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Thank you



Pearson

Nothing Stands Still for Long

Dealing with
Changing English

Rob Dean


May 2018



Agenda

1. **Language Change – past and present**
2. **Examples galore**
3. **Implications for teaching**
4. **Language Change – what of the future?**





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**Language Change Past
/ and Present**
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Incorrect English?



ALL gifts are free...



10 items or FEWER

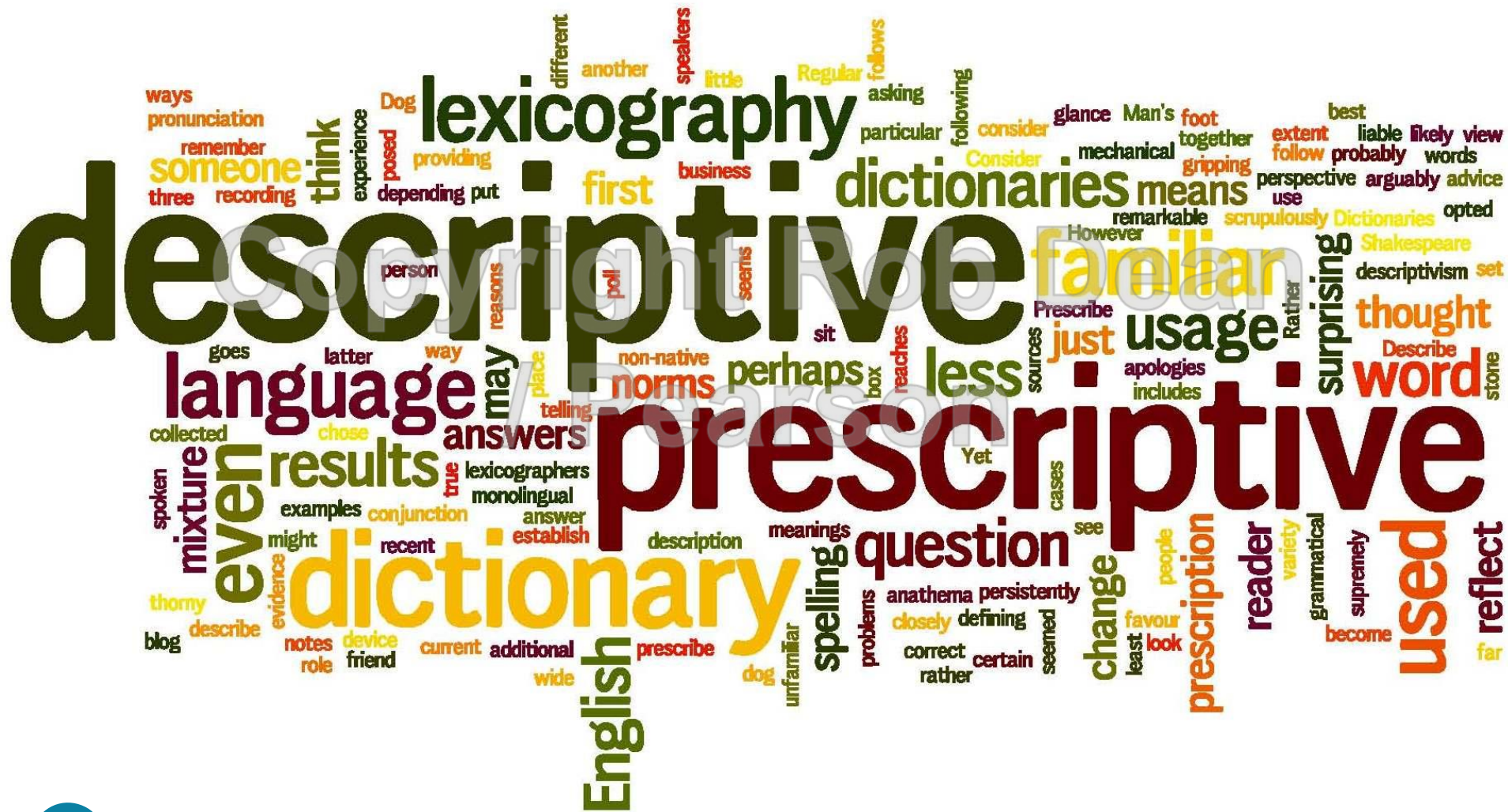


In the EVENT of fire...



