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# The 'ownership' of English

## Overview

- Standard language ideology
- Global Englishes research

## Standard language ideology



## Standard language ideology

- The way society thinks about language standards in terms of what is 'correct' or 'acceptable'
- *'Language ideology can be defined, in very general terms, as the way in which we think about language.'* (Sergeant, 2009, p. 348)



## The global spread of English

- Variations
- Increased debate on 'standards'



## **'New' Englishes viewed as 'deficient'**

- Change led by native English speakers
  - Often seen as a sign of creativity and innovation
- Change led by non-native English speakers
  - Labelled an error, incorrect and a mistake

(Bamgbose, 1998)



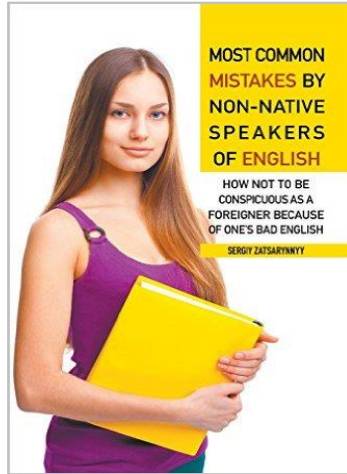
## **'Standard' English concept**

- East Asia, South America and Europe
- Promoted in education
- Negative public opinion towards the English used outside of native English-speaking countries

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# The 'ownership' of English

*Farewell to  
Japanese English*  
(Hisama, 1995)

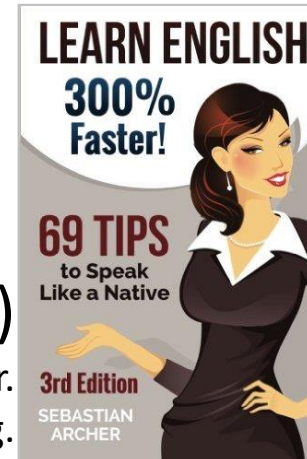


Zatsarynnny (2014)

Most Common Mistakes by  
Non-Native Speakers of English.  
Strategic Book Publishing &  
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*Common Mistakes of  
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*A Native English  
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Katsuki, 2005)



Archer (2015)

Learn English: 300% Faster.  
Createspace Independent Publishing.

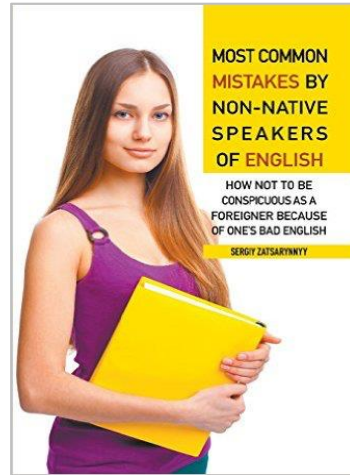
*How your English  
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(Thayne & Koike,  
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**Non-native  
speakers**

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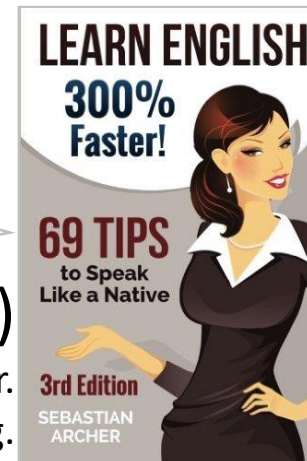
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**Native**

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## Native-speakerism

- A disparity in the treatment of English users due to their perceived native-speaker status, with native speakers often receiving favourable treatment over non-native speakers (e.g. job advertisements)

(Holliday, 2005; 2006)



## English teacher hiring practices in the ELT industry

- *'English teachers from the Outer and Expanding Circles have never filled teaching positions'* (Ali, 2009, p. 36)
- *'On a global level, the ELT profession is perhaps the world's only occupation in which the majority faces discrimination.'* (Ali, 2009, p. 37)
- A preference for native speakers over non-native speakers for certain teaching positions (Selvi, 2010)



## The dominant native-speakerism ideology

- Beliefs about superiority with regards to being:
  - Legitimate speakers of the language
  - Teachers with a superior knowledge of methodology

## The **E** in ELT = native English

- The default
- The target
- To be taught
- To be tested
- To be represented in materials

# The 'ownership' of English

Native?

