



Britain

English is keeping the balance

Michaela Alexandridi

Miranda Naka

The history of English language

English is a Germanic language that originated from the dialects brought to Britain by invaders from north-west Germany and Denmark in the 5th Century. One of these tribes was the Angles. Their dialect was called Englisc, from which the word “English” comes.

The development of English can be divided into three periods:

- Old English (or Anglo-Saxon)
- Middle English
- Modern English

Old English (400 A.D. - 1066)

The early inhabitants of Britain spoke Celtic languages. Britain was invaded by the Romans who occupied the land from 43 B.C. to 410d A.D. They had little impact on the language, but in the 5th century A.D. it was invaded by Angles, Saxons and Jutes, who dominated the original Celtic speaking inhabitants.

The dialects spoken by the Germanic settlers, formed what is now called “Old English”. Hundreds of Latin words entered Old English, when Christianity arrived in Britain. After 150 years, nearly 2000 Scandinavian words were added to English, when the Vikings arrived.



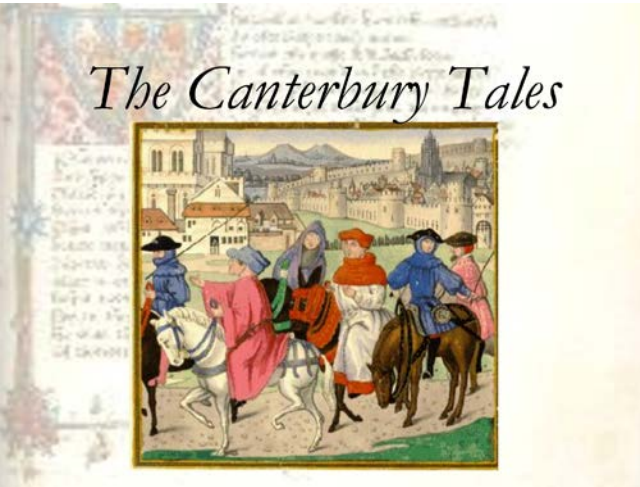
Vikings sailing

Middle English (1066-1500s)

The Old English period ended with the Norman conquest in 1066. The Normans ruled in England for about 300 years and the language changed again. Large numbers of Norman words were assimilated into Old English.

The Norman influence reinforced the evolution of the language and by the end of the 14th century, the dialect of London was what we now call “Middle English”.

A very famous book which is written in Middle English, is the “The Canterbury Tales” by Geoffrey Chaucer.



The Canterbury Tales' cover

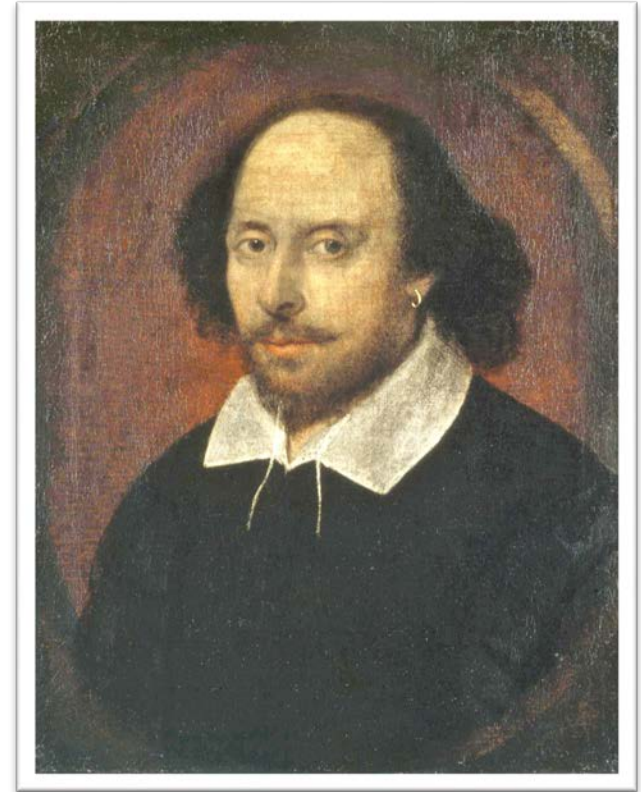


Geoffrey Chaucer
(1343-1400)

Modern English (1500s - 2000s)

The language evolved into Modern English from around the time of William Shakespeare in the 16th century. Shakespeare, himself, used over 1600 new words in his plays. English has incorporated words from about 350 languages, including Latin, Greek, French, German, Arabic, Italian, etc.

