

Writing English

Course introduction

- Focus on writing
- In-class activities, optional homework
- Five classes, 1½ hours each
- A pilot course, hybrid between a writing clinic and a full size course
- I can individually proofread during the course about two pages of any text you want to send me.
- MyCourses

Bill Hellberg, Language Centre, 29 Oct. 2019

Written vs. spoken English

How would you say the following?

This Thistle Thyme

A - E - I - O - U

Z W

Schedule

Resign

Ghoti = Fish →

if GH as in enough,
O as in women,
TI as in motion

Written vs. spoken English

There / their / they're

Its / it's

Programme / program

Enquiry / inquiry

Meter / metre

Our / hour

Sign / sine / syne

Course / coarse

Basis / basses / bases

I'll / aisle

Meet / meat

Err / air / heir / ere

Lapps / lapse / laps

Write / right

To / two / too

Buy / bye / by / bi

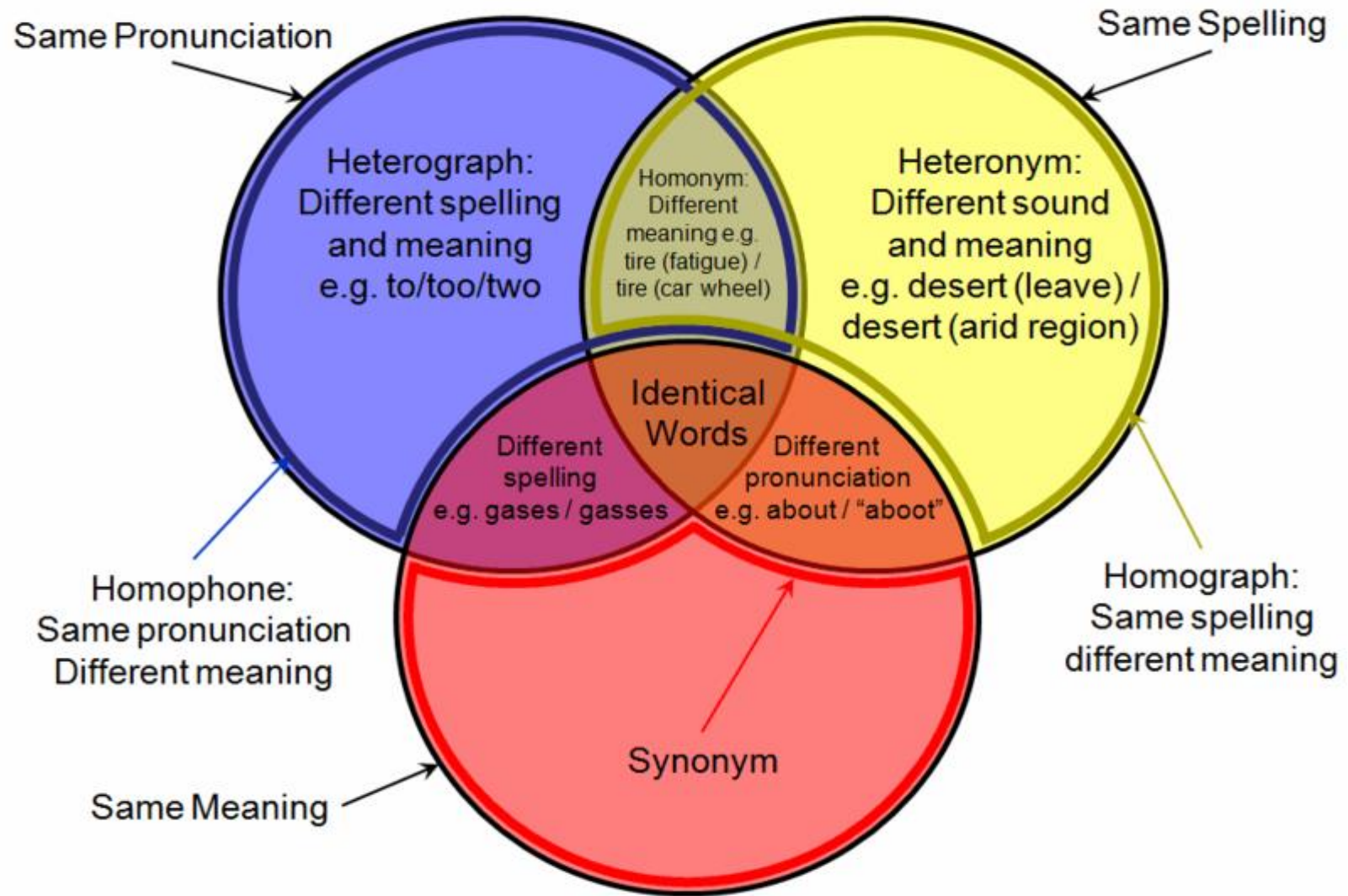
Sees / seas / seize

Site / sight / cite

So / sew / sow

Raise / rays / raze

Metal / medal / meddle



Words Different In Pronunciation, Spelling, and Meaning

/ by Will Heltsley 2009
/ Wikipedia 'Homograph'

(Hand)written English

Write 'The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog.'

Write '0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9'.

