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You Are What You Speak BRILL

A New Yorker Best Book of 2022 A Globe & Mail Book of the Year
"A stimulating work on the politics of language." LA Review of
Books As globalisation continues languages are disappearing
faster than ever, leaving our planet's linguistic diversity leaping
towards extinction. The science of how languages are acquired is
becoming more advanced and the internet is bringing us new
ways of teaching the next generation, however it is increasingly
challenging for minority languages to survive in the face of a
handful of hegemonic 'super-tongues'. In *Speak Not*, James
Griffiths reports from the frontlines of the battle to preserve

minority languages, from his native Wales, Hawaii and indigenous
American nations, to southern China and Hong Kong. He explores
the revival of the Welsh language as a blueprint for how to
ensure new generations are not robbed of their linguistic
heritage, outlines how loss of indigenous languages is the direct
result of colonialism and globalisation and examines how
technology is both hindering and aiding the fight to prevent
linguistic extinction. Introducing readers to compelling characters
and examining how indigenous communities are fighting for their
languages, Griffiths ultimately explores how languages hang on,
what happens when they don't, and how indigenous tongues can
be preserved and brought back from the brink.

The Mysteries of Bilingualism GRIN Verlag

This book is a history of human speech from prehistory to the
present. It charts the rise of some languages and the fall of

others, explaining why some survive and others die. It shows how languages change their sounds and meanings, and how the history of languages is closely linked to the history of peoples. Writing in a lively, readable style, distinguished Swedish scholar Tore Janson makes no assumptions about previous knowledge. He takes the reader on a voyage of exploration through the changing patterns of the world's languages, from ancient China to ancient Egypt, imperial Rome to imperial Britain, Sappho's Lesbos to contemporary Africa. He discovers the links between the histories of societies and their languages; he shows how language evolved from primitive calls; he considers the question of whether one language can be more advanced than another. The author describes the history of writing and looks at the impact of changing technology. He ends by assessing the prospects for English world domination and predicting the languages of the distant future. Five historical maps illustrate this fascinating history of our defining characteristic and most valuable asset.

How to Learn - Spanish - French - German - Arabic - Any Foreign Language Successfully Cambridge University Press

This book presents research on the instruction of two heritage languages and two foreign languages in Israeli schools. The authors explore language policy and the way languages are studied from the point of view of students, teachers, schools and curricula. Language in Israel is a loaded concept, closely linked to ideological, political, and social issues. The profound changes in language policy in the West along with two large waves of immigration from the Former Soviet Union and Ethiopia resulted in new attitudes towards immigrant languages and cultures in

Israel. Are these new attitudes strong enough to change the language policy in the future? What do students and teachers think about the language instruction at school? Are the teaching materials updated and do they address modern demands? This book provides answers to these and other questions. As well as describing the instruction of two heritage languages, Russian and Amharic, and two foreign languages, French and Spanish, the book also contains an extensive background on the immigration history and acculturation process of the speakers of each of these languages. An in-depth understanding of the case of Israel will serve as a guide for other countries contending with similar issues pertaining to the adjustment of language policies in light of immigration and other challenging circumstances.

Fluent in 3 Months Princeton University Press

Foreigners often say that English language is "easy." A language like Spanish is challenging in its variety of verb endings (the verb speak is conjugated *hablo, hablas, hablamos*), and gender for nouns, whereas English is more straight forward (I speak, you speak, we speak). But linguists generally swat down claims that certain languages are "easier" than others, since it is assumed all languages are complex to the same degree. For example, they will point to English's use of the word "do" -- Do you know French? This usage is counter-intuitive and difficult for non-native speakers. Linguist John McWhorter agrees that all languages are complex, but questions whether or not they are all equally complex. The topic of complexity has become a hot issue in recent years, particularly in creole studies, historical linguistics, and language contact. As McWhorter describes, when languages came into contact over the years (when French speakers ruled

the English for a few centuries, or the vikings invaded England), a large number of speakers are forced to learn a new language quickly, and this came up with a simplified version, a pidgin. When this ultimately turns into a "real" language, a creole, the result is still simpler and less complex than a "non-interrupted" language that has been around for a long time. McWhorter makes the case that this kind of simplification happens in degrees, and criticizes linguists who are reluctant to say that, for example, English is simply simpler than Spanish for socio-historical reasons. He analyzes how various languages that seem simple but are not creoles, actually are simpler than they would be if they had not been broken down by large numbers of adult learners. In addition to English, he looks at Mandarin Chinese, Persian, Malay, and some Arabic varieties. His work will interest not just experts in creole studies and historical linguistics, but the wider community interested in language complexity.