Today, English has one of the largest vocabularies in the world.



William
Shakespeare
(1564-1616)

The spread of English

During the reign of Elizabeth I (1558-1603), England became a strong and prosperous country. The Queen encouraged important sailors to explore trading routes to the New World (north, central and south America) and the Caribbean.

In 1620, a group of Puritans, known as the Pilgrim Fathers, left England and settled in the North America, which they named New England. North America was a British colony until the War of Independence in 1776. After that date, America became an independent country, but kept English as its mother tongue.



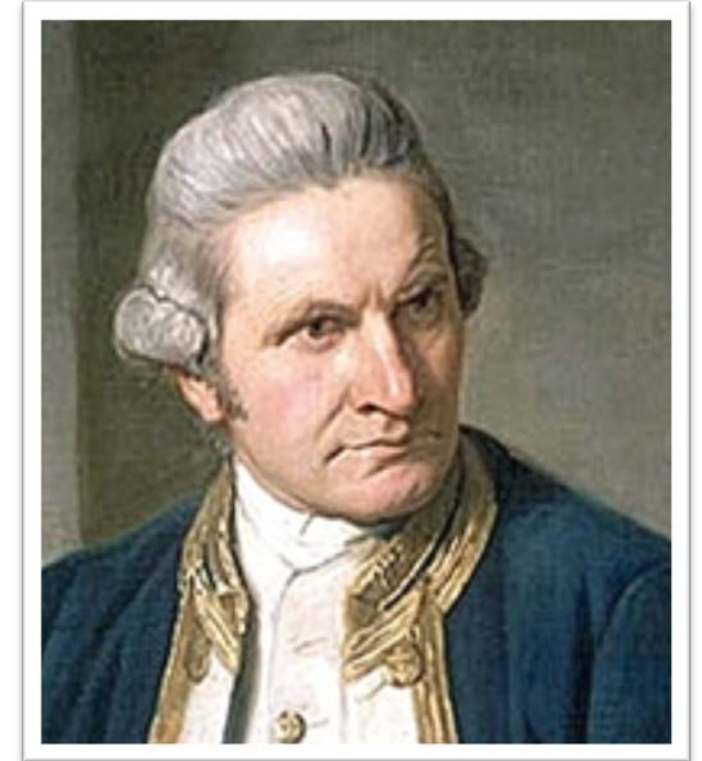
Elizabeth I (1558-1603)

The spread of English

In 1770, the British explorer James Cook claimed Australia for Britain.

There was a lot of crime in Britain at the time and the prisons were full, so the Australia was considered as a place to send convicts. Between 1788 and 1830, thousands of criminals were sent to Australia. After 1830, British people began to emigrate to Australia in large numbers and English became Australia's mother tongue.

Throughout the 19th century, English became an important language on every continent thanks to the enlargement of the British Empire. In the 20th century, Canada, India, Nigeria, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand gained their independence, but became part of the British Commonwealth. Most maintained English as their first language.



James Cook (1728-1779)

English around the world

- English is the first language in 36 countries including the USA, the UK, Canada, Australia, Ireland, South Africa and New Zealand.
- It is an official language in 34 countries.
- More than 1 billion people speak English as a second or foreign language.
- About 180 million students are currently learning English in China. Some experts estimate that, by the year 2025, nearly all Chinese people under the age of 25 will speak English.
- A lot of English dialects and English-based languages have developed around the world. These are often referred to as creole languages and pidgins.
- English words have also started to become part of the other languages. Some experts think that 5% of the day – to – day French vocabulary now comes from English, creating an interlanguage called Franglais.
- Examples of Franglais words include: le snack bar, le sandwich, le jean, la weekend.