Non-native  
speaker?

## 'Native'? 'Native speaker'?

- Difficult to define
- Only a concept in people's minds



## The concept of 'native speaker'

- A fallacy (Phillipson, 1992)
- A myth (Davies, 2003)
- A linguistic figment of one's imagination (Paikeday, 1985)

*'With globalization and the resultant mass migration of people across the world on an unprecedented scale and growing contact among people from different regions at an exponential rate, the distinction is becoming more and more difficult to maintain.'*

(Rajagopalan, 2018, p. 1)

# The 'ownership' of English

## Alternative terms



**'Proficient user'**  
(Paikeday, 1985)



**'English-using speech fellowship'**  
(Kachru, 1992)



**Little consensus on  
alternative terms to replace it**  
(Selvi, 2011)



**'Language expert'**  
(Rampton, 1990)



**'Multicompetent user'**  
(Cook, 1999, 2016)



## English as a lingua franca

- Increasing recognition that 'native' English speakers do not speak a standardised version
- Difficulty defining a 'native' speaker in multilingual societies

(Kirkpatrick, 2007)

# The 'ownership' of English

- Standard language ideology
  - The way in which society thinks about a language and language standards
- Attachments to a 'standard' English
  - Standard language ideology in one's own context

**Native  
English  
speaking norms**

An illustration of a hand with orange skin and red lines on the fingers, peeling a light blue sticker from a white background.

## Global Englishes research

- Embraces other languages
- Emancipates the non-native English speakers from native English-speaking norms

## Global Englishes research

- English as a lingua franca as a growing phenomenon
- The difference between English as a global language and so called 'native'/'standard' English

## Global Englishes research

- English as a lingua franca as a growing phenomenon
- The difference between English as a global language and so called 'native'/'standard' English
- The ways in which English functions today

# The 'ownership' of English

## English as a lingua franca

- The global ownership of English
- Multilingualism as the norm
- Diverse linguistic repertoire
- Multilingual and multicultural contexts





## The need for a paradigm shift in ELT

- Static 'native' English-speaking norms



- Ensure that learners are equipped with the skills necessary to use English as a global lingua franca

# The 'ownership' of English

- Language changes as natural and normal phenomena
- Languages in contact with one another (especially English)



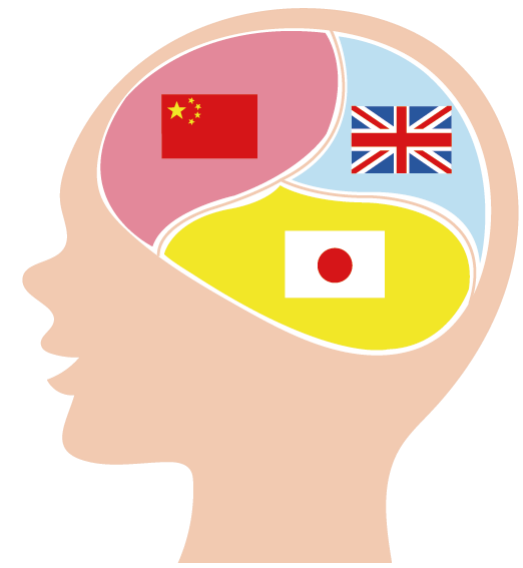
# The 'ownership' of English

- Language changes as natural and normal phenomena
- Languages in contact with one another (especially English)
- Global ownership of English
- English as an adaptable, fluid and ever-changing language



# The 'ownership' of English

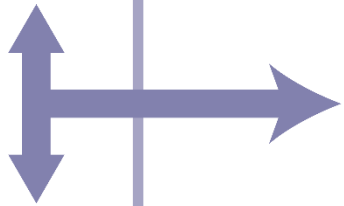
- English users – multilingual or translingual repertoire
- Knowledge of other languages as a help rather than a hindrance
- Meaning achieved through communication and negotiation



