Russian Language
русский язык
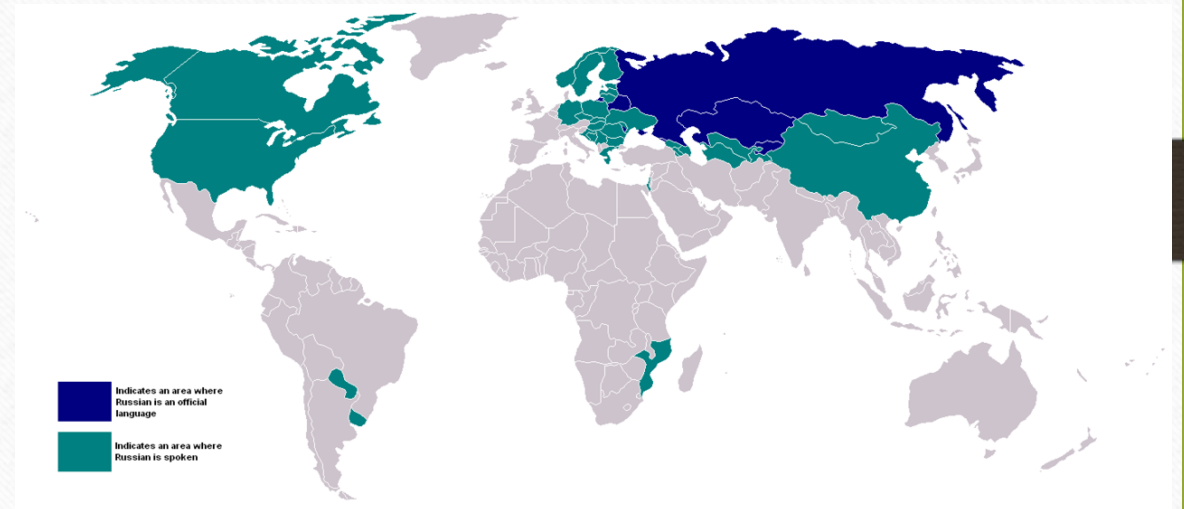
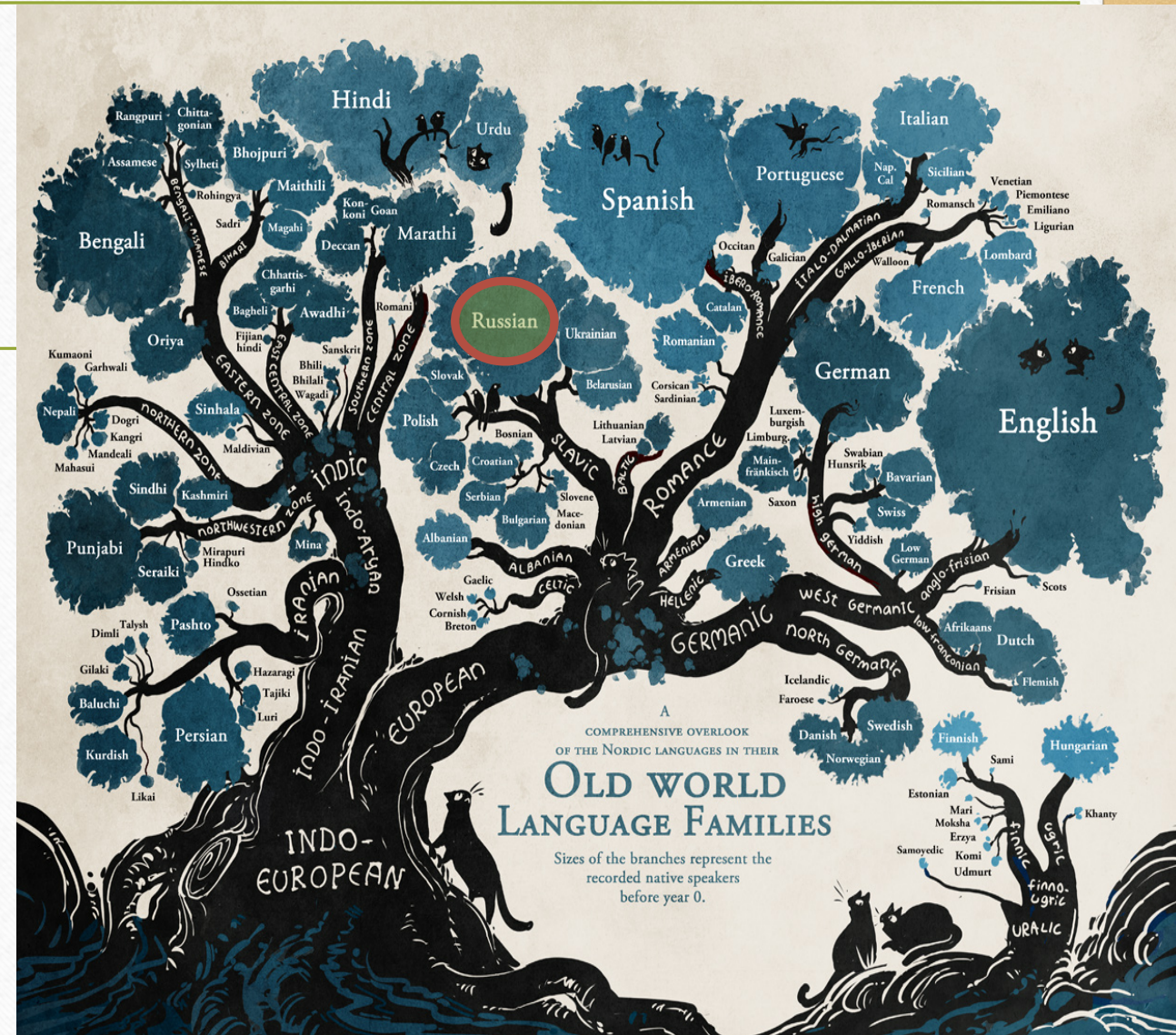**Daniel Labenski**

