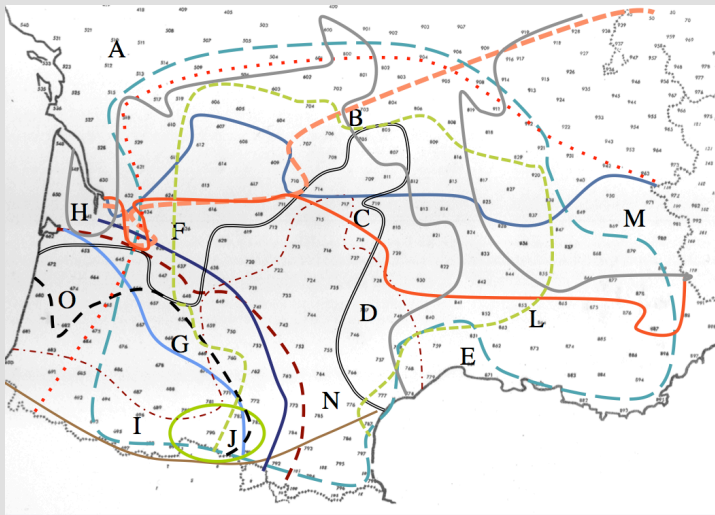


Where is the boundary between French and Spanish?



Why it's hard to say how many languages there are ...

- France and Spain weren't just there to begin with - they had to be constructed.
- The construction of two distinct standard languages – French and Spanish - was central to the construction these two nation states.
- The destruction of the varieties in between was central to the construction of the national languages.

The linguist's definition of a language:

a dialect with an army

Language Shift

- Usually involves languages with unequal power (“H and L”).
- Diglossia – creates a linguistic division of labor in which the two languages are used in unequal domains.
- This (along with other factors) results in the pejoration – and eventual death – of the less powerful language.

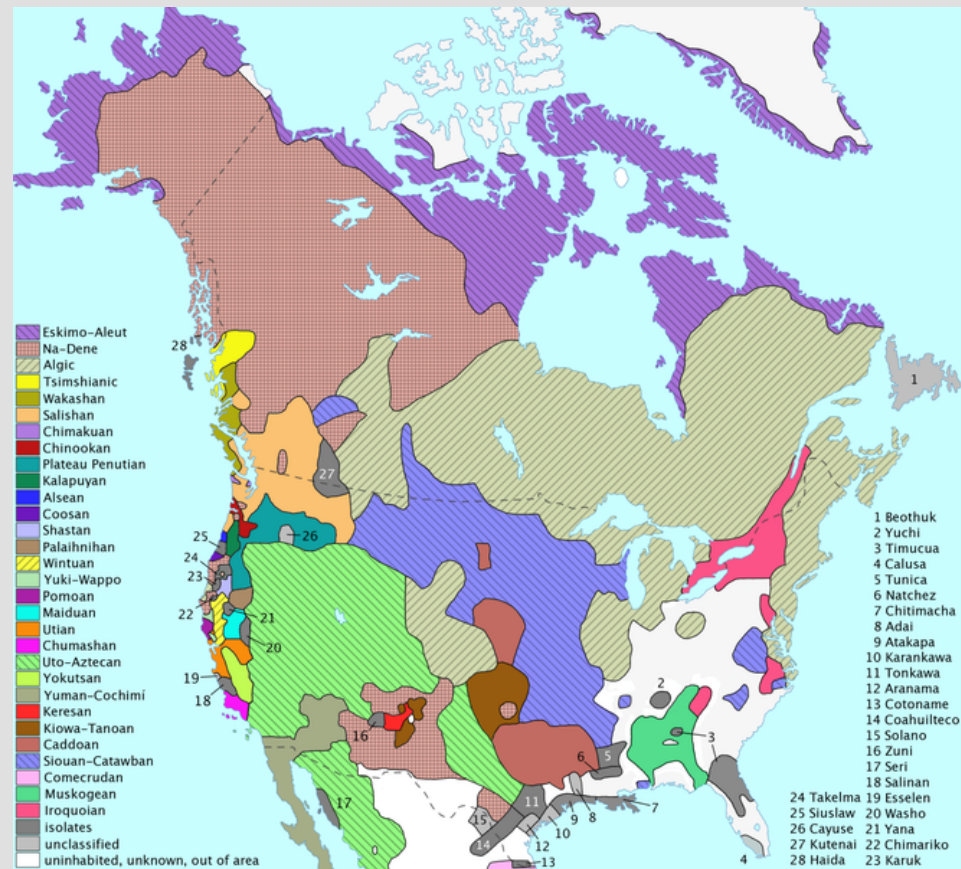
Tok Pisin in New Guinea

- People coming back to villages from migrant work, introducing cosmopolitan status.
- Missionaries Introducing hierarchy
 - Buying labor
 - Church hierarchy
 - Pejoration of native culture
 - ‘Satan is in the bush’