Speaking of Alabama Macmillan Higher Education

This volume investigates the complex relationship between language and identity of the peoples speaking Romance languages in the Balkans, offering a thorough sociolinguistic and anthropological account on this crossroads region.

Students' Right to Their Own Language Bloomsbury Publishing

"An insightful, accessible examination of the way in which day-to-day speech is tangled in a complicated web of history, politics, race, economics and power." - Kirkus What is it about other people's language that moves some of us to anxiety or even rage? For centuries, sticklers the world over have donned the cloak of authority to control the way people use words. Now this sensational new book strikes back to defend the fascinating, real-

life diversity of this most basic human faculty. With the erudite yet accessible style that marks his work as a journalist, Robert Lane Greene takes readers on a rollicking tour around the world, illustrating with vivid anecdotes the role language beliefs play in shaping our identities, for good and ill. Beginning with literal myths, from the Tower of Babel to the bloody origins of the word "shibboleth," Greene shows how language "experts" went from myth-making to rule-making and from building cohesive communities to building modern nations. From the notion of one language's superiority to the common perception that phrases like "It's me" are "bad English," linguistic beliefs too often define "us" and distance "them," supporting class, ethnic, or national prejudices. In short: What we hear about language is often really about the politics of identity. Governments foolishly try to police language development (the French Academy), nationalism leads to the violent suppression of minority languages (Kurdish and Basque), and even Americans fear that the most successful language in world history (English) may be threatened by increased immigration. These false language beliefs are often tied to harmful political ends and can lead to the violation of basic human rights. Conversely, political involvement in language can sometimes prove beneficial, as with the Zionist revival of Hebrew or our present-day efforts to provide education in foreign languages essential to business, diplomacy, and intelligence. And yes, standardized languages play a crucial role in uniting modern societies. As this fascinating book shows, everything we've been taught to think about language may not be wrong—but it is often about something more than language alone. *You Are What You Speak* will certainly get people talking.

The Republic of India Renard Press Ltd

Questions About Language sets out to answer, in a readable yet insightful format, a series of vital questions about language, some of which language specialists are regularly asked, and some of which are so surprising that only the specialists think about them. In this handy guide, sixteen language experts answer challenging questions about language, from What makes a language a language? to Do people swear because they don't know enough words? Illustrating the complexity of human language, and the way in which we use it, the twelve chapters each end with a section on further reading for anyone interested in following up on the topic. Covering core questions about language, this is essential reading for both students new to language and linguistics and the interested general reader.

Language Hacking French Bloomsbury Publishing

Our ability to speak, write, understand speech and read is critical to our ability to function in today's society. As such, psycholinguistics, or the study of how humans learn and use language, is a central topic in cognitive science. This comprehensive handbook is a collection of chapters written not by practitioners in the field, who can summarize the work going on around them, but by trailblazers from a wide array of subfields, who have been shaping the field of psycholinguistics over the last decade. Some topics discussed include how children learn language, how average adults understand and produce language, how language is represented in the brain, how brain-damaged individuals perform in terms of their language abilities and computer-based models of language and meaning. This is required reading for advanced researchers, graduate students

and upper-level undergraduates who are interested in the recent developments and the future of psycholinguistics.

Fluency Now Quercus

Paris has played a unique role in world gastronomy, influencing cooks and gourmets across the world. It has served as a focal point not only for its own cuisine, but for regional specialties from across France. For tourists, its food remains one of the great attractions of the city itself. Yet the history of this food remains largely unknown. *A History of the Food of Paris* brings together archaeology, historical records, memoirs, statutes, literature, guidebooks, news items, and other sources to paint a sweeping portrait of the city's food from the Neanderthals to today's bistros and food trucks. The colorful history of the city's markets, its restaurants and their predecessors, of immigrant food, even of its various drinks appears here in all its often surprising variety, revealing new sides of this endlessly fascinating city.