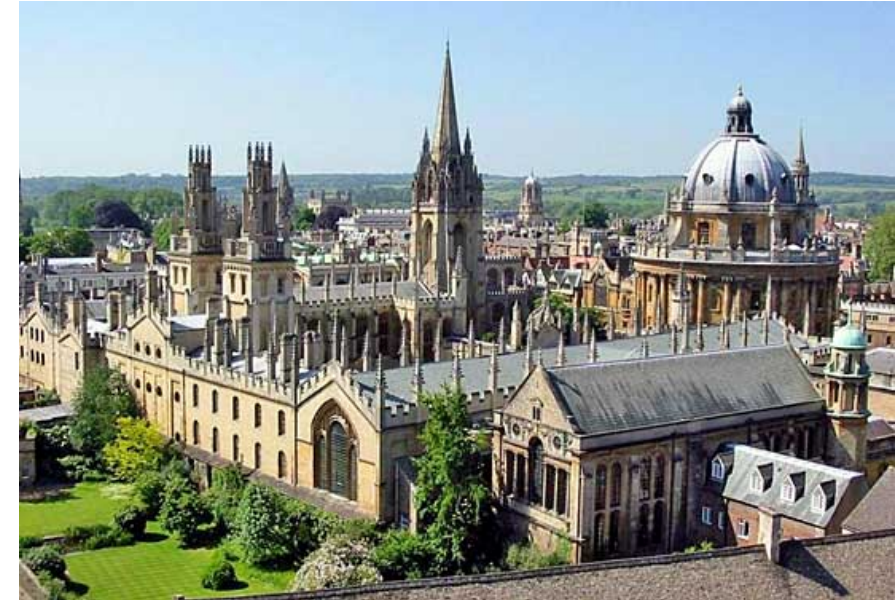
Education in England

Education is an important part of British life. The school system can be quite complicated because it varies in different parts of Britain. One thing, however, is the same everywhere: education is free and compulsory for all children between the ages of 5 and 16.

In England and Wales there is a National Curriculum made up of twelve subjects. Scotland and Northern Ireland have different systems.

The school year runs from September to July and is 39 weeks long.

The most famous and the greatest university of England is the “University of Oxford”. It was built in 1096.



University of Oxford

Education in England

<u>TYPE OF SCHOOL</u>	<u>AGE</u>	<u>STAGE</u>	<u>YEAR</u>
Nursery schools and playgroups	0-3	Early years/ Foundation stage	
Primary school (compulsory)	4-5		Reception
	5-7	Key stage 1	Years 1-2
	7-11	Key stage 2	Years 3-6
Secondary school (compulsory)	11-14	Key stage 3	Years 7-9
	14-15	Key stage 4	Year 10
	15-16		Year 11

Qualifications:

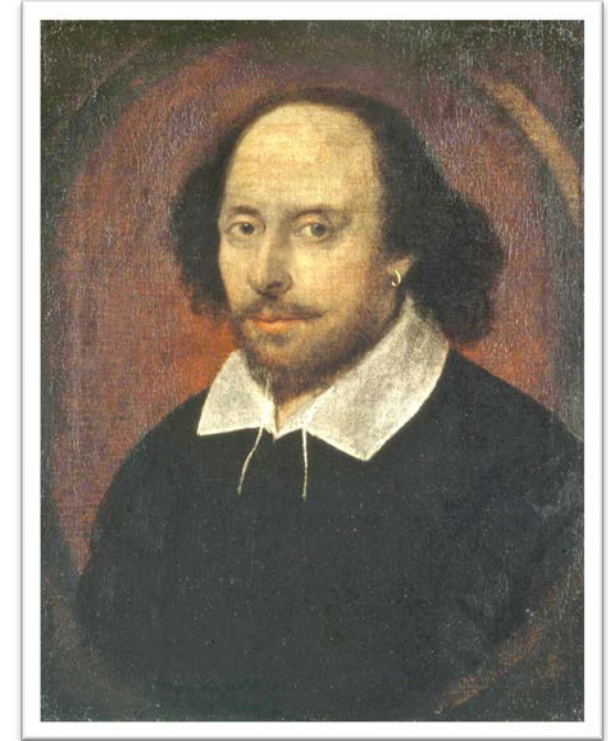
National examinations (usually taken at 16)

(General Certificates of Secondary Education (GCSEs) and General National Vocational Qualifications (GNVQs) provide access to academic or vocational studies and the world of work)

FAMOUS ENGLISH WRITERS

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE:

William Shakespeare was born on 26th April 1564. He was an English poet, playwright and actor, widely regarded as the greatest writer in the English language and the world's pre-eminent dramatist. He is often called England's national poet or simply the Bard. His works, consist of approximately 38 plays, 154 sonnets, two long narrative poems, and a few other verses. His plays have been translated into every major living language and are performed more often than those of any other playwright. He died on 23th April 1616.