Language families of North America

- According to a recent survey, only 194 languages remain.
- Of these, 33 are spoken by both adults and children
- Another 34 are spoken by adults, but by few children 73 are spoken almost entirely by adults over 50
- 49 are spoken only by a few people, mostly over 70
- 5 may have already become extinct.

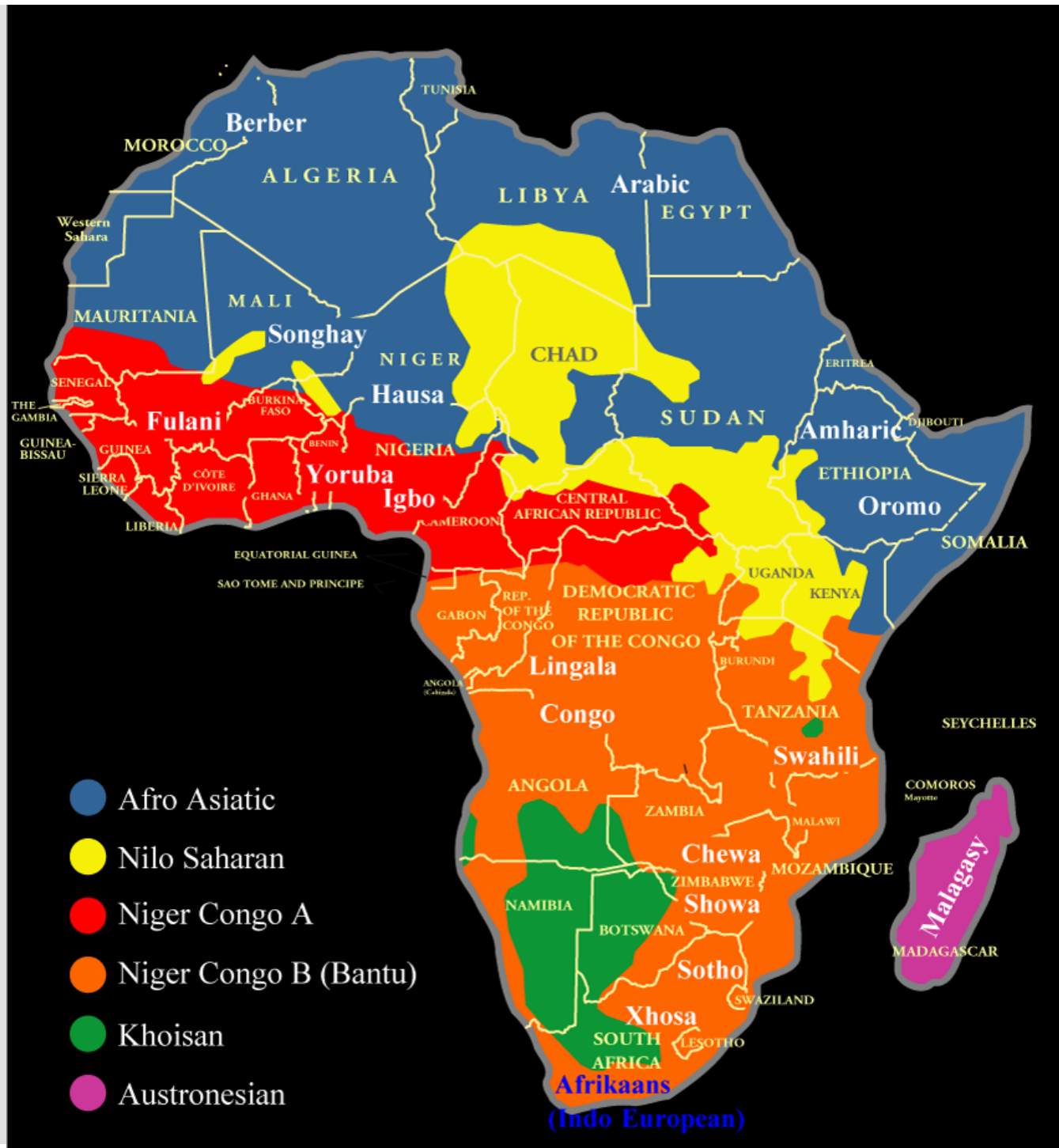
<http://www.lsadc.org/info/ling-faqs-endanger.cfm>



