

## AN ANALYSIS OF LANGUAGE CHANGE AS SEEN IN THE ARTICLE “IS ENGLISH CHANGING”

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### Abstract

language is often changing especially in every other human language, language is always adapting, evolving, and changing to fulfill the needs of its users. This is not a bad thing actually if English had not changed since let say from 1950, we would never have a word refer to modems, fax machines, computer or TV cable. As long as the needs of language users continue to change, so will the language. The change is remains slow that from year to year we can notice it, except the poor English that used by young generation nowadays, however reading a Shakespeare's writings from the 16th century can be very difficult for us. If you go back to the couple more of centuries, Chaucer's Canterbury Tales are very tough and if you go back more for another 500 years trying to read The Beowulf, it would be like reading a different language that you think even exist. The result of this study will contribute to the broader information about why language change happen to English words.

**Key words:** Analysis, article, language change, English

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### INTRODUCTION

One of the most intriguing and widely studied topics in linguistics is the nature of language change (Suprayogi & Pranoto, 2020), (Asia & Samanik, 2018). It is a very well-known fact that natural languages of all types keep changing constantly year by year (Kuswanto et al., 2020), (Yudha & Mandasari, 2021). Language change can be studied from several angles: It can be from reconstruct extinct languages, classify languages to language families, recognize the trends in lexical and grammatical changes and draw historical conclusions from language change (Hamzah et al., 2022), (Puspita, 2019), (Fadilah & Kuswoyo, 2021). However, perhaps the most prominent question we ever think regarding language change is why is it happens (Suprayogi et al., 2021), (Mandasari & Aminatun, 2019). The causes of language change have been set aside during most of the time in which historical linguistics was studied by many experts (Oktaviani, Aminatun, et al., 2020), (Candra & Qodriani, 2019). This foundational question was regarded as immaterial to the study of language change due to the fact that the regularity of language change, and with it language change itself, it was assumed as an underlying axiom (Samanik, 2021), (Yulianti & Sulistyawati,

n.d.). Not with standing, later linguistic theory came to regard the causes of language change as a crucial part of its investigation (Pranoto & Suprayogi, 2020).

Language change simply defined as a phenomenon by which permanent alterations are made in the features and the use of a language over time (Mandasari et al., 2022), (Kardiansyah & Salam, 2021). All natural languages change, and language change affects all areas of language use (Teknologi et al., 2021). Types of language change include sound changes, lexical changes, semantic changes, and syntactic changes (Gulö & Nainggolan, 2021), (Ngestirosa et al., 2020). Two fundamental facts of language are: (a) that it is always changing; in all areas of structure (phonology, grammar, discourse style, semantics, and vocabulary) and (b) that it changes in different ways at diverse places and times (Afrianto & Gulö, 2019), (Novanti & Suprayogi, 2021). Language is always changing. We've seen that language changes across space and across social group (Qodriani & Wijana, 2020). Language also varies across time (Sartika & Pranoto, 2021), (Utami Putri et al., 2022). Further, (Handayani & Aminatun, 2020) stated that changes occur in:

Pronunciation eg: knight, knit

Meaning eg: nice

Vocabulary eg: hie-hurry, stilly-softly

The pronunciation “k” in knit and knife was not “silent” in the fifteenth century, and knight not only began with a [k], it had a fricative sound in the middle represented by the letters gh (Puspita & Amelia, 2020), (Qodriani, 2021). Similarly, if you look up a good etymological dictionary you will find that the word nice once meant “precise”, and before that it meant “fastidious” and earlier still it meant “ignorant” (Kuswoyo et al., 2020), (Fithratullah, 2019). Reading Shakespeare turns up many words, such as “hie” (hurry), “stilly” (softly) and “arrant” (thorough), which have disappeared or, more treacherously, changed their meaning (Setri & Setiawan, 2020), (Oktaviani, Mandasari, et al., 2020). Entertain, for instance, meant “keep occupied”, so entertaining the invading troops in Shakespeare’s time referred not to the efforts of singers and comedians (Puspita & Pranoto, 2021), (Fakhrurozi & Adrian, 2020), (Kasih et al., 2022), but to the success of the local army in keeping the foreigners at bay (Aminatun & Oktaviani, 2019), (Amelia, 2021). In accordance this paper aims to know the cause of language change in english (Endang Woro Kasih, 2018), (Afrianto et al., 2021). This paper intended to investigate the factors that lead

to the language change of english. The data of research is collected by interview session from english literature students. At the end this research contributed to further information about the interest and also the education about business especially entrepreneurship among non-business major college students.

## **LITERATURE REVIEW**

Language changes for some reasons. First, it changes because the need of the speakers change. New technologies, new products, and new experiences require us new words to refer precisely to them clearly and efficiently (Maskar & Wulantina, 2019). Like texting: originally it was called text messaging, because it is allowed one person to send another text rather than voice messages by phone. As that became more common, people began using the shorter form text to refer to both the message and the process, just like I just got a text or I'll text Andy this morning (Endah Wulantina et al., 2019).

Another reason for change is that now two people have exactly the same language experiences in their life. We all know a different set of words and constructions, depends on our age, job, level of education, region of the country and so on. We learn new words and phrases from all the different people that we met and talk with, and these combine to make something new and unlike any other person's particular way of speaking. At the same time, various groups in society use language as a way of marking their own group identity; showing who is the member and who is not.

