FUTURE DOMINANCE OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE

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Abstract. This article explores the current and future status of the English language as a global medium of communication. It traces the historical, cultural, and technological roots of English dominance from British colonial expansion to the rise of American global influence and examines how the enforcements in digital world, artificial intelligence, and multilingual movements are reshaping linguistic power worldwide. While English remains the primary language of science, business, diplomacy, and the internet, new forces such as AI-driven translation, the growth of Chinese and Spanish, and the promotion of linguistic diversity are challenging its supremacy. The paper also introduces the concept of "Globish," a simplified, functional variety of English used by international speakers for global communication. Drawing from linguistic forecasts and sociocultural trends, the article concludes that English will remain a dominant but evolving lingua franca [1], increasingly shaped by non-native speakers and coexisting with other world languages in a multilingual 21st century.

Keywords: English dominance; global communication; artificial intelligence; multilingualism; linguistic diversity; Globish; future of English.

Introduction. By serving as an international bridge to many nations, English is spoken by more than 1.5 billion people around the world. It is applied in several crucial areas of every developed country, such as diplomacy, technology, science, and travel, not to mention its role in connecting cultures like no other language. Yet, with rapid developments in artificial intelligence and the growth of other global powers, many experts and linguists are asking: Will English be the dominant language in the future?

The global dominance of English: The global dominance of English has outstandingly wide, practical, and historical roots. It became widespread through British colonial expansion. English became the language of administration, law, and trade in colonies across Asia, Africa, and the Americas. Even after independence, many countries kept English as an official or second language because it enabled them to interact with others across ethnic and regional groups (e.g., India, Kenya, Malaysia).

After World War II, the United States emerged as the world's leading economy and political power, spreading English through business, diplomacy, and culture. Hollywood films, American music, and later television and the internet made English the most visible global language of entertainment. These influencers conveyed this message through various channels, including lessons, advertisements, and news, reaching even the most remote cities and countryside.

English in Global Communication. Today, English is officially used in higher education, business, technology, on the internet, and in diplomacy. According to statistics, approximately 80 percent of scientific journals and most global news outlets publish in English, which maintains and reinforces its influence. The majority of top universities (Harvard, Oxford, Cambridge, MIT) teach and publish in English. Millions of students study abroad where English is the medium of instruction.

It is the official working language of international business, aviation, and maritime communication (used by pilots, air traffic control, and shipping). Over 50 % of all web pages are in English; global platforms (Google, YouTube, Wikipedia, ChatGPT, etc.) primarily use English interfaces. English is one of the official languages of the United Nations, the European Union, ASEAN, and NATO, making it crucial for global cooperation.

Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Language. In the digital age, technology is quietly transforming how we communicate across borders. With artificial-intelligence translators and multilingual [3] apps becoming more advanced every year, people no longer need to rely on English alone to connect with the world.

The global AI translation market was valued at USD 2.34 billion in 2024 and is projected to reach USD 2.94 billion by 2025, growing at about 25 % annually [1]. Google Translate supports 100+ languages and processes over 100 billion words daily, showing how technology bridges communication barriers worldwide. Surveys show that nearly 75 % of professional translators believe AI will significantly affect their future income or job roles [2].

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