Politics and the English Language John Wiley & Sons

A "fascinating" (The Economist) dive into the world of linguistics that is "part travelogue, part science lesson, part intellectual investigation...an entertaining, informative survey of some of the most fascinating polyglots of our time" (The New York Times Book Review). In *Babel No More*, Michael Erard, "a monolingual with benefits," sets out on a quest to meet language superlearners and make sense of their mental powers. On the way he uncovers the secrets of historical figures like the nineteenth-century Italian cardinal Joseph Mezzofanti, who was said to speak seventy-two languages, as well as those of living language-superlearners such as Alexander Arguelles, a modern-day polyglot who knows dozens of languages and shows Erard

the tricks of the trade to give him a dark glimpse into the life of obsessive language acquisition. With his ambitious examination of what language is, where it lives in the brain, and the cultural implications of polyglots' pursuits, Erard explores the upper limits of our ability to learn and use languages and illuminates the intellectual potential in everyone. How do some people escape the curse of Babel—and what might the gods have demanded of them in return?

Daily French Lessons AuthorHouse

Is American English in decline? Are regional dialects dying out? Is there a difference between men and women in how they adapt to linguistic variations? These questions, and more, about our language catapulted Robert MacNeil and William Cran—the authors (with Robert McCrum) of the language classic *The Story of English*—across the country in search of the answers. *Do You Speak American?* is the tale of their discoveries, which provocatively show how the standard for American English—if a standard exists—is changing quickly and dramatically. On a journey that takes them from the Northeast, through Appalachia and the Deep South, and west to California, the authors observe everyday verbal interactions and in a host of interviews with native speakers glean the linguistic quirks and traditions characteristic of each area. While examining the histories and controversies surrounding both written and spoken American English, they address anxieties and assumptions that, when explored, are highly emotional, such as the growing influence of Spanish as a threat to American English and the special treatment of African-American vernacular English. And, challenging the purists who think grammatical standards are in

serious deterioration and that media saturation of our culture is homogenizing our speech, they surprise us with unpredictable responses. With insight and wit, MacNeil and Cran bring us a compelling book that is at once a celebration and a potent study of our singular language. Each wave of immigration has brought new words to enrich the American language. Do you recognize the origin of 1. blunderbuss, sleigh, stoop, coleslaw, boss, waffle? Or 2. dumb, ouch, shyster, check, kaput, scram, bummer? Or 3. phooey, pastrami, glitch, kibbitz, schnozzle? Or 4. broccoli, espresso, pizza, pasta, macaroni, radio? Or 5. smithereens, lollapalooza, speakeasy, hooligan? Or 6. vamoose, chaps, stampede, mustang, ranch, corral? 1. Dutch 2. German 3. Yiddish 4. Italian 5. Irish 6. Spanish

What Did Jesus Look Like? Delacorte Press

Written in a detailed and fascinating manner, this book is ideal for general readers interested in the English language.

Language in Hong Kong at Century's End Teach Yourself

Have you always admired the French language, culture, and people? Do you dream of traveling to Paris someday, but you want to go when you're ready and can speak their language? Or does the idea of taking a language class make you start to sweat with feelings of stress, nervousness, and anxiety over taking on more work? There is a better way for you to learn the language you've always hoped to - and you have found it with this guide. There are so many things that stop us from tackling a new activity, such as learning a new language. Time, money, accessibility, and motivation are just some of the big things stopping us from doing the things we always hoped to, like learning French, the "Language of Love!" This guide tries to

overcome a few of those obstacles by making it easy, manageable, and enjoyable because most of the time, the hardest part is just starting! And when you have made your way through this book and practice what you've learned, you will be ready to book that trip to Paris so you can fully yourself immerse in the food, wine, landscapes, and pulse of French culture. While it is a common belief that children have an easier time learning languages than adults, Richard Roberts's 2015 study *Becoming Fluent: How Cognitive Science Can Help Adults Learn a Foreign Language*, published by The MIT Press, introduces how adults can actually master a new language through different learning techniques. He explains how adults can, unlike children, use the skills they have developed throughout their lives to learn a new language, and they can be just as successful. In this guide, you'll discover: The absolute best method for you to develop French-speaking skills - without requiring a ton of time you don't have Detailed lessons to teach you what you need to know without overwhelming you and sending you into an anxiety attack How you can learn French at your own pace - without the stress of homework or tests, so you can truly learn the language Daily lessons and exercises, already designed for you, so you don't have to plan or organize anything and just open your book The worst pronunciations you are saying, and how to master the correct pronunciation to sound like a local An easy breakdown of the French parts of speech, so you actually understand the rules, not just memorize the vocabulary The most common expressions you will need for your trip to France to fool them into thinking you speak fluently The most romantic French words and phrases that will heat up your love life, even if you're the least romantic