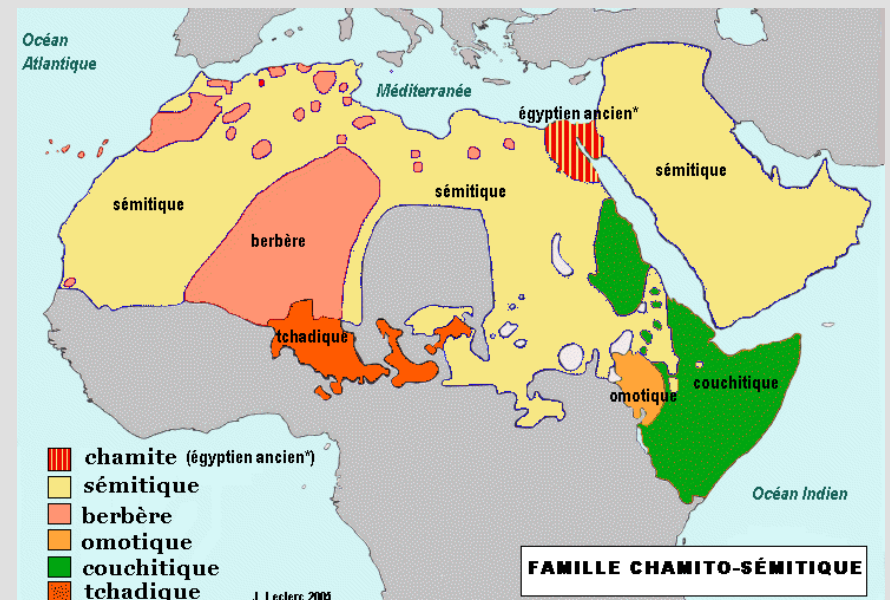
Language statuses

- **Safe** – children will probably be speaking it in 100 years.
- **Endangered** – children will probably not be speaking in 100 years.
- **Moribund** – children are not speaking it now.
- **Extinct** – Nobody's speaking it.