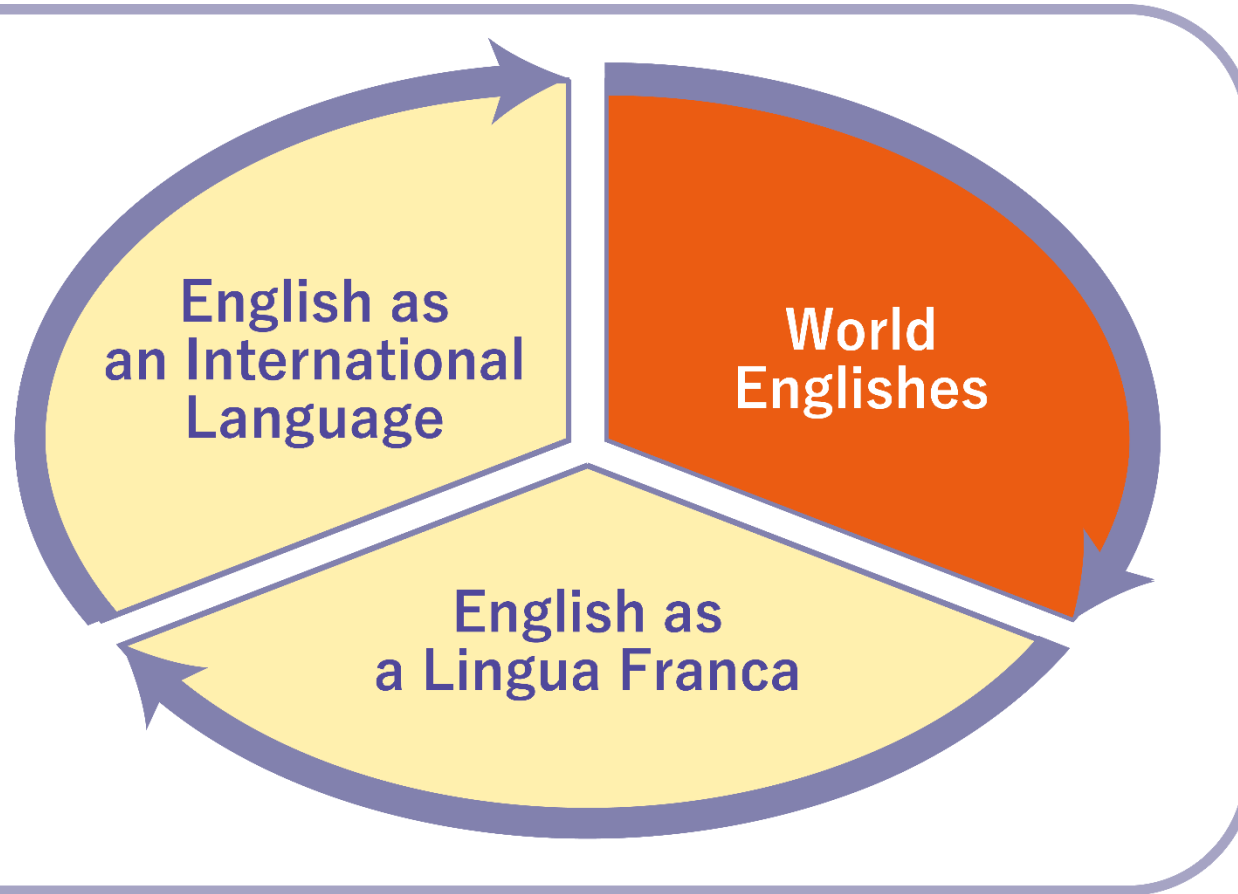
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# The 'ownership' of English

