is used across the country, but it can also be speakers' first, second, or third language, and its features may depend heavily on their ethnicity and caste.
- The grammar of Indian English has many distinguishing features, of which perhaps the best-known are the use of the present continuous tense, as in '*He is having very much of property*', and the use of *isn't it* as a ubiquitous question tag: '*We are meeting tomorrow, isn't it?*' The first example rejects another characteristic of the language, which is to include intrusive articles such as *in* or *of* in idiomatic phrases.
- Verbs are also used differently, with speakers often dropping a preposition or object altogether: '*I insisted immediate payment*', while double possessives - '*our these prices*' (instead of the British English '*these prices of ours*') - are commonplace.
- Indian English is frequently used as a tool for stereotyping and discrimination (see *Slumdog Millionaire*, etc.).

# Caribbean English

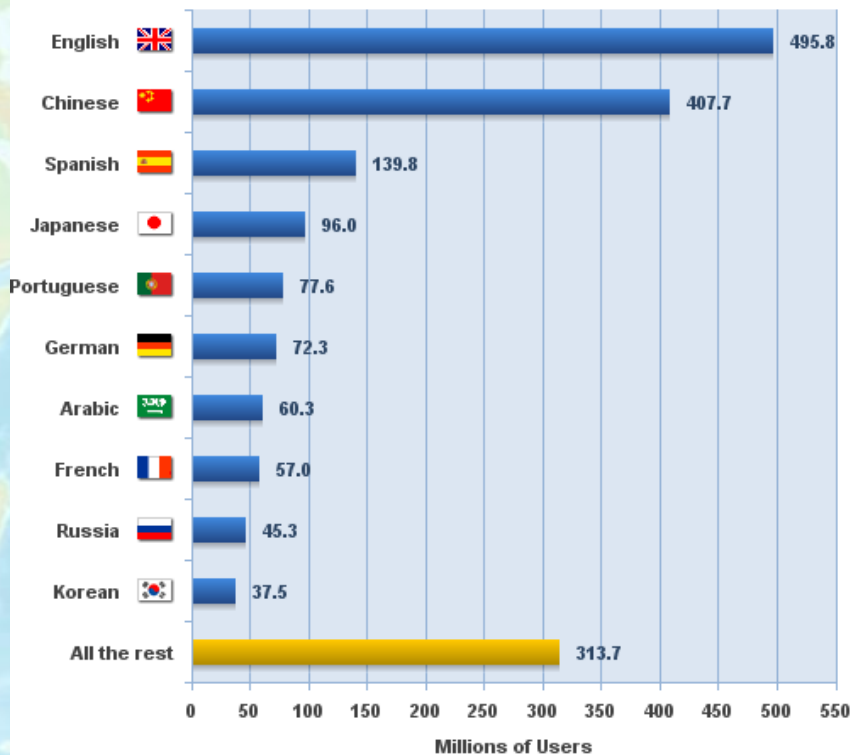
- Standard British English has traditionally been the linguistic model for the Commonwealth Caribbean, although recently the import of US media and tourism has made American English an equally powerful influence.
- The many varieties of Creole, influenced by West African languages, are also productive.
- A characteristic usage is that of the objective pronoun where British English would use the nominative or possessive, as in *me can come an go as me please* or *he clear he throat*.
- Jamaican Creole is the most widely known, and has spread beyond the region, especially to the UK.