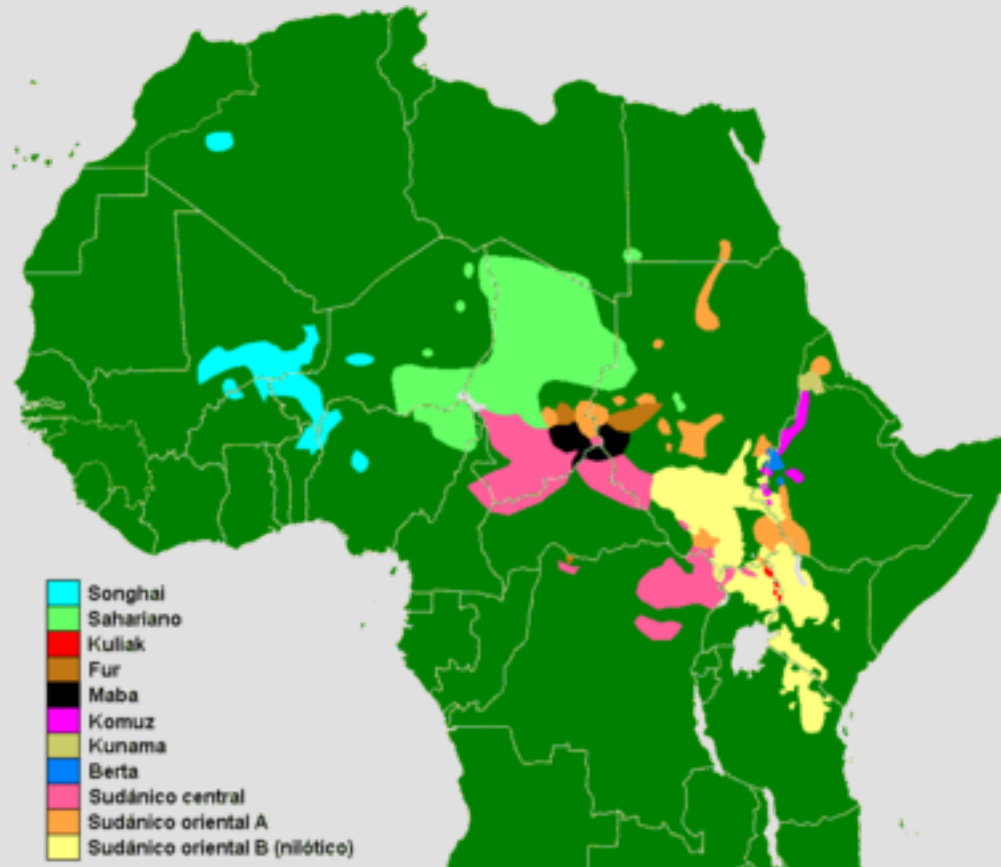
Language families of Africa



Afro-Asiatic languages



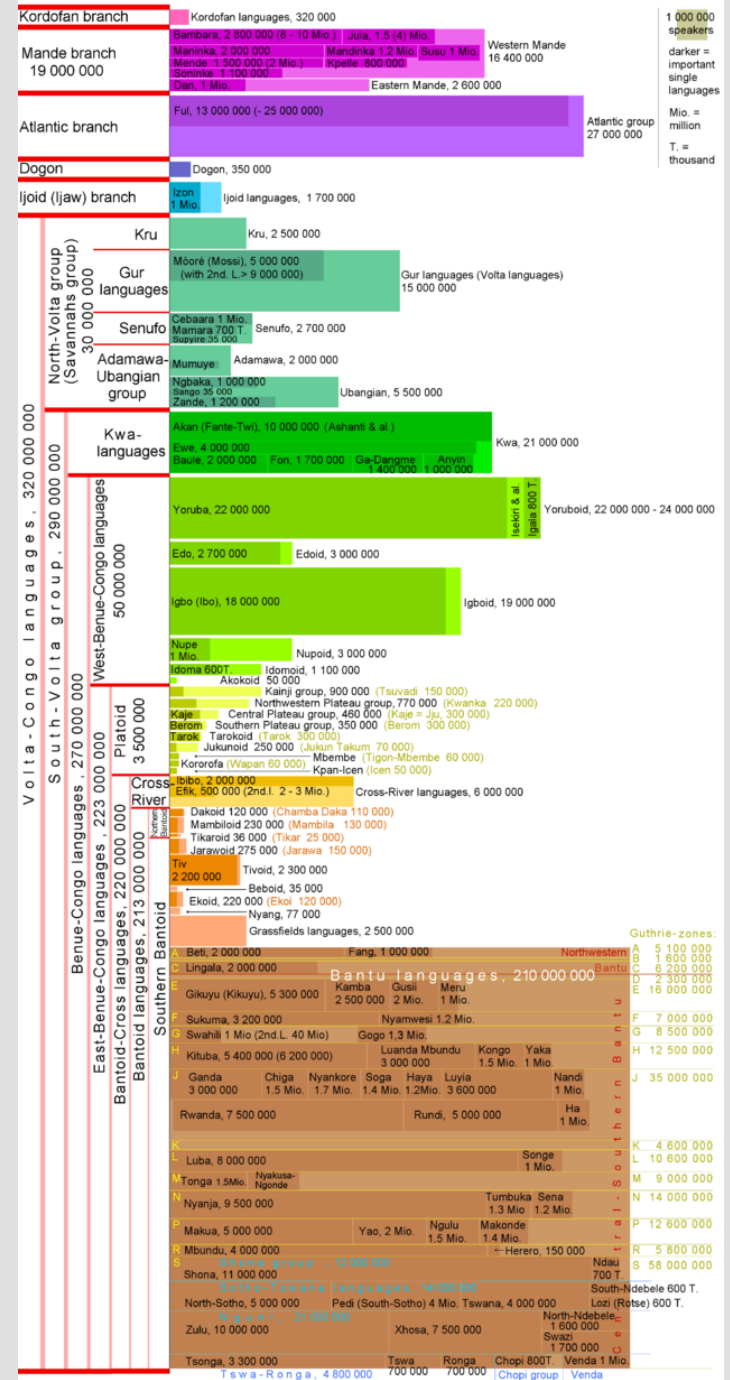
Nilo-Saharan languages



Niger-Congo Languages



NIGER-CONGO LANGUAGES SUBGROUPS AND NUMBERS OF SPEAKERS (total 400 000 000)