...OWING to bad weather

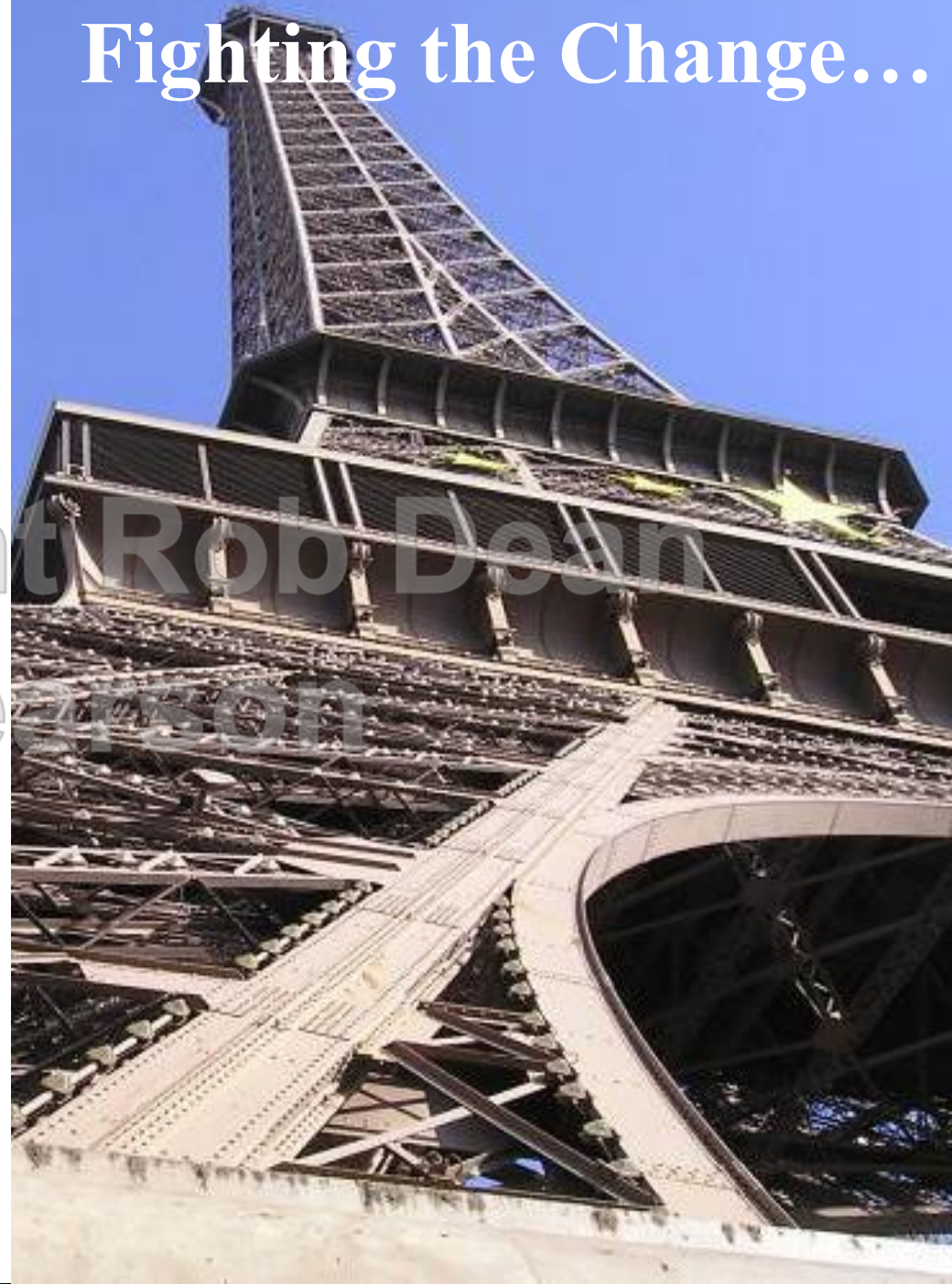
Description or prescription?



