



**HOW DID IT
COME TO THIS?**

LESSON 3 / I

ACCORDING TO RECENT COUNTS, NOW THERE ARE 469,470 WORDS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE, WHICH IS ABOUT 3 TIMES MORE THAN THE NUMBER OF WORDS AVAILABLE TO CHAUCER, AUTHOR OF "CANTERBURY TALES" IN THE 14TH CENTURY.

- FALSE
- Altogether Chaucer used about 2,000 English words in his works, which is about 2,345 times fewer than the number of English words available today. The exact numbers are difficult to judge, though, in both directions.



BETWEEN THE END OF THE REIGN OF ELIZABETH I (1603) AND THE 90. BIRTHDAY OF ELIZABETH II IN 2016, THE NUMBER OF ENGLISH SPEAKERS INCREASED ALMOST FIFTYFOLD, TO ABOUT 250M, THE MAJORITY LIVING OUTSIDE THE BRITISH ISLES.

- FALSE
- End of the reign of Elizabeth I (1603): 5-7M English speakers living mainly on the British Isles
- Beginning of the reign of Elizabeth II (1952), this figure increased almost fiftyfold, to some 250 million, the vast majority living outside the British Isles.



ABOUT 150 NEW WORDS ARE ENTERED INTO THE OXFORD ENGLISH DICTIONARY EVERY YEAR; IN 2016, FOR INSTANCE, PHUBBING, DUMPSTER FIRE AND BREXIT.

- FALSE
- Phubbing
 - The practice of ignoring one's companion or companions in order to pay attention to one's phone or other mobile device.
- Dumpster fire
 - A complete and utter disaster or a completely chaotic situation, likened to a fire in a dumpster, which quickly becomes uncontrollable. The phrase can be applied to both situations and people.
- Brexit



A LOCAL, NON-STANDARD VARIETY OF ENGLISH, WHICH MIGHT BE LARGELY INCOMPREHENSIBLE TO NATIVE SPEAKERS OF ENGLISH, MIGHT BECOME THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGE OF A COUNTRY AND THE MOTHER TONGUE OF ITS CITIZENS.

- TRUE
- Nigerian English, etc.
- Camfranglais: vernacular of Cameroon, consisting of a mixture of Cameroonian French, Cameroonian English and Cameroonian Pidgin English, in addition to lexical contributions from various indigenous languages of Cameroon.

Examples of Nigerian Pidgin English , Camfranglais and English

Nigerian Pidgin English Camfranglais . English

- | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • Commot | • je go | • Go |
| • Pikin | • le muna | • Child |
| • I no sabi | • je know pas | • I do not know |
| • Dem de come | • ils came | • they are coming |
| • Pikin di cry | • le muna cry | • the baby is crying |
| • come chop | • vient tchop | • come and eat |
| • How na ? | • e' est how? | • how are you? |
| • I sabi | • je know | • I know |
| • Better yan | • les ways fort | • interesting story |
| • Levam so | • lep ça | • allow it |



**BRUMMIE,
MANCUNIAN,
GEORDIE AND
POTTERIES ARE
SOME OF THE
APPROXIMATELY
50 REGIONAL
DIALECTS OF
ENGLISH SPOKEN
IN THE UNITED
KINGDOM.**

TRUE

Geordie – New Castle
Mancunian – Manchester
Brummie - Birmingham
Potteries - Staffordshire

ALTOGETHER THERE ARE ABOUT 1500 REGIONAL DIALECTS OF ENGLISH.

- Probably FALSE
- Impossible to count
- Official language in 67 countries
- 50 dialects only in the UK
- [List of dialects of the English language | Project Gutenberg Self-Publishing - eBooks | Read eBooks online](#)