# The Internet and World English

Top 10 Languages in the Internet  
in millions of users



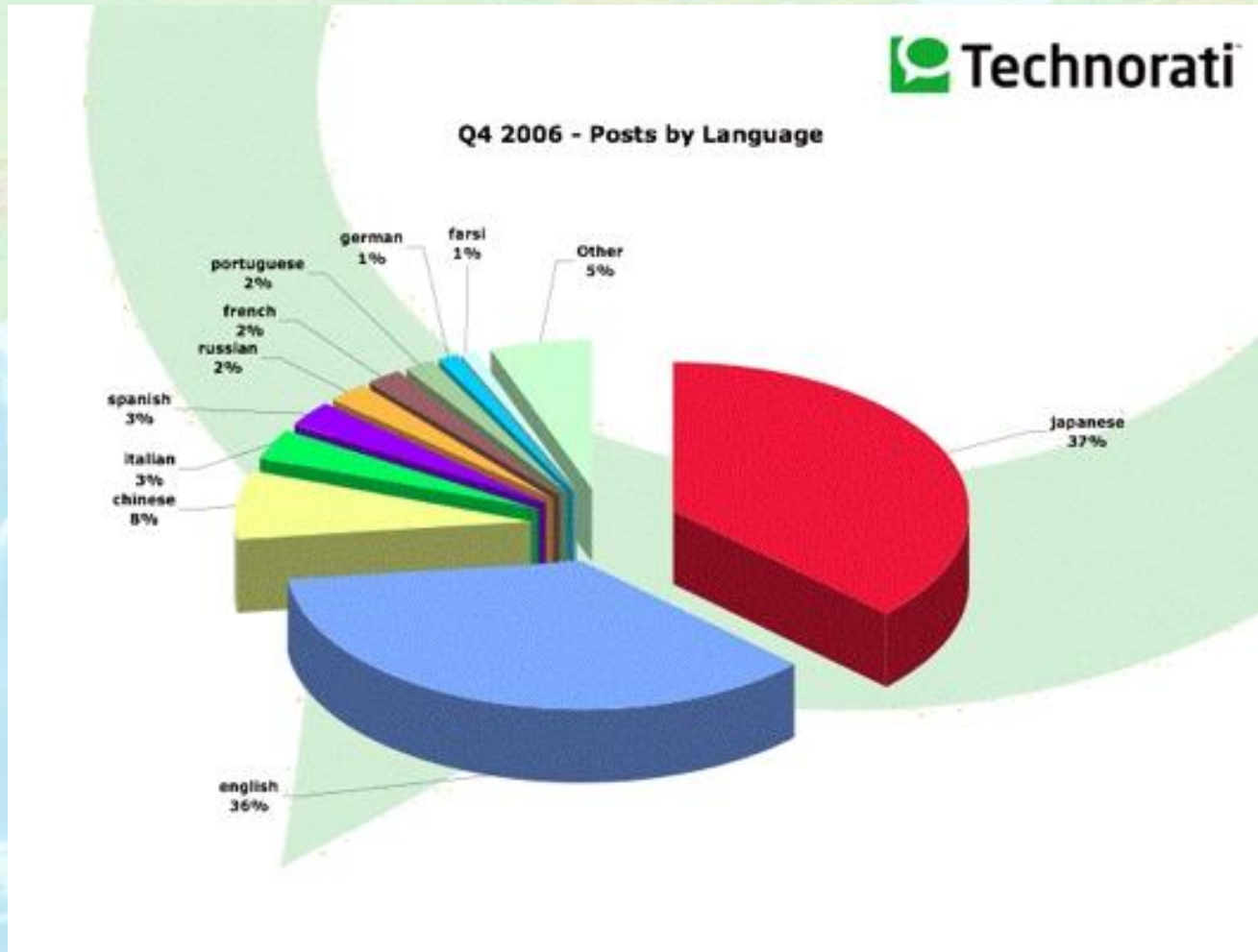
Source: Internet World Stats - [www.internetworldstats.com/stats7.htm](http://www.internetworldstats.com/stats7.htm)  
Estimated Internet users are 1,802,330,457 for December 31, 2009  
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- Majority language of the web is English—but not the dominant language any more
- The Central Authority for Internet Control (CAIC) announced in 2008 that they planned to make English the official and obligatory language of the Internet by 2010. Met with immediate & successful resistance.
- ICANN's Fast Track Process launched on 16 November 2009. It allows nations and territories to apply for Internet extensions reflecting their name – and made up of characters from their national languages.