L'Académie Française

1. Le parking
2. Le pressing
3. Le marketing
4. Le weekend
5. Le footing

Fighting the Change...



Change is nothing
new... / Pearson



Words from Different Sources

Anglo Saxon

cow

sheep

ghost

shirt

harbour

Old French

beef

mutton

phantom

blouse

port

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What's changing?

- **Vocabulary / lexis**
- **Grammar**
- **Functional Language**
- **Pronunciation**



The nature of language change

Economy

computer

Analogy

corpuses (vs. corpora)

Language Contact

siesta, cappuccino

Medium of

CU L8TR, Cc, Bcc

Communication

What's causing the changes?

Technology & Lifestyle changes

Social and Political changes

Media – Television, internet, films, journalism

'Foreign' words entering the language

“New” Borrowed Words - Which language?

ski Norwegian **Greek** **oligarch**

smorgasbord Swedish **Spanish** **aficionado**

polka Czech **Italian** **barista**

Imported words for imported
products

Easier / Shorter names for
existing things



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**The influence of the
Media**
/ Pearson



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F.R.I.E.N.D.S
/ Pearson

**Frequently repeated idiotic entertainment
nobody deserves to suffer**

“I am really not gonna do that”

“I am **so not gonna do that”**



“I am **SO** gonna buy that top!”

The Influence of the Media:

The 'Little Britain' Phenomenon



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/ Pearson
"be like"

“Vicky’s like standing at the bus stop and I’m like, “What are you doing here?”

“Vicky was standing at the bus stop and I said to her “What are you doing here?”

Usage: Informal version of past continuous

Usage: Informal; to introduce direct speech or feelings, often of a surprising or interesting nature.

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**Changing
Pronunciation**
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Queen's English?