The multilingual turn



Translanguaging

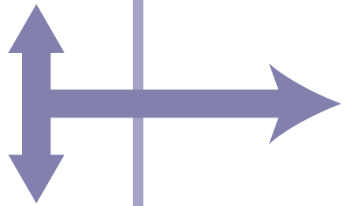


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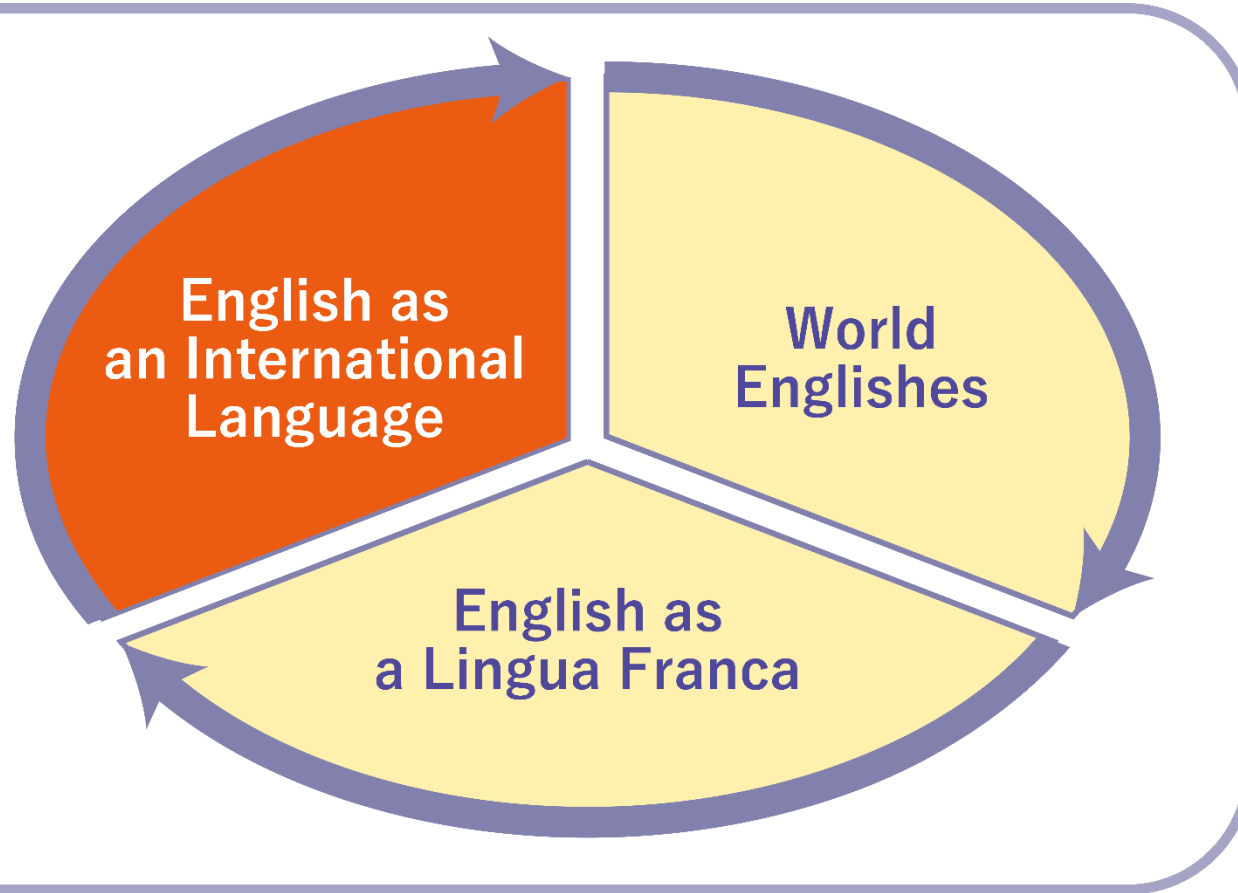
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Translanguaging

