January 12

EQ- How do people who speak different languages communicate with each other? How do languages disappear?

Agenda:
1. Do Now/Vocab/Test Questions
2. Notes
3. Endangered/Extinct Languages Case Study

Homework:
1. Finish the vocabulary review
2. Study for your test (on Wednesday!!)

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Vocabulary

**Lingua Franca** - a language used for trade with people who speak different languages (ex: English, Swahili)

**Pidgin** - a simplified form of speech where one language combines with another

**Creole** - when a pidgin language replaces the official language
1. Which of the following is a term used in the study of place names?
   a. Isonyms
   b. Phenonyms
   c. Acronyms
   d. Toponyms
   e. Loconyms

2. The first wave of immigrants to the United States during the 19th century came from:
   a. Asia and Latin America
   b. Italy, Russia, Poland
   c. England, Ireland, Germany
   d. Sweden, Norway, Slovakia
   e. Africa and Oceania

3. The term “cultural diffusion” refers to the
   a. Modification of Earth’s surface by human actions
   b. Integration of behavioral traits within a group
   c. Spread of an idea or innovation from its source
   d. Relationship between human cultures and their physical environment
   e. Assimilation of a minority culture into the host society
How do different groups of people communicate with each other?

**Bilingualism:** The ability to speak two languages fluently.

**Multilingualism:** The ability to speak more than two languages fluently.

**Pidgin:** A simplified language that combines words and grammar from a native language and a major language.

*Example: Hawaiian Pidgin (mix of English and Hawaiian)*

**Creole:** When a pidgin language replaces the native language.

*ex. Haitian Creole is a mix of French and native Haitian. It has replaced native Haitian.*
In the Congo, most people speak Congolese, which is a mix of French and native Congo languages. Very few people speak native Congo languages. Congolese is an example of:

1. Bilingualism
2. Multilingualism
3. a pidgin language
4. a Creole
How does a language become endangered?

**Endangered language**: A language at risk for becoming extinct or at risk of disappearing.

**Extinct language**: A language that disappears from use.

What is one tool governments can use to revive endangered languages?

**Revive**: restore to use or life

*e.g.* The doctor *revived* the unconscious person.

**Official language**: A language selected in a multilingual country that is meant to promote unity amongst people.
Over the last 1,000 years, more and more Welsh people have given up Welsh for English. If the Welsh government doesn’t do anything, what will happen to the Welsh language?

1. It will become a creole.
2. It will become a Pigin.
3. It will become an official language.
4. It will become a lingua franca.
5. It will become extinct.
Before Columbus traveled to the western hemisphere in 1492, the South American land of Peru had more than 500 languages. You may be asking yourself, how could one country have 500 different languages? The answer lies in the geography of Peru. As you can see in the map to the left, Peru is a mountainous country. People who live in mountains are usually isolated from other groups, so they develop their own languages.

Europeans anxious to make fortunes in the “New World” Columbus discovered flocked to South America. Europeans were the most technologically advanced civilization in the world in the 1500 and 1600s. Peruvians (people from Peru) spears and arrows were no match for Spain’s guns and steel swords.

The Spanish quickly took control of the land of Peru and forced local people to work for them mining gold and silver. In addition, the Spaniards (people from Spain) discouraged the use of local languages and promoted Spanish. Furthermore, Spaniards brought diseases with them that killed many Peruvians. Today, only 57 Peruvian languages are spoken. That means over 400 Peruvian languages became extinct since Europeans discovered the western hemisphere.
Case 2: The Gothic Language Becomes Extinct

Gothic was widely spoken by people in Eastern and Northern Europe in the 3rd century A.D. (200s). Not only is Gothic extinct today, but so is the entire language group to which it belonged. The last speakers of Gothic lived in Russia in the 16th century (1500s).

The Gothic language died because the descendents of the Goths were converted to other languages. This happened when Goths chose to integrate into other cultures. For example, many gothic people switched to speaking the Latin Language after they adopted the new religion called Christianity.
Case 3: Reviving the Hebrew Language

Hebrew is a rare case of an extinct language that has been revived. Most of the Bible’s old testament was written in Hebrew. While Hebrew was used in daily life in 400 B.C., it diminished to only being used for religious rituals by the time of Jesus. Aramaic replaced Hebrew, and later Arabic would replace Aramaic as the most common language spoken in the Middle East.

When Israel was established as an independent country in 1948, Hebrew became one of the new country’s two official languages. Hebrew was chosen because the Jewish population of Israel consisted of refugees from many countries who spoke many languages. Because Hebrew was still used in Jewish prayer, it was chosen as the language to unify such a diverse group.
Case 4: Reviving the Welsh language

When the Germans, Vikings, and Normans invaded England, they pushed the native people to the West to Wales. Native Englishers spoke a language called Welsh. As the years went by, more and more Welsh gave up their native language and adopted English. The Welsh language was threatened with extinction.

In the last few decades, there has been a push to preserve and revive Welsh. In 1998, Britain (Wales is a part of Britain) passed a law requiring Welsh school children to take Welsh language classes. In addition, this law required that Welsh history and Welsh music classes be offered at schools. The government has also erected road and traffic signs in Welsh as well as English. Lastly, public broadcasting companies have started to air programs and commercials in Welsh. All these efforts have promoted the use of Welsh and have revived it from the threat of extinction.