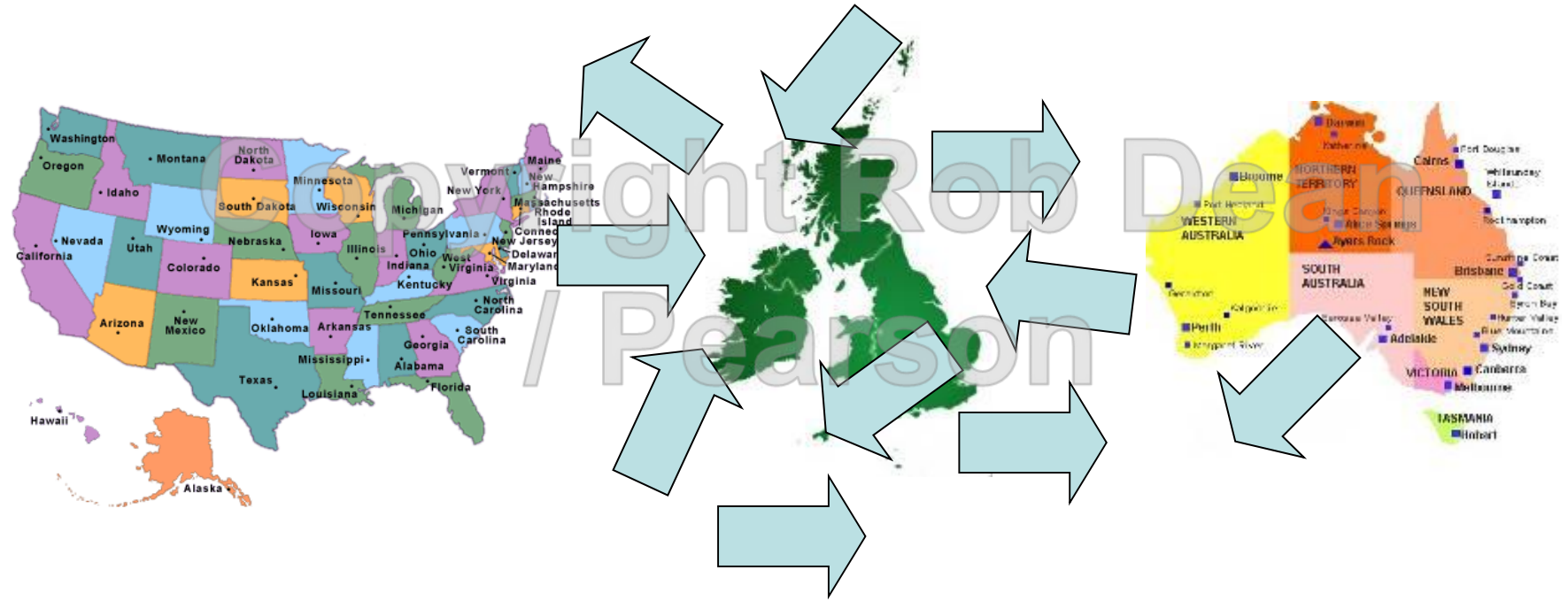


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Estuary English

Pronunciation... on the move



The Oz / NZ Effect



Kylie Minogue



Nicole Kidman



Paul Hogan



Russell Crowe

The Antipodean Effect

It's great to be here.

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I enjoy my work.

I've been here before.

Antipodean Intonation (Rising Terminus)

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American Shortening

going to /gɒnəl/

want to /wɒnəl/

sort of /sɔ:təl/

The background is a dark blue field filled with a repeating pattern of light blue concentric arcs, resembling a stylized signal or wave. A large white circle is centered on the page, containing the main text.

**Words and expressions
for a new millennium**

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ego-surfing (n)

to unfriend (v)

cyberwidow (n)

fubbing (n)

chillax (v)

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Blends

jeans + leggings = jeggings

web + seminar = webinar

Britain + exit = Brexit

glamorous + camping = glamping



Jennifer + Lopez = J-Lo



Boris + Johnson = Bo-Jo

The impact of new technology: TLAs (Three Letter Acronyms)



LOL Laugh out Loud

BBL Be back later

EOD End of discussion

LMK Let me know

FYA For your amusement

POS Parent over shoulder

Alphabet taught to kids nowadays



A: APPLE



B: BLUETOOTH



C: CHAT:



D: DOWNLOAD



E: E MAIL



F: FACEBOOK



G: GOOGLE



H: HEWLETT
PACKARD



I: Iphone



J: JAVA



K: KINGSTON



L: LAPTOP



M: MESSENGER



N: NERO



O: ORKUT



P; PICASSA



Q: QUICK HEAL



R: RAM



S: SERVER



T: TWITTER



U: USB



V: VISTA



W: WiFi



X: Xp



Y: YOU TUBE



Z: ZORPIA

Change isn't for everyone...
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Irritating expressions

How are you? – I'm good

At this moment in time, the meeting is still in progress.

Please enter your PIN number.

Passengers are kindly requested to proceed to gate 15.

I'm really liking that.

It's fairly unique.

We have pan fried fish or oven baked chicken.

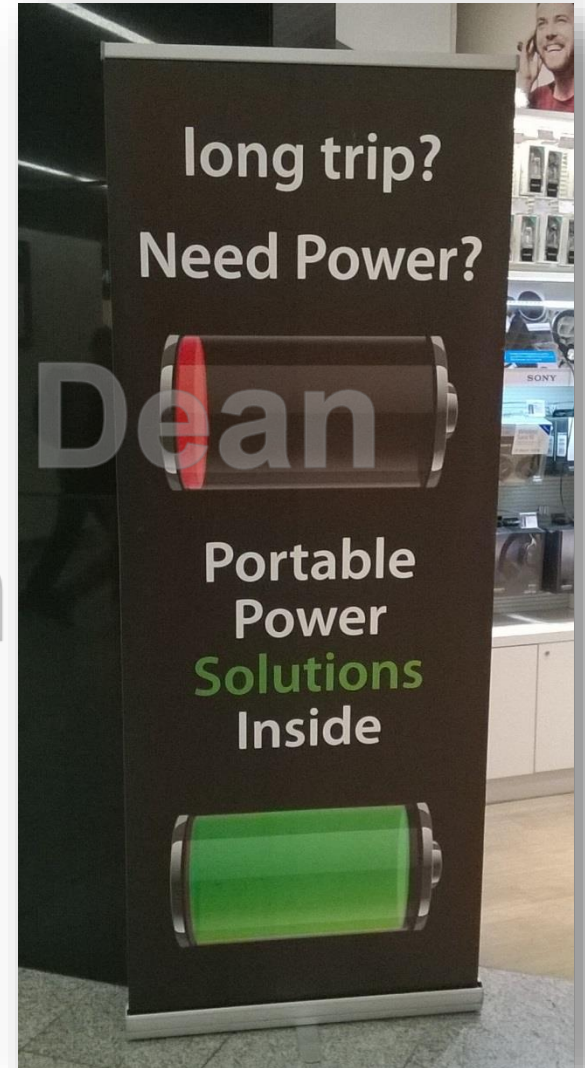
You haven't done your homework. – Whatever!