Khoisan Languages



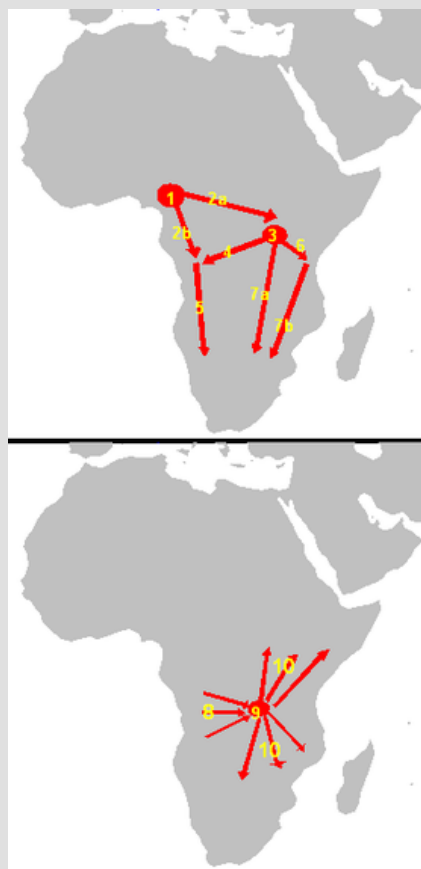
[Ethnologue](#) lists 13 Khoisan languages with populations of 1,000 and over:

Sandawe	40,000	Tanzania
Hailom (San)	16,000	Namibia
Nama (Khoekhoegowab)	233,701	Namibia, Botswana, South Africa
Shua	6,000	Botswana
Tsoa	5,000	Botswana
!Ani	1,000	Botswana
Gana	2,000	Botswana
Kxoe	10,000	Namibia, Angola, Botswana, South Africa, Zambia
!Gwi	2,500	Botswana
Naro	14,000	Botswana, Namibia
=!Kx'au!'ein	2,000	Namibia, Botswana
Kung-Ekoka	6,900	Botswana, Angola, South Africa
Jul'hoan	5,000	Botswana, Namibia
Maligo	2,200	Angola

How did Xhosa get its clicks?

<http://hctv.humnet.ucla.edu/departments/linguistics/VowelsandConsonants/course/chapter6/xhosa/xhosa.html>

Xhosa and Zulu (Nguni group) are Bantu languages with clicks. Clicks are not normally found in Bantu languages.



Bantu migration and Nguni colonization of Southern Africa brought Nguni speakers into domination of Khoisan speakers.

HERBERT, ROBERT K. 1990. The sociohistory of southern Bantu clicks. *Anthropological linguistics*, 32.120-38.

IRVINE, JUDITH T. and GAL, SUSAN. 2000. Language ideology and linguistic differentiation. *Regimes of language: Ideologies, politics, and identities*, ed. by P.V. Kroskrity, 35-83. Santa Fe NM: SAR Press.

Hlonipha - showing respect in Nguni culture (a disappearing practice)

- A general practice of modesty and respect towards affines (people related by marriage) and other revered persons.
- Involves gesture, eye contact, expressions of affect, dress, and language.
- Not pronouncing names of revered persons:
 - e.g. chief, certain affines.



An extreme English example

from FINLAYSON, R. 1995. Women's language of respect: isihlonipho sabafazi. Language and social history, ed. by Rajend Mesthrie, 279-96. Cape town and Johannesburg: David Philip. P. 279

- William Green's parents:
 - Father - Robert
 - Mother - Grace
- William's wife can't say the principal syllables of these names:
 - rob ert green will grace