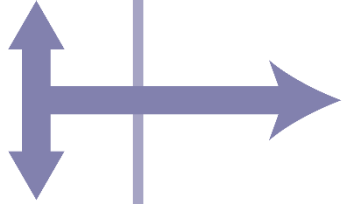


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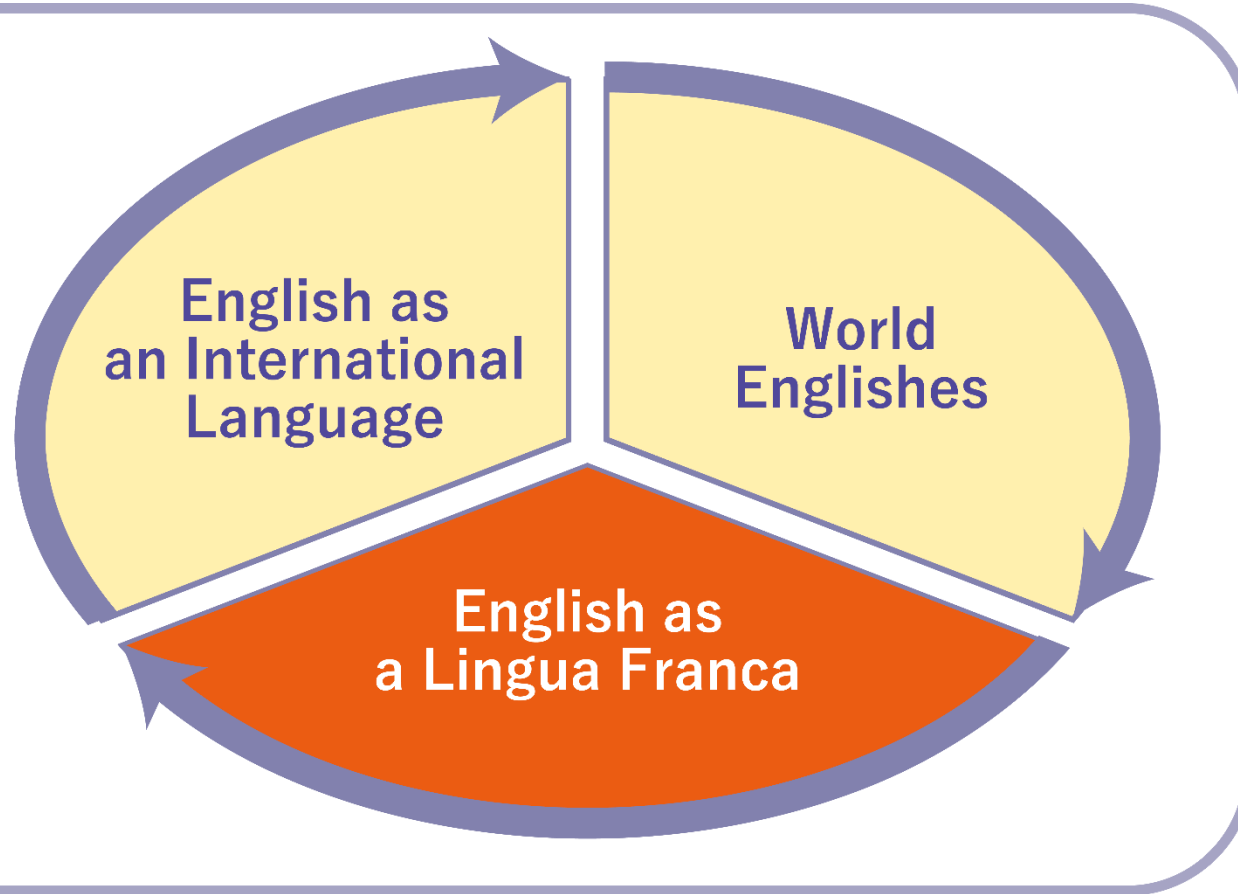
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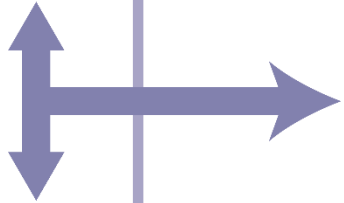