William
Shakespeare
(1564-1616)

FAMOUS ENGLISH WRITERS

ALL THE PLAYS OF W. SHAKSPEARE:

COMEDIES

- All's Well That Ends Well
- As You Like It
- Comedy of Errors
- Love's Labour's Lost
- Measure for Measure
- Merchant of Venice
- Merry Wives of Windsor
- Midsummer Night's Dream
- Much Ado about Nothing
- The taming of the Shrew
- Tempest
- Twelfth Night
- Two Gentlemen of Verona
- Winter's Tales

HISTORIES

- Henry IV, Part I
- Henry IV, Part II
- Henry V
- Henry VI, Part I
- Henry VI, Part II
- Henry VI, Part III
- Henry VIII
- King John
- Pericles
- Richard II
- Richard III

TRAGEDIES

- Antony and Cleopatra
- Coriolanus
- Cymbeline
- Hamlet
- Julius Caesar
- King Lear
- Macbeth
- Othello
- Romeo and Juliet
- Timon of Athens
- Titus Andronicus
- Troilus and Cressida

FAMOUS ENGLISH WRITERS

Jane Austen

Jane Austen was born on 16th December 1775. She was an English novelist whose works of romantic fiction, set among the gentry, earned her a place as one of the most widely read writers in English literature. Her realism, biting irony and social commentary as well as her acclaimed plots have gained her historical importance among scholars and critics. She died on 18th July 1817.



Jane Austen
(1775-1817)

FAMOUS ENGLISH WRITERS

ALL THE BOOKS OF JANE AUSTEN

Novels

- Sense and Sensibility
- Pride and Prejudice
- Mansfield Park
- Emma
- Northanger Abbey
- Persuasion

Short fiction

- Lady Susan

Unfinished fiction

- The Watsons
- 1817 - Sanditon

Other works

- Sir Charles Grandison
- Plan of a Novel
- Poems
- Prayers
- Letters

Juvenilia - Volume the First

- Frederic & Elfrida
- Jack & Alice
- Edgar & Emma
- Henry and Eliza
- The Adventures of Mr. Harley
- Sir William Mountague
- Memoirs of Mr. Clifford
- The Beautifull Cassandra
- Amelia Webster
- The Visit
- The Mystery
- The Three Sisters
- A beautiful description
- The generous Curate
- Ode to Pity

