The following information corresponds to Chapters 8, 9 and 10 in your textbook. Fill in the blanks to complete the definition or sentence. Note: All of the following information in addition to your reading is important, not just the blanks you fill in.

**A Geography of Language**

- **Language** = a systematic means of communicating ideas or feelings by the use of conventionalized signs, gestures, marks, or especially articulate vocal sounds.
- ________ use symbolic calls, but only humans have developed complex vocal communication systems.
- Without written language, ________ could be transmitted from one generation to another, but there would be no foundation for cultural preservation for longer than one generation.
- Language is a function of society’s view of what constitutes a cultural community – certainly influenced by history and politics (e.g. ability of the Chinese to build and sustain a state of speakers of different languages (but similar Sino-Tibetan tongues) is why we often consider Chinese to be one language).
- ________ ____________ = variant of a language that a country’s political and intellectual elite seek (or sought) to promote as the norm for use in 1) government, 2) schools, 3) the media, and 4) in other areas.
- ________ = a regional variance of a standard language; differences may be found in 1) vocabulary, 2) ________ (the way words are put together to form phrases), 3) pronunciation, 4) ________ (the rhythm of speech), and even 5) the pace of speech.
- ________ = a geographic boundary within which a particular linguistic feature occurs.

**Language Classification and Distribution**

- Language ________ are thought to have a shared, but distant, origin;
- Language ________ have a more definite commonality;
- These subfamilies are divided into language ________, which consist of sets of individual languages.

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<tr>
<th>Language Family</th>
<th>Major Language</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Americas, Europe, Southwest Asia, Australia, South Africa</td>
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<td>North Africa, Arabian Peninsula</td>
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<td>Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Madagascar</td>
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<td>Russia, Northern Asia, Finland, Turkey</td>
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<td>Sub-Saharan Africa</td>
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Diffusion of Languages

- **__________ __________** - one way of charting the diversification of languages over time (e.g. octo (Latin), otto (Italian), ocho (Spanish), huit (French), … eight (English)); this is known as ________ ____________.

- **__________ __________** - observed that Sanskrit was closely related to ancient Greek & Latin (late 1700s)

- **__________ ________** - observed that related languages have similar (but not identical) consonants (1800s); they soften over time (e.g. vater (Ger) … vader (Dut), father (Eng)).

- Several research tasks followed: 1) __________ the ancient language, 2) locate the __________, 3) identify the routes of __________, and 4) attempt to learn about the people’s ways of ________.

- Language ____________ - differentiation over time and space; languages branch into dialects, become isolated, then new languages develop.

- Language ____________ - when long-isolated languages made contact; linked to human mobility (relocation diffusion); complicates the rules of reconstruction.

- Language ____________ - modification or supplanting of a language by stronger cultures (acculturation); Ex) Hungarian surrounded by Indo-European, what proto language gave rise to Basque spoken around northern Spain is unknown (?)

- Linguists look for ____________ clues in the vocabulary (landforms, vegetation,…).
Diffusion of the Proto-Indo-European Language

• ________ theory: the hearth was modern-day Ukraine (>5,000 yrs. ago); people used horses, wheel, and trade, spread language westward toward Western Europe.
• ________ theory: the hearth was Anatolia (Turkey - >10,000 yrs. ago); Ukraine relied on nomadic pastoralism, not farming; more words for mountains and other high-relief landforms (few for plains); leading hearth for agriculture was Mesopotamia.
• Drawbacks: Anatolia was not ideal for farming, some evidence states Proto-Indo-European language spread eastward first (then westward into Europe)

The Search for a Superfamily
• ________ - a pre-Proto-Indo-European language hypothesized by Russian scholars, speakers were hunters-gatherers (no words for domesticated plants), source of many other language families as well
• ________ Model - proposes that three source areas of agriculture each gave rise to a great language family.