(Hand)written English

First password: Z 5 0 2 0 l S 1

(CAPITAL Z, FIVE, ZERO, TWO, CAPITAL O, SMALL L, CAPITAL S, ONE)

Second password: u + 1 v 7 t

(SMALL U, PLUS-SIGN, NUMBER 1, SMALL V, NUMBER 7, SMALL T)

Isot kirjaimet: Uppercase/capital/big letters

Pienet kirjaimet: Lowercase/small letters

(Hand)written English

There are similar problems with typed text in certain fonts:

What word is this?

lillan

Or this?

lilaakso

Double-O or double-zero?

00

Varieties of English

How many varieties of English are there in the world?

Which ones come to your mind?

Which one(s) are relevant for us at Aalto?

Jot down your thoughts and compare/discuss with your neighbour.

International English / World Englishes

International English

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
(Redirected from [International english](#))

This article is about the international standard of English. For classification of Englishes around the world, see [World Englishes](#).

This article has multiple issues. Please help [improve it](#) or discuss them on the [talk page](#). (Learn how and when to remove these template messages)

- This article includes a [list of references](#), but **its sources remain uncited**. Please help improve it by adding [inline citations](#). (April 2009)
- This article **possibly contains original research**. (April 2016)
- This article's **lead section** may not adequately [summarize](#) its content. Please help improve it by adding more detail to the lead section. (April 2016)

International English is the concept of the [English language](#) as a global means of communication in different dialects, and the movement towards an international standard for the language.^[1] It is also referred to as **English**, **World English**, **Common English**, **Continental English**, **General English**, **Engas** (English language), or **Globish**.^[2] Sometimes, these terms refer simply to the array of varieties of English spoken around the world.

Sometimes, "international English" and the related terms above refer to a desired standardisation, i.e. [Basic English](#); however, there is no consensus on the path to this goal. There have been many proposals for making International English more accessible to people from different nationalities. [Basic English](#) is an example to make progress. More recently, there have been proposals for [English as a lingua franca](#) (ELF) in which native speakers take a highly active role in the development of the language.^[3] It has also been argued that

World Englishes

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

This article is about the classification of Englishes around the world. For [Global English](#) or [World English](#), see [International English](#).

World Englishes is a term for emerging localized or indigenized varieties of English, especially varieties that have developed in territories influenced by the United Kingdom or the United States. The study of World Englishes consists of identifying varieties of English used in diverse sociolinguistic contexts globally and analyzing how sociolinguistic histories, multicultural backgrounds and contexts of function influence the use of English in different regions of the world.

The issue of World Englishes was first raised in 1978 to examine concepts of regional Englishes globally. Pragmatic factors such as appropriateness, comprehensibility and interpretability justified the use of English as an international and intra-national language. In 1988, at a [Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages \(TESOL\)](#) conference in [Honolulu, Hawaii](#), the International Committee of the Study of World Englishes (ICWE) was formed. In 1992, the

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR WORLD ENGLISHES
International Association for World Englishes

Differences between UK and US English

- S vs Z spellings ('organisation' vs 'organization', etc. Oxford, however, recommends Z spellings for words derived from Greek)
- Many other spellings (UK: tyre, focussing, travelling, artefact, gauge, grey, mould, per cent, whilst)
- Comma usage: 'x, y and z' vs 'x, y, and z' (the former is uncommon in the US; the latter is more British, except for Oxford)
- Article usage (UK: 'The injured were taken to hospital'; 'She studied at university while also working part-time.')
- Many detail terms different (UK/US: gas/petrol, boot/trunk, lift/elevator, full stop / period, maths/math, foreclosure/repossession, to table)

Education terms – UK / US / Aalto

- MA dissertation / MA thesis / MA thesis
- Doctoral thesis / doctoral dissertation / doctoral dissertation
- Module / course / course
- To sit an exam / to take an exam / _____
- Invigilator / 'proctor' or 'exam supervisor' / _____
- Marks / 'points' or 'grades' / grades
- Tuition fees / tuition / tuition fees
- Further education / continuing education / continuing education
- public school / private school / _____

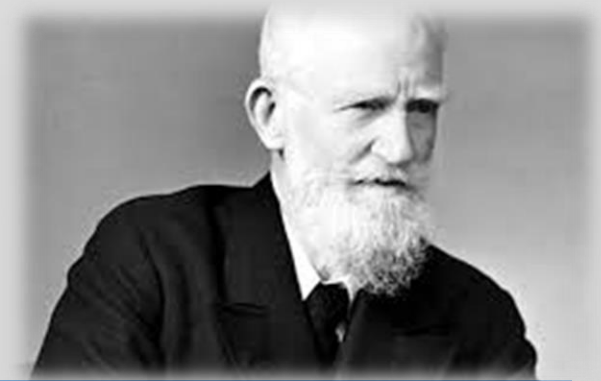


‘We have really everything in common with America nowadays, except, of course, the language.’

Oscar Wilde

The United States and United Kingdom are
‘two countries divided by a common language’.

GB Shaw



For next time (optional homework):

and/or

(1) Think about the openings and closings (salutations and valedictions) of emails and letters to individuals and to groups. What are the different ways of doing this? We will talk about these next time.

(2) Bring a text next time related to your own work, or maybe something in the news, or an advertisement – anything. It should contain something that interests you, is relevant to your work, or contains words or grammar that you have questions about. Explain what this ‘something’ was.

and/or

(3) An Aalto professor declared that literacy may soon no longer be an important basic skill, since communication will take place via video and audio, not reading and writing. Do you agree? Would this be a positive or negative development, or both?

Next time in class:

Email

Style

Politeness

Punctuation