person you know None of us - no matter our age - can learn a new language overnight. But when we decide we want to enrich our travel experiences and understanding of the world by learning a language, you have to have the right tool. Now you can understand and learn about the language you love to listen to and have always admired. If you are ready to start your journey with the "Language of Love," click "Add to Cart" now! **Elective Language Study and Policy in Israel** John Wiley & Sons

Would you like to speak a foreign language? This book provides essential information to make the process of learning it far easier and faster than you might ever have imagined. The guidance provided is relevant to the learning of any and every foreign language, from the first steps, right through to beginning to speak the language comfortably, and then to achieving complete fluency. Many of the techniques described are novel or largely unheard of by students but they provide powerful means of helping you to learn a foreign language quickly. In addition more widely known methods are also detailed. All are explained clearly and simply so you can start putting them to use as soon as you begin reading. In total more than 80 important topics for learning a foreign language successfully and quickly are covered. With the aid of this book you will discover that you really can learn to speak a foreign language successfully and probably several; and that you can do so without the difficulties experienced in the past.

English as a Global Language Cambridge University Press
Students' Right to Their Own Language collects perspectives from some of the field's most influential scholars to provide a

foundation for understanding the historical and theoretical context informing the affirmation of all students' right to exist in their own languages. Co-published with the National Council for Teachers of English, this critical sourcebook archives decades of debate about the implications of the statement and explores how it translates to practical strategies for fostering linguistic diversity in the classroom.

Language Hacking German Riverbridge Books

This lively and engaging book, set in the historical context of centuries of migration and multilingualism in Berlin, explores the relationship between language and migration. Berlin is a multicultural city in the heart of Europe, but what do we know about the number of languages spoken by its inhabitants and how they are used in everyday life? How do encounters with different languages impact on the experience of migration? And how do people use their experiences with language to shape their life stories? To investigate these questions, the author invites the reader to accompany him on a research expedition that leads to an apartment building in the highly diverse district of Neukölln. Its inhabitants come from different parts of the world and relate their experiences – their Berlin lives – in ways that reveal the complex and intricate relationships between language and migration.

How Many Languages Do We Need? Challenge Publishing

Start becoming fluent now! Are you tired of studying a language without being able to understand native speakers when they talk to you? Are you frustrated that you can't still talk in this language after having spent so much money on courses and teachers? Are you looking for a personal plan that will really help you become

fluent in this language, really fast, in less than 6 months? This revolutionary and action-based book will help you reach fluency, in any language, by using the things that are really motivating and meaningful to you. This is the fastest way to fluency in any language and their principles are used by the most successful polyglots. If you follow the instructions given in this book, you will reach fluency in any language in less than 6 months. You love languages and you love learning them. but you are sick of so many methods that don't really work for you. Deep down you know that the fastest way to fluency is learning languages on your own, with the things that are motivating and meaningful to you. And you are right! If you have always felt this way, this is the right book for you! This book will help you create your own Fluency Plan to become fluent in any language in less than six months. You will finally have the freedom to choose your own Fluency Adventure. All other language books focus on teaching rules and their own learning methods. But do you know who they forgot about? They forgot about You. They forgot that you are unique, that you have your own way of learning. This book addresses that, once and for all. You are the center of the learning process and you are the one creating your own Fluency Adventure. In Fluency Now you will get: A 5-step formula to become fluent in any language you want, in less than 6 months Great exercises that will help you understand native speakers and speak the language from day one. The best strategies to learn vocabulary and grammar fast, in any language, your own way A workbook that you will be using alongside the book, where you will be able to create your own Fluency Plan Free access to hundreds of high quality videos, texts and podcasts in 5

languages: English, Spanish, French, German and Japanese, from beginner to advanced Your own Fluency Calendar, with a successful model that you can follow to create your own successful Fluency Routine Fluency Now is the key to unlock your Fluency in any language with a plan that really works for you. Fluency Now gives you the tools to really use the language from the very first day, saving you a lot of money and time. What's stopping you from becoming fluent in the language that you love? Don't wait. Read this book and become fluent for once and for all. Scroll to the top and click the "buy now" button.