Diffusion to the Pacific and the Americas
• Diffusion to the Pacific originated from coastal ________ where farming was well established.
• The speed of ________ and simultaneous ________ of languages is remarkable considering the water-fragmented nature of the Pacific realm.
• The Americas are dominated by ________ languages (colonialism).
* There still remain many gaps in our knowledge of this region (Americas).

• If you accept the ________ land-bridge hypothesis (first Americans crossed over from Asia during the last ice age), it appears the American languages diverged into the most intricately divided branch of the language tree (may be more than 200 Native American language families).
• ________ - Joseph Greenberg proposed there are only three families of indigenous American languages in 1987. 1) ________ - the superfamily; most widely distributed, 2) ________ - was spoken in what is now NW Canada, Alaska & US Southwest, 3) ________ - ________ - concentrated along the Arctic (not totally proven).
Influences on Individual Languages

- Three fundamental forces have influenced the world’s linguistic mosaic: ________ (texts are the primary means by which language can become stabilized), ________ (influences production of texts and the interaction of distant peoples), and ________ ________ (affects both what people have access to and which areas are in close contact with one another).
- Two developments in the late Middle Ages were key in developing the modern language pattern:
  1) Johannes Gutenberg invented the movable-type ________ ________ around 1450; allowed for an unprecedented production of written texts (e.g. Gutenberg Bible)
  2) The rise of __________-__________ was important because they had a strong interest in promoting a common culture (more unity), and asserted their interests in faraway places at times (colonialism).

Language and Culture

- ________ are now the largest minority in the U.S. (according to the latest statistics); more than half are functionally ________ (many early immigrants in the 1800s were as well).
- There has been a growing interest in establishing English as the ________ language of the U.S.
- ________ = an artificial tongue that was developed in the early 1900s based on Latin and a combination of other European languages; attempt to bring cultures together (was even endorsed by the League of Nations); failed because it lacked a practical ________, and because it was actually another ______-__________ language (not a global tongue).

Creolization

- ________ ________ = “Frankish language”; traders from southern France (Franks) revitalized trade in the Mediterranean after the Crusades; began a process of convergence of several languages (e.g. French, Italian, Arabic,…); today it denotes any common language spoken by people of different native tongues.
- ________ = a lingua franca that has been simplified and modified through contact w/ other languages (e.g. English speakers met with speakers of African languages in the Caribbean – pidgin English).
- ________ = over time a pidgin may become the mother tongue of a region, becoming a lingua franca, and is referred to as a creole language.

Multilingualism

- Only a few ___________ states (e.g. Japan, Venezuela, Iceland, Portugal, Poland, Lesotho)
- In bilingual Canada, regional divisions can be found between ________ and the rest of the country.
- The ________ have been diligent in passing several language laws (e.g. French signs, menus,…).
- 1995 – came within a few thousand votes of seceding from the rest of Canada.
Belgium is divided into a __________-speaking region in the north (Flanders) and a __________-speaking region in the south (Wallonia), with __________, the capital, officially bilingual.

The existence of the separate language communities actually tends to foster ____________, separating the citizens of the country.

There is some speculation that they may wish to devolve into two separate countries, much the same way __________ broke away from the ______________ (the Velvet Revolution).

Nigeria is a much more complicated case study than either Canada or Belgium. It has _______ major languages, more than a _________ major local languages, and around _______ local tongues.

The three major languages, ___________ in the north (35 million speakers), ________ in the southwest (25 million), and _______ in the southeast (20 million) - are strongly associated with regional cultures and are unsuitable as national languages.

When Nigeria became independent, its leaders chose ________ as its official language (India did this earlier)

___________ – often selected by the educated and politically elite to promote national cohesion; commonly language of colonial power.

___________ – systematic study of place-names (can elicit strong passions).

When many African and Asian colonies became __________, they changed the names of places; this has even happened recently (e.g. Bombay was changed to Mumbai).

Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwllllantysiliogogogoch - “longest place name in the world”