FAMOUS ENGLISH TV SERIES

DATES

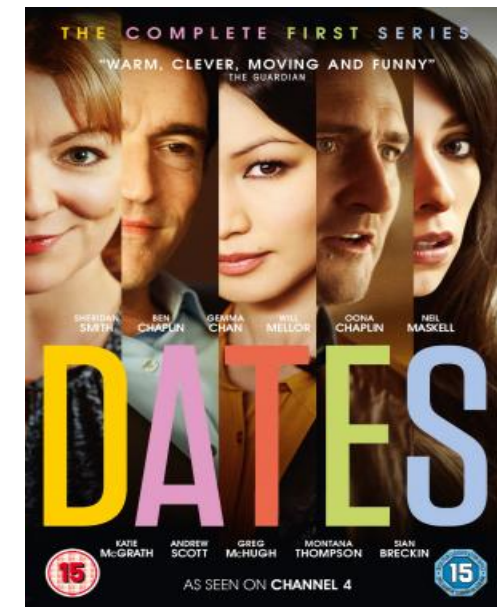
CALL THE MIDWIFE



RIPPER STREET



SHERLOCK



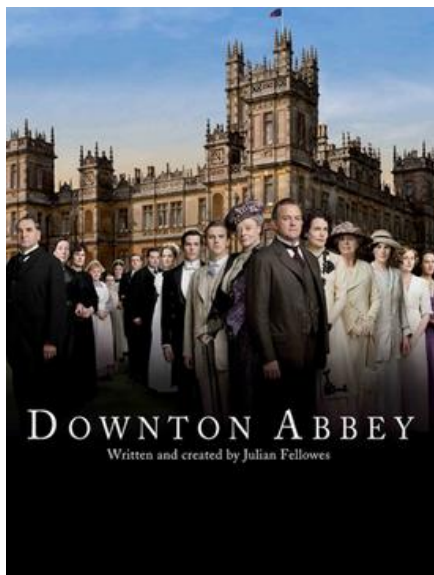
HAPPY VALLEY



UPSTAIRS DOWNSTAIRS



DOWNTON ABBEY



FAMOUS ENGLISH TV SERIES

AND THEN THERE WERE NONE



INDIAN SUMMERS



UNFORGOTTEN



WOLF HALL



FAMOUS ENGLISH ACTORS/ACTRESSES



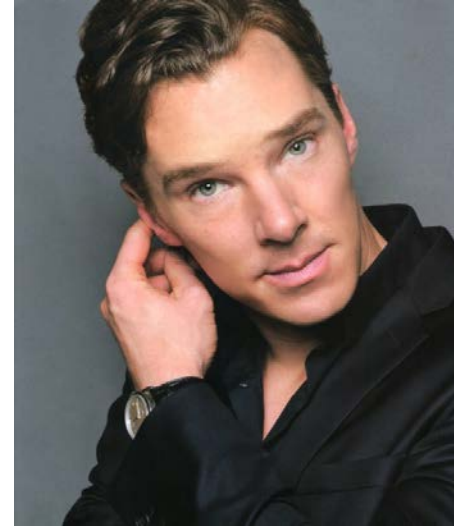
LAURENCE
OLIVIER



KENNETH
BRANAGH



MARTIN
FREEMAN



BENEDICT
CUMBERBATCH



DANIEL CRAIG

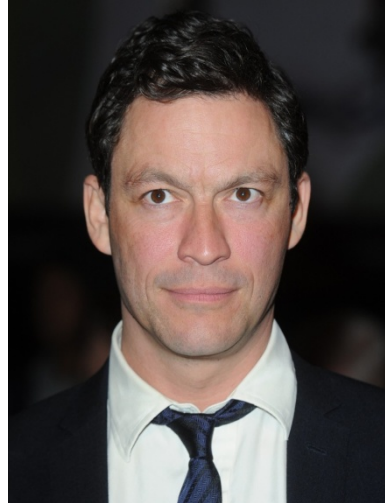


HUGH
GRANT

FAMOUS ENGLISH ACTORS/ACTRESSES



EMMA
THOMPSON



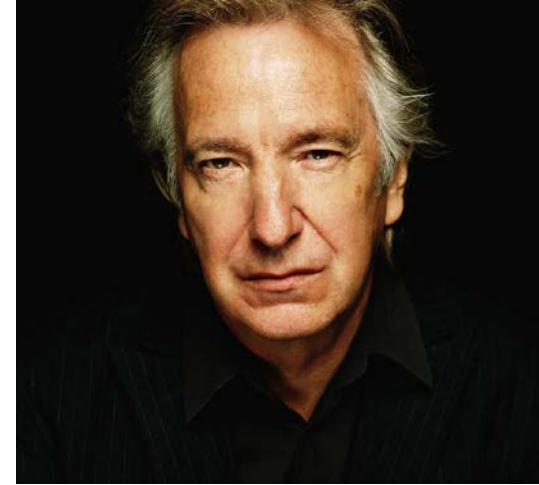
DOMINIC
WEST



MARK RYLANCE



OLIVIA
COLMAN



ALAN RICKMAN



COLIN FIRTH



KEIRA KNIGHTLEY



EMMA WATSON

FAMOUS ENGLISH SINGERS AND GROUPS



BEATLES



DAVID BOWIE



ELTON JOHN



JOHN LENNON



SUSAN
BOYLE



SAM SMITH



ANNIE LENNOX

FAMOUS ENGLISH SINGERS AND GROUPS



ELYAR FOX



ELLIE GOULDING



ADELE



JESSIE J



JOHN
NEWMAN



CALVIN HARRIS



ED SHEERAN

FAMOUS ENGLISH SINGERS AND GROUPS



ARCTIC MONKEYS



QUEEN



SPICE GIRLS



ONE DIRECTION



OASIS



LITTLE MIX

of the