


VARIEDADES DEL INGLÉS

UNIT 1	Expansion of English	20 Sept. 2017
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Print this page and write on it **in English** and **in longhand**.

1.1. The English language has undergone an extraordinary expansion in the last four centuries.

- How many people speak English today? Find the most updated estimations. What is the proportion of native and non-native speakers?
- How do scholars classify World Englishes? Which criteria do they use?
- Indicate in the map which countries have English as an official language and which have it as co-official. How is this related to the so-called two diasporas of English?



1.2. Which languages are the most widely spoken in the world? How does their status in the international scene compare with English? Answer the questions in 1.1 with respect to Spanish (and your mother tongue, if it is a different one).

1.3. Look for information about the English-only movement in the United States. Which are the main arguments put forward in the controversy over bilingual education vs. English immersion?

1.4. Read the extract from Alastair Pennycook's *English and the Discourses of Colonialism* (1998).

- Many writers celebrate the intrinsic superiority of English and the inevitability of its spread. Compare this discourse with historical concepts like "elect nation" or "manifest destiny," used as justification for racism and imperialism.
- Are the English language and its native speakers particularly flexible and adaptable? Justify your answer.
- Does English alter the worldview and identity of L2 speakers? Or do they adapt English to their own culture? Give your opinion.