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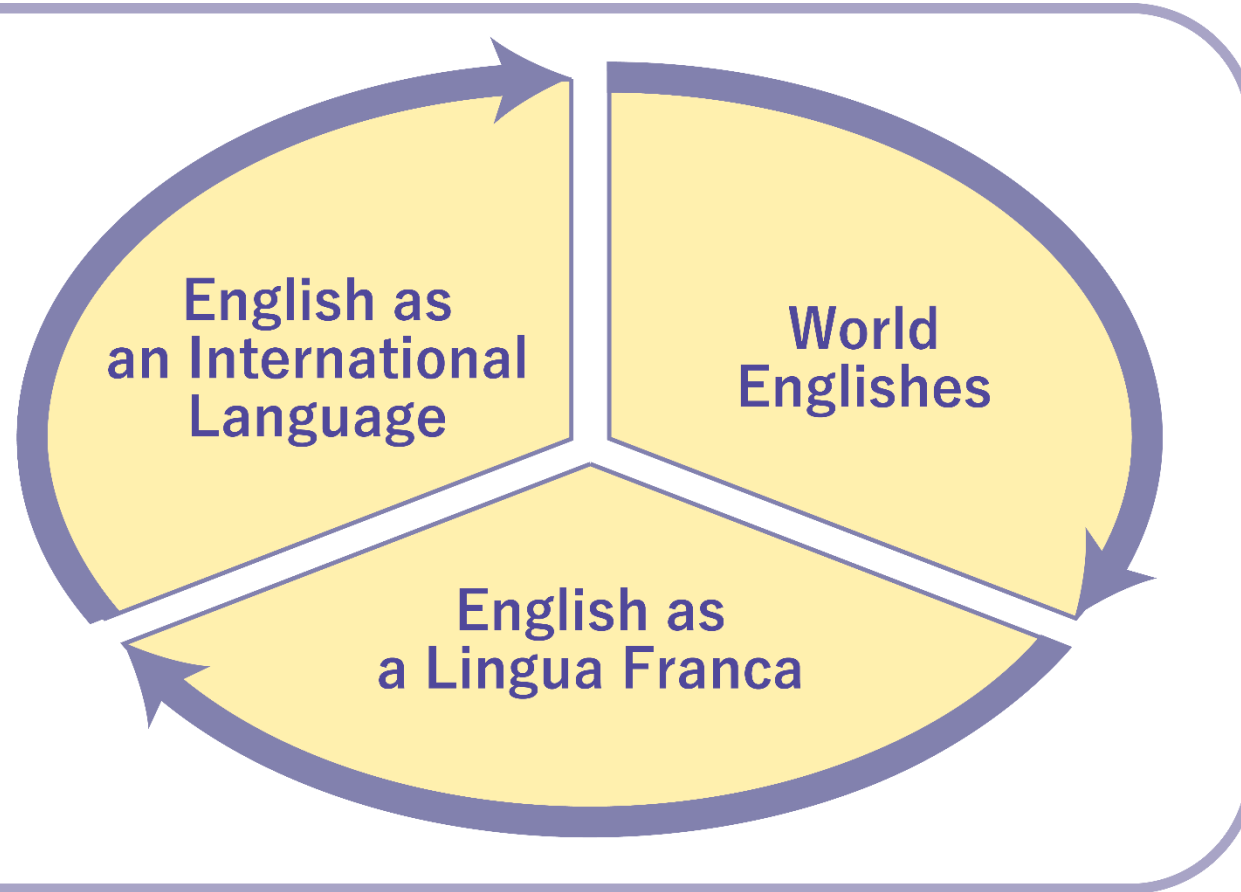
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Translanguaging