Irritating 'solutions'



Entrance and Exit Solutions

Climate Protection Solutions



The Age of Political Correctness

~~manic depressive~~

bipolar

~~air stewardess~~

flight attendant

~~BC, AD~~

BCE, CE

~~blind~~

non-sighted

~~fat~~

person of substance

~~cheating~~

collaborative learning

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**Implications for
Teaching**
/ Pearson

Implications for Teaching...

1) Reception vs. Production

- **Important for learners to understand what they hear.**
- **Less important for them to immediately produce 'new' language.**
- **Exposure is the key: YouTube, podcasts, TV, etc.**

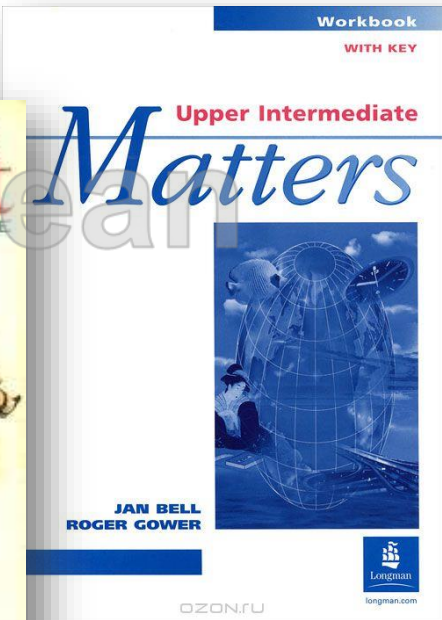
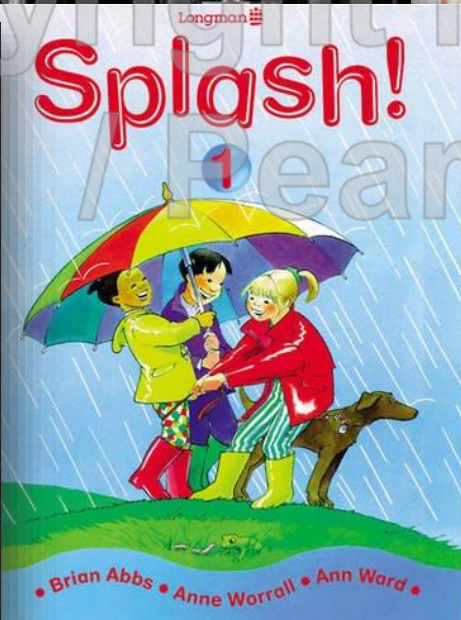
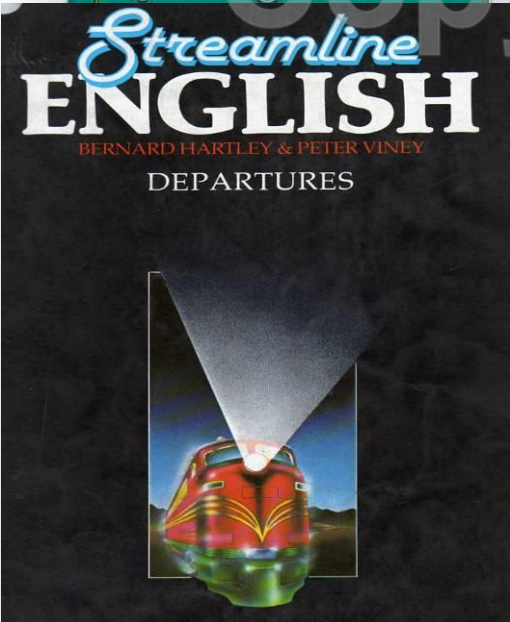
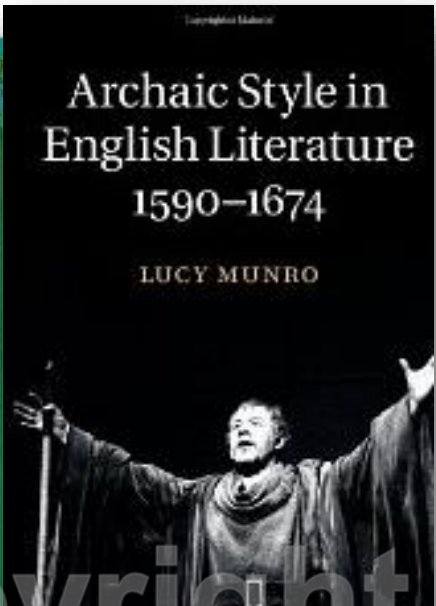
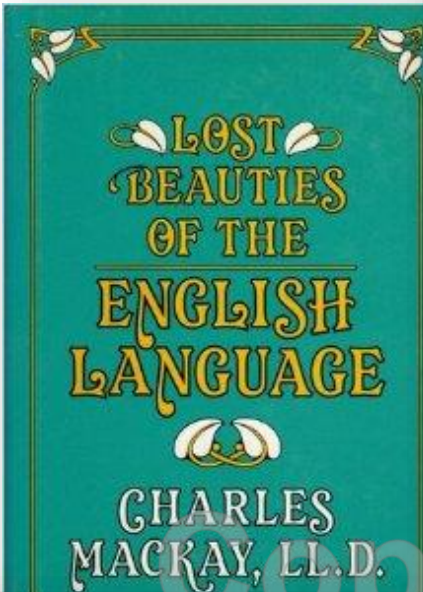
Implications for Teaching...

