Chapter 9

Language Contact
Pidgins, Creoles,
& New Englishes
CS vs. Borrowing

- Codeswitching and borrowing are different?
  - How?
Pidgin: Tok Pisin

- Tasol dispela mi raitim pinis, em mi raitim bai yupela i ken bilip long Jisas em i Krais, em i Pikinini Bilong God. Na sapos yupela i bilip, orait bai yupela i kisim laip long nem belong em.

  (John 20:31)

- But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

  (John 20:31)

http://www.wycliffe.ca/resources/HTML/soundbytes.html
Definitions

- **Pidgin**
  - ‘Less than complete’
  - Not primary
    - No native speakers...
  - Often for business
  - Rapidly developed
  - Vocab from contact languages
  - Typically not syntax (?)

- **Creole**
  - Complete language
  - First language
    - For at least some
  - Typically develop from pidgins
Pidgin Precipitants

- Trade
- Slavery
- Migration
- Conquest
Pidgin Vocab

- Limited Lexicon
- Polysemy (meaning)
- Multifunctionality (syntax)
- Circumlocution (creative syntax → meaning)
- Compounding (Lexical)
- Reduplication (Lexical // syntactic)
Grammatical Structure

- Defined by deficit
  - Tense often by inference or adverbs
  - Simplified pronouns
Pidgin Origin Theories

- Monogenesis
- Independent parallel development
- Linguistic universals
Up Next…

Read through the end of Chapter 9

... Be working on your final projects...
Creoles

- Expanded:
  - Vocabulary
  - Phonological rules
  - Syntax

- Full fledged language
  - Stigmatized by it’s origin...
Creolization

- Bio-program
  - Pidginization = SLA w/ limited input
  - Creolization = FLA w/ limited input
  - Creole \( \approx \) underlying ‘human’ language

- Gradualism
  - Language develops from need to talk
  - True transfer from P \( \rightarrow \) C > 1 generation

- Reality...?
  - Need another theory... \((why?)\)
Decreolization

- Creole becomes more like the “power” language it descended from...
  - Problem with this analysis? *(c.f. development of pidgin...)*

- Related Vocab
  - Basilect
  - Acrolect
  - Mesolect

- Recreolization → less like ‘power’ language
Decreolization Vocab

- Basilect
  - ‘Deep’ creole
  - Unintelligible with ‘power’ language

- Mesolect
  - Mid point between the others

- Acrolect
  - Minor differences from ‘power’ language
New Englishes

- Original Conception
  - Few L1 speakers of English
  - English acquired in school (not home)
  - English used for multiple purposes (e.g. Lingua Franca, gov’t, media, etc.)
  - Has adopted some vocabulary & grammar from local language(s)

- Redefinition is underway & ongoing...
Tendencies in New Englishes

- Repeating pronouns
- Invariant tags
  *(isn’t it?, no? not so?...)*
- Double marking of clauses
  *(Although you are away, but you remember)*
- Phonological interference *(AKA enrichment)*

...Stabilization of SLA strategies...
Views of English in India

1. Special variety
   *Distinctly different from UK & US...*
   *Nativization... South Asianization...*

2. No more different than UK vs. US
   *Language varieties have always existed...*
   *The multi-lingual nature of an area is not significant*

3. Still an alien language
   *An important presence requiring politeness...*
   *Not an integral part of the core of life.*

*Implications for Educational & Linguistic policies...*
New Englishes: *Tie It Together*

- Codeswitching
  - Basilect $\approx$ solidarity
  - Mesolect
  - Acrolect $\approx$ prestige...
- Diglossic tendencies
  - Government & education
- Instructional target = hot political issue
Linguistic Schizophrenia

- New Englishes speakers
  - Typically don’t accept their own variety as ‘correct’ or ‘prestigious’
  - Are unwilling to accept
Homework

- Read:
  "Nations in Asia give English their own flavorful quirks"
  @ http://faculty.uscupstate.edu/dmarlow

- Debate the issue tomorrow...  
  *** Be ready to take a side!!! ***
Coming Soon...

- Chapter 11 next
  (this is a **must-read**)
  - For *(virtual)* tomorrow:
    - Sections 11.1 & 11.3

- We’ll come back to Chapter 10 if time allows..