English as  
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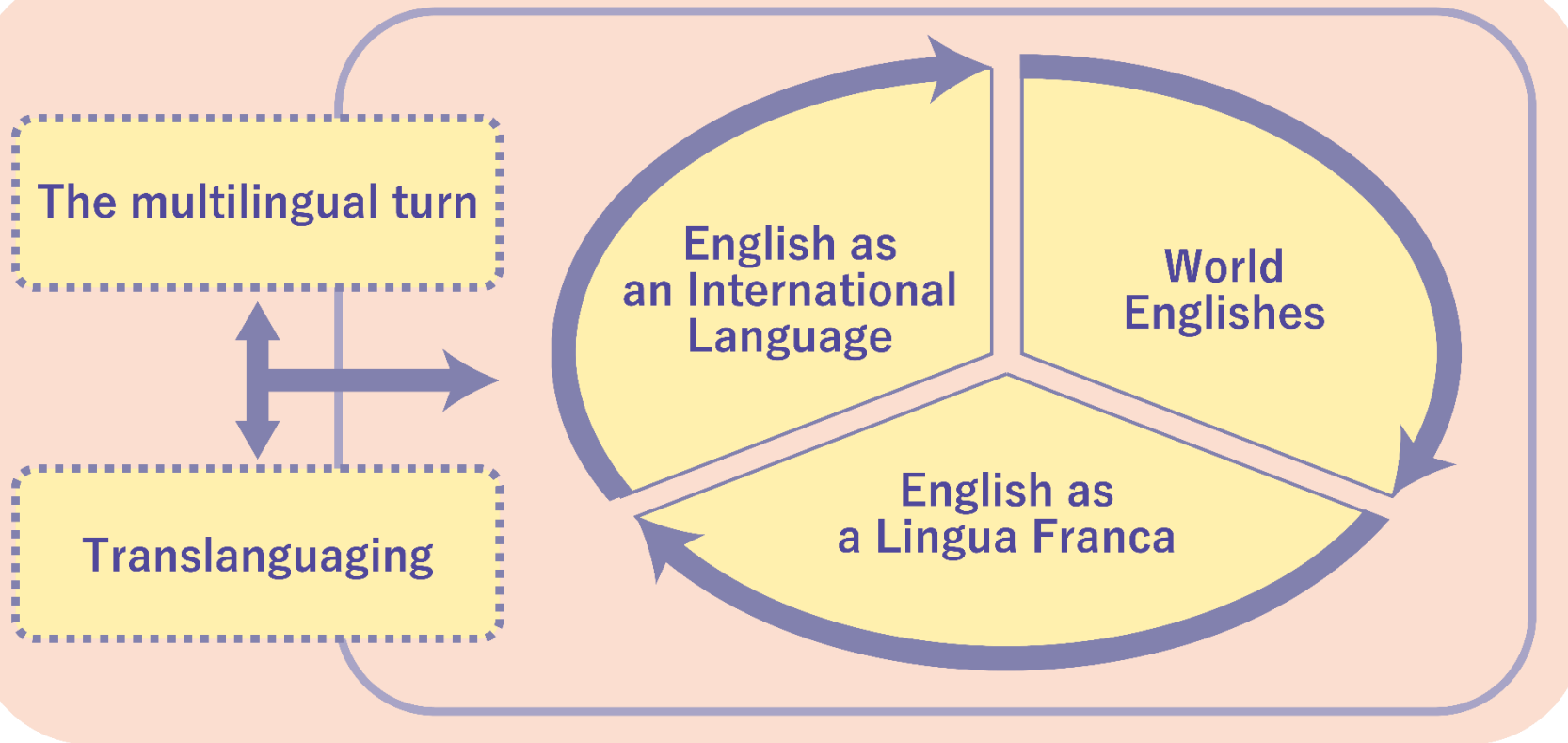
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# The 'ownership' of English

## Global Englishes



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## Global Englishes

- Globalisation
- Linguistic imperialism
- Education
- Language policy and planning

# The 'ownership' of English

## Recap

- The global use of the English language vs. 'standard' language ideology

# The 'ownership' of English

## Recap

- The global use of the English language vs. 'standard' language ideology
- Questions about the concepts of the 'native' speaker and a standard English
- Growth in research into the Global Englishes paradigm