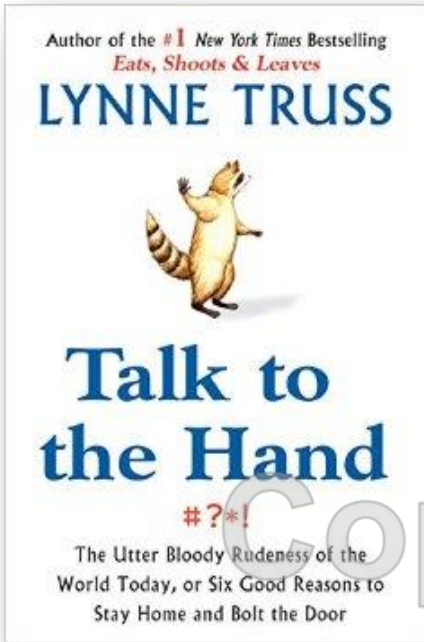
2) The demands of exams

- **Exams demand accuracy – ‘new’ language may not yet be acceptable to examiners.**
- **‘New’ language more acceptable in speaking than writing.**

Play it safe!

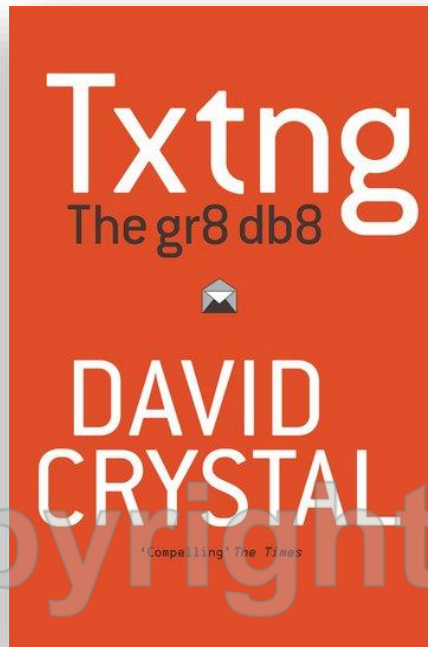
Modern Reference Materials?