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Russian

- 150 million native speakers

- 110 million as a secondary language

- It is the most geographically widespread language of Eurasia

Indicates an area where Russian is an official language

Indicates an area where Russian is spoken

Russian Origin

- 500 AD the Slavic peoples separated into Western, Eastern, and Southern groups

- Later, on unknown date, the Eastern Slavic language divided into Ukrainian, Byelorussian, and Russian

Phonology & Script

- A modified version of the Cyrillic alphabet.

- **Vowels:**

  - **5 vowels**, which are written with different letters depending on whether or not the preceding consonant is palatalized.

а	е	ё	и	о	у	ы	э	ю	я
ah	yeh	yoh	ee	oh	oo	yh	eh	yoo	yah

- **Consonants:**

  - Consonants are divided into palatalized (soft) and non-palatalized (hard) ones unlike English.

б	в	г	д	ж	з	й	к	л	м	н	п	р	с	т	ф	х	ц	ч	ш	щ
B	v	g	d	zh	z	y	k	l	m	n	p	r	s	t	f	kh	ts	ch	sh	sh

- **Signs:**

ъ	ь
„	,

Morphology

- A highly fusional morphology

    - Words are formed using affixes which can be stacked one upon the other

- Russian has some use of agglutinative compounds.

    - металлоломообеспечение "provision of scrap iron"

- Word reduplication may occur in everyday spoken language:

    - белый-белый "(white-white)- very white (snow)"

Morphology - Example

Word	Transcript	Meaning
мысль	mysl'	thought
мыслить	myslit'	to think
с**мысл**	smysl	meaning
ос**мысл**ить	osmyslivat'	to comprehend
бесс**мысл**енный	bessmyslennyĭ	meaningless

Russian Grammar

- 3 genders: masculine, feminine and neutral
- no article!! (such as *the*, *a*, *an* in English)
- Verbs Inflected for
  - three persons
  - two numbers
  - three tenses (present, future and past)
  - Marked for two voices, active and passive.
  - Marked for Mood. Formed by adding бы (would) after a verb in past tense

Word Order

- Free word order!
- Examples:
  - Я пошёл в магазин. (I went to the store)
  - Я в магазин пошёл. (I to the store went)
  - Пошёл я в магазин. (Went I to the store)
  - Пошёл в магазин я. (Went to the store I)
  - В магазин я пошёл. (To the store I went)
  - В магазин пошёл я. (To the store went I)

Translation Tools

- Google Translate (since 2006)
  - Russian-English, English-Russian translator
  - (and through English to other languages)
  - text-to-speech property
  - phonetic typing
- Russian word-form morphological analyzers

References

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