<b>TOP TEN LANGUAGES ON THE INTERNET</b>	<b>Internet Users by Language</b>	<b>Internet Penetration by Language</b>	<b>Growth in Internet (2000 - 2009)</b>	<b>Internet Users % of Total</b>	<b>World Population for this Language (2009 Estimate)</b>
<a href="#"><u>English</u></a>	<b>499,213,462</b>	39.5 %	251.7 %	27.7 %	1,263,830,976
<a href="#"><u>Chinese</u></a>	<b>407,650,713</b>	29.7 %	1,162.0 %	22.6 %	1,373,859,774
<a href="#"><u>Spanish</u></a>	<b>139,849,651</b>	34.0 %	669.2 %	7.8 %	411,631,985
<a href="#"><u>Japanese</u></a>	<b>95,979,000</b>	75.5 %	103.9 %	5.3 %	127,078,679
<a href="#"><u>Portuguese</u></a>	<b>77,569,900</b>	31.4 %	923.9 %	4.3 %	247,223,493
<a href="#"><u>German</u></a>	<b>72,337,310</b>	75.0 %	161.1 %	4.0 %	96,389,702
<a href="#"><u>Arabic</u></a>	<b>60,252,100</b>	17.5 %	2,297.7 %	3.3 %	344,139,242
<a href="#"><u>French</u></a>	<b>57,017,099</b>	16.9 %	375.2 %	3.2 %	337,046,097
<a href="#"><u>Russian</u></a>	<b>45,250,000</b>	32.3 %	1,359.7 %	2.5 %	140,041,247
<a href="#"><u>Korean</u></a>	<b>37,475,800</b>	52.7 %	96.8 %	2.1 %	71,174,317
<b>TOP 10 LANGUAGES</b>	<b>1,492,595,035</b>	33.8 %	379.2 %	82.8 %	4,412,415,512
Rest of the Languages	<b>309,735,422</b>	13.2 %	525.3 %	17.2 %	2,355,389,696
<b>WORLD TOTAL</b>	<b>1,802,330,457</b>	26.6 %	399.3 %	100.0 %	6,767,805,208

(\*) NOTES: (1) Top Ten Languages Internet Stats were updated for December 31 2009. (2) Internet Penetration is the ratio between the sum of Internet users speaking a language and the total population estimate that speaks that specific language. (3) The most recent Internet usage information comes from data published by [Nielsen Online](#), [International Telecommunications Union](#), [GfK](#), and other reliable sources. (4) World population information comes from the [U.S. Census Bureau](#). (5) For definitions and navigation help in several languages, see the [Site Surfing Guide](#). (6) Stats may be cited, stating the source and establishing an active link back to [Internet World Stats](#). Copyright © 2010, Miniwatts Marketing Group. All rights reserved worldwide.

# In what languages do people blog?



# Signed languages

- Using gestural signs (often symbolic) to convey semantic information
- Earliest systematic version is from Spain, 1620
- Most modern versions derived from French system
- US version: Ameslan
- Aboriginal systems
- Modern emergences

eat / food



My stars, am I ever enamoured with sign language. You can speak with your hands! That's amazing!



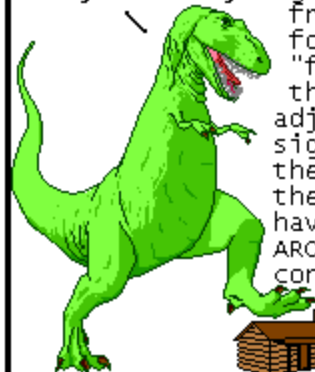
**I LOVE SIGN LANGUAGE TOO**

well! Then it's settled!



I think the coolest thing about ASL, which is the sign language I know, is how you can place nouns in space. If I'm telling a story about my angry dog and my very sassy friend, I can make the sign for "dog" to my left, and "friend" to my right, and then when I want to apply adjectives to them, I just sign "angry" or "sassy" in the same physical space as the nouns! You can have nouns FLOATING AROUND YOU in conversation.

How is that not the best thing EVER?



Also, many of the signs are really evocative, so they're easy to remember!

Like what?



Like - the sign for elbow is just pointing to your elbow, and the sign for child is patting the head of an imaginary child. For children you pat several heads!

Neat!






I know!



Um - I have nothing bad to say about sign language, the end!



# This one's for Keith!

<p>Today is a good day I think for picking up a foreign language! To better myself and the world, so to speak!</p> <p>Now, which language to choose...</p> 	<p>I know!</p> <p>I'll just learn all of them!</p> 	<p>SOME SHORT TIME LATER...</p> <p>Nenu maamsamu chepalu thinanu!</p> <p>Nenu shudda shaakaahaarini!</p> <p>Nenu gudlu, paalu, venna tinanu.</p> 
<p>Pokazi mi kade boli!</p> <p>Iskash li pomosht?</p> <p>Tova e dobre.</p> <p>He, sega! _Ako obichash!</p> 	<p>saluton!</p> <p>Mi parolas Esperanton!</p> <p>Ne ridigu min!</p> <p>Mi scias. oni rabatencis min.</p> 	<p>張九齡</p> <p>感遇四首之三</p> <p>幽林歸獨臥， 滯虛洗孤清。 持此謝高鳥， 因之傳遠情。 日夕懷空意， 人誰感至精。 飛沈理自隔， 何所慰吾誠。</p> 