Language Interrupted Hong Kong University Press

There are many second language students in the world. Most of them are going to language schools. What is the result after going to language school? How many students actually speak the language? How many students stop their programs and never return? Is the language industry concentrating on a high level of speaking? Is the industry even talking about speaking? Where are the results? Do language schools talk about the result phase of speaking and listening? Do language schools offer guarantees about speaking and listening? How much does it cost to go to language schools? Who is teaching languages these days? What are the teaching requirements? What kind of course curriculums do students experience? The language industry produces a very small percentage of speakers. Most educational courses have a very small failure rate. Language courses have an extremely high rate of students who drop out of language courses before being able to speak well. Most students never reach the fluency stage. What are the goals of the students? What are the goals of the language industry? Most students never reach a high level of

speaking. These students pay large amounts of money for an unsuccessful result. Who is to blame for the lack of success? Students who fail do not like to talk about their language experiences. The language schools do not talk about the lack of success of students. However, the language schools do not talk about the number of successful students either. The language industry is a well-kept secret. There are no statistics to be found. Language school course information is vague at best. Is the general public aware of the poor statistics in language schools? Do people know anything about speaking and fluency? Do language institutes know how to produce speaking results? Do language schools know that what they are doing is not producing speaking results? Speaking a second language is a life-changing event. Second language speakers are usually very confident, successful people. Language schools are directly responsible for placing the futures of language school students in jeopardy. Why are language schools responsible? Because they know that the atmosphere of language schools will cause students to abandon their programs before they begin speaking. These students never return. This means that language schools are responsible for the destruction of the potential elevation of the lives of their students. Prosperity, health, and romance are all heavily linked to second language speaking. When you take these elevated factors away from students, what are you left with? This book examines and explains all of these unanswered questions. The language industry will be examined to see why there are unsatisfactory results. Solutions will then be presented. The problems must be examined before the solutions are presented. This is because people need information about speaking and listening.

Information that is not shared by language schools will be presented. The reader will have a crystal clear understanding of the solution phase after a short tutorial about language speaking and learning.

[The Way of the Linguist](#) Moody Publishers

A four-level series designed especially for young learners to learn Chinese as a foreign language. Using a communicative approach based on engaging stories and activities, the Oxford Elementary Chinese (OEC) series enables learners to build strong listening and speaking skills. It also helps them develop an interest in reading, writing, and different cultures.

Speak: A Short History of Languages Independently Published

The Way of The Linguist, A language learning odyssey. It is now a cliché that the world is a smaller place. We think nothing of jumping on a plane to travel to another country or continent. The most exotic locations are now destinations for mass tourism. Small business people are dealing across frontiers and language barriers like never before. The Internet brings different languages and cultures to our finger-tips. English, the hybrid language of an island at the western extremity of Europe seems to have an unrivalled position as an international medium of communication. But historically periods of cultural and economic domination have

never lasted forever. Do we not lose something by relying on the wide spread use of English rather than discovering other languages and cultures? As citizens of this shrunken world, would we not be better off if we were able to speak a few languages other than our own? The answer is obviously yes. Certainly Steve Kaufmann thinks so, and in his busy life as a diplomat and businessman he managed to learn to speak nine languages fluently and observe first hand some of the dominant cultures of Europe and Asia. Why do not more people do the same? In his book *The Way of The Linguist*, A language learning odyssey, Steve offers some answers. Steve feels anyone can learn a language if they want to. He points out some of the obstacles that hold people back. Drawing on his adventures in Europe and Asia, as a student and businessman, he describes the rewards that come from knowing languages. He relates his evolution as a language learner, abroad and back in his native Canada and explains the kind of attitude that will enable others to achieve second language fluency. Many people have taken on the challenge of language learning but have been frustrated by their lack of success. This book offers detailed advice on the kind of study practices that will achieve language breakthroughs. Steve has developed a language learning system available online at: www.thelinguist.com.

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