Grace will not eat green yogurt

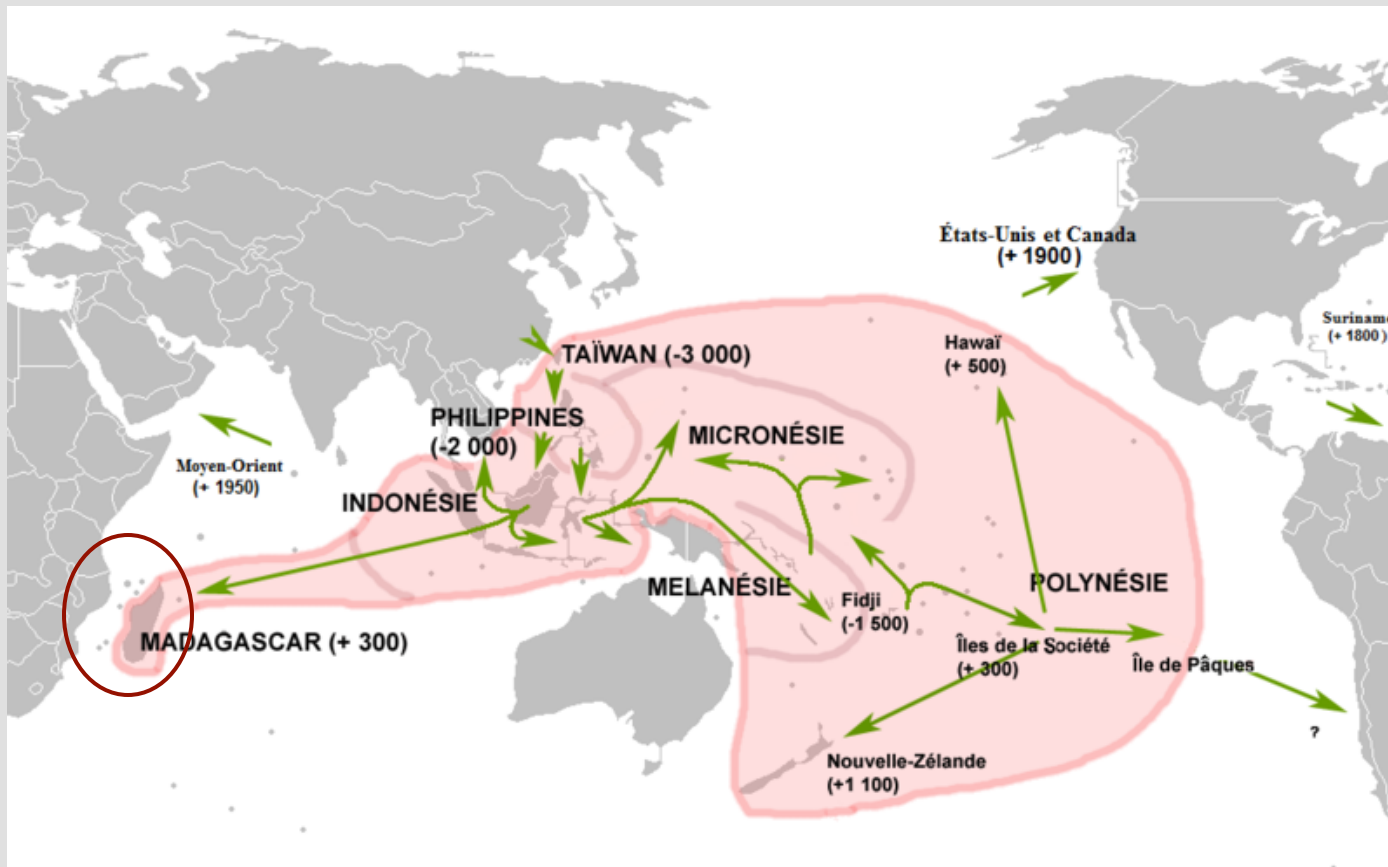
Becomes something like:

The older daughter of Smith
refuses to eat grass-colored
yomix.

hlonipha strategies

- Ellipsis **umkhono** > **umono** ‘foreleg’
- Synonymy **kufa** ‘to die’ > **kushona** ‘to set; to die’
- Derivation **inkhuleko** ‘thing for tethering’ for **imbuti** ‘goat’
- Consonant substitution
 - stem-initial C becomes coronal **kho** > **to** ‘thy’
 - stem-initial C becomes click **umlamu** > **umcamu** ‘brother-in-law’
- It is speculated that clicks moved into more of the lexicon as, e.g., polite words lost their polite force.

Austronesian Languages



- More than half the languages spoken today have fewer than 10,000 speakers.
- With the language goes the culture.
- Measures:
 - Language Documentation
 - Language Revitalization