## **METHOD**

The researchers utilized library research techniques and subjective depiction. This study utilized a subjective methodology zeroing in on story understanding. Subjective means examination dependent principally upon a constructivist viewpoint with respect to a singular's encounter that has been by and large or socially built. The information hotspot for this study was a strategies for teaching in second language acquisition. Information assortment strategies were performed by exploring or perusing sources in books, the web, as well as in past exploration reports, and others. Most understudies can find their assets in the library, information on the main libraries, experience with the chapter by chapter guide and other reference works, about complex is surely a fundamental apparatus for pretty much every understudy of writing. The information examination procedure utilized in this

study is clear investigation. To help this information, the specialists looked for important information from different sources. Information investigation is the methodical course of considering and orchestrating information from meetings, perceptions, and records by coordinating the information and concluding what is significant and which should be contemplated. also, make determinations that are straightforward.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

Many of changes that occur in language begin from teens and young adults. As young people they often interact with others on their own age, their language grows to include words, phrases, and constructions that are different from those from older generation.

We get new words from many different places. We borrow them from other languages (sushi, chutzpah), we create them by shortening longer words and it become shorter and easy to be utter by us (gym from gymnasium) or by combining some words into one (brunch from the words breakfast and lunch), and we make them out from the proper names (Levis, fahrenheit). Sometimes even we create a new word by being wrong about the analysis of an existing word, like how the word pea was created. Four hundred years ago, the word pease was used to refer to either a single pea or a bunch of them, but over time, people assumed that pease was a plural form, for which pea must be the singular. Therefore, a new word, pea, was born. The same thing will happen if people begin to think of the word cheese referring to more than one chee. Word order also changes, this process is much slower. Old English word order was much more 'free' than Modern English.

The sounds of a language change over time. About 500 years ago, English began to undergo a major change in the way its vowels were pronounced. Before that, "geese" would have rhymed with today's pronunciation of "face", while "mice" would have rhymed with today's "peace". However, a 'Great Vowel Shift' began to occur, during which the "ay" sound (as in pay) changed to "ee" (as in fee) in all the words containing it, while the "ee" sound changed to "i" (as in pie). Overall, seven different vowel sounds were affected. If you've ever wondered why most other European languages spell the sound "ay" with an 'e' (as in fiancé), and the sound "ee" with an 'i' (as in aria), it's because those languages didn't undergo the Great Vowel Shift, only English did. In Old English, a small winged creature with feathers known as a brid. Over time, the pronunciation changed to bird. It's not hard to imagine children in the year of 1400's being scolded for 'slurring' brid

into bird, it is clear that bird won out. Nobody today would suggest that bird is an incorrect word or a sloppy pronunciation at the first.

The speech patterns of young people will be very distracted on the ears of adults because they're unfamiliar. New words and phrases are used in spoken or informal language much more than in formal so it is very true that the phrases you heard from a teenager may not be appropriate for writing a business letters. But that doesn't mean they're worse and wrong just learn a new language. For years, English teachers and newspaper editors arguing that the word “hopefully” should not be used to mean 'I hope' like in “hopefully it will not rain today”, people frequently used it in informal speech. If you listen carefully, you can hear language change in progress. For example, anymore is a word that used only occur in negative sentences, such as “I don't eat pizza anymore”. Now, in many areas of the country, it's being used in positive sentences, like I've been eating a lot of pizza anymore. In this usage, anymore means something like 'lately'.

There is a term called as “Correct English”, people usually mean, make it as Standard English. Most of the languages have a standard form and it is the form of the language used in government, education, and other formal situation. But Standard English is actually just one dialect of English. What is important to realize is that there is no such thing as 'lazy' dialect. Every dialect of every language has its own rules and it is not “schoolroom” rules, like “don't split your infinitives”, but the sorts of rules that tell us that “the cat slept” is a sentence of English. These rules tell us what language is like rather than what it should be like.

Different dialects will have different rules. For example:

- (1) I didn't eat any dinner.
- (2) I didn't eat no dinner.

Sentence (1) follows the rules of Standard English while sentence (2) follows a set of rules present in some other dialects. They just differ in the rule for making a negative sentence.

In (1), dinner is marked as negative with “any” while (2), it is marked as negative with “no”.

We may have been taught to avoid 'split infinitives', as in (3):

- (3) I was asked to thoroughly water the garden.

This is what we see as 'ungrammatical' because “thoroughly” splits the infinitive to water. Why split infinitives so bad? Here's why: seventeenth-century grammarians believed Latin was the ideal language, so they thought English should be as much like Latin as possible. In Latin, an infinitive like to water is a single word; it's impossible to split it up. So today, 300 years later, we're still being taught that sentences like (3) are wrong, all because someone in the 1600's thought English should be more like Latin.

Here's the last example. Over the past few decades, three new ways of reporting speech have appeared:

(4) So Karen goes, "Wow - I wish I'd been there!"

(5) So Karen is like, "Wow - I wish I'd been there!"

(6) So Karen is all, "Wow - I wish I'd been there!"

In (4) “goes” means pretty much the same thing as said, used for reporting Karen's actual words. In (5) is like means the speaker is telling us what Karen said. If Karen had used different words for the same basic idea, (5) would be appropriate, but (4) would not. Finally, is all in (6) is a fairly new construction.

## CONCLUSION

From the discussion above we know that language change derived from holmes (2013) by pronunciation, meaning and vocabulary, in addition language change especially english words caused by the meaning, the standard langugage and also the sounds of it. Language will never stop changing; it will continue to respond to the needs of the people who use it along their life. So next time you hear a new phrase sounds strange on your ears, remember that like everything else in our world, the English language is working on its progress.

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