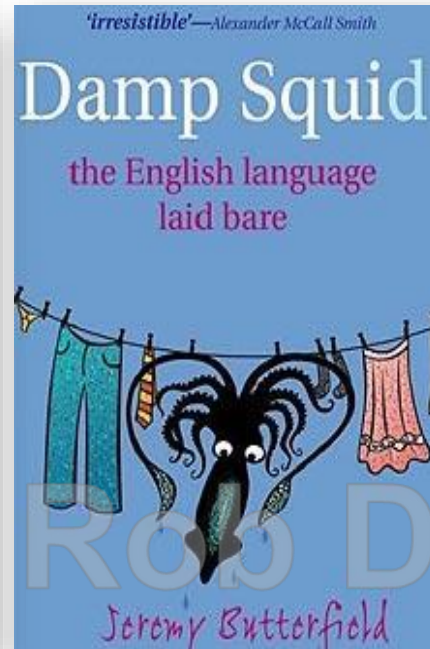
**Lynne
Truss**

***Talk to the
Hand***



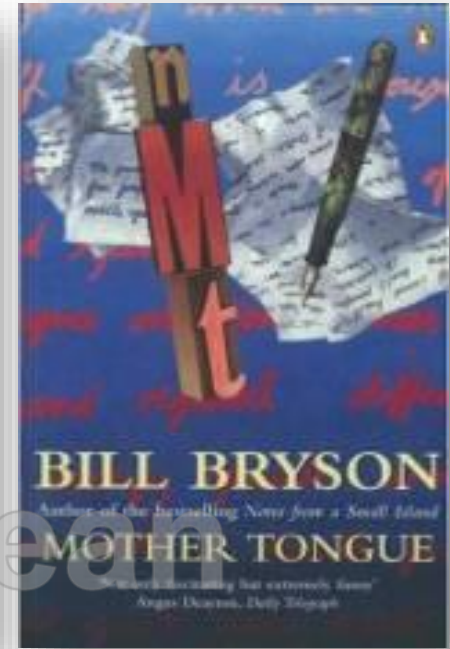
**David
Crystal**

***Txtng –
The gr8
db8***



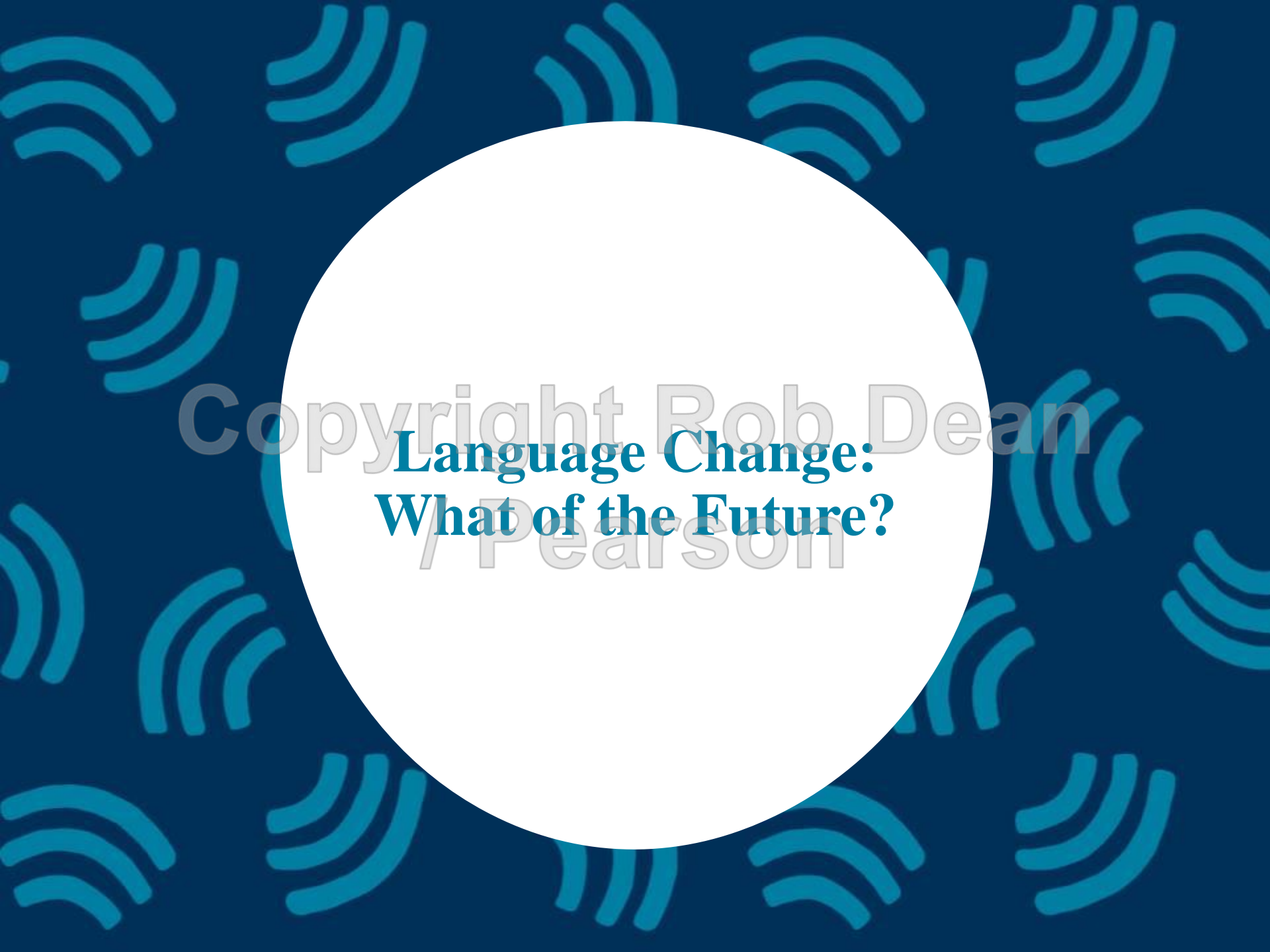
**Jeremy
Butterfield**

Damp Squid



Bill Bryson

***Mother
Tongue***



**Language Change:
What of the Future?**

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And what of the future?

What changes would you like to see?

If I was minister for English...

Bye Bye to:

's' in 3rd person singular

irregular verbs

Less frequently used tenses

articles

used to and past 'would'

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... and a few other adjustments:

simplification of question tags

time/tense agreement

simplification of prefixes

e.g. 'un' for everything negative:

unpolite, uncorrect, unrelevant, illegal...

simplification of spelling rules



European Commission

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Memo to all Departments
Re: English Spelling
24th January 2018

The European Commission hereby announces that agreement has been reached to adopt English as the preferred language for all European communications, rather than German, which had been under consideration as the other possibility.

As part of the negotiations, it was agreed that English spelling had some room for improvement, and it has been agreed to implement a five year phased plan for what will become known as Euro English.



Beginning next year, 's' will be used instead of the soft 'c'. Certainly, sivil servants will reseive this news with joy. At this time also, the hard 'c' will be replased with 'k'. Not only will this klear up konfusion, but komputer keyboards kan have one letter fewer. There will be growing publik enthusiasm in the sekond year, when the troublesome 'ph' will be replased by 'f'. This will make words like 'fotograf' 20 per sent shorter.



In the third year, publik akseptanse of the new spelling kan be expekted to reach the stage where more komplikated changes are possible. Double letters will be abolished – these have always ben a deterrent to akurate speling. In adition, the konfusion kaused by the silent ‘e’ in the languag wil be solved by abolishing this as wel. By the fourth year, peopl wil be reseptiv to steps such as replasing ‘th’ with ‘z’ and ‘w’ with ‘v’.



During ze fifz year of ze plan, ze unesesary 'o' kan be dropd from vords kontaining 'ou', and similar changes vil of kors be aplid to ozer kombinations of letters. After zis fifz yer, ve vil hav a reli sensibl riten styl. Zer vil be no mor trubls or difikultis and evrivun vil find it ezi tu understand ech ozer.

Ze drem vil finali kum tru!





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