

Step **2**

The English-speaking World

Janet Cameron

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Step **2**

R&T *Discovery*

The English-speaking World

Janet Cameron



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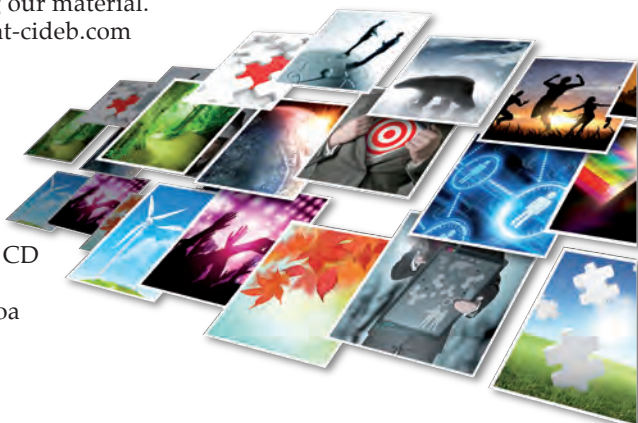
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We would be happy to receive your comments and suggestions, and give you any other information concerning our material.
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Chapters 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 and 7 are recorded on the accompanying CD.
Chapter 4 is downloadable from our website: www.blackcat-cideb.com.



These symbols indicate the beginning and end of the passages
linked to the listening activities.



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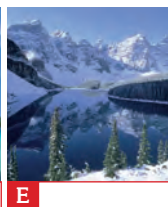
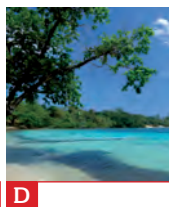


Before you read

1 What do you know?

Here are some places that will be mentioned in this book. How many do you know? See if you can match the pictures (A-E) to the names of the countries (1-5).

1 Canada 2 New Zealand 3 Kenya 4 India 5 Jamaica



2 Vocabulary

Most of these words are going to be important to the next chapter and all of them will appear in the book. Match each word in the box to its definition. Use the spaces and letters to help you.

~~colony~~ territory settlement settlers govern empire

- 0 A c o l o n y is a place which is controlled by another country. Usually there are a lot of people from the controlling country living there.
- 1 An _ m _ _ _ _ is a group of countries which are all controlled by one powerful person or government. It is like a kingdom, but much bigger.
- 2 A _ _ t _ _ _ _ _ is a colony in its first few years.
_ e _ _ _ _ _ are the people who live there.
- 3 To _ o _ _ _ _ means to control or rule.
- 4 A _ _ r _ _ _ _ _ is a land belonging to a country.

Why is the World Learning English?

The language of a small northern island has spread to every corner of the world. How?

English is one of the most widely spoken languages on earth. People in countries as far away from each other as Canada, Australia and Ireland speak English as their first, or native, language. Still more people have grown up speaking a different language, but are learning English for business or as a hobby. In fact, the British Council found that in the year 2000 there were over 750 million learners of English world-wide.

How did the use of English become so widespread? ¹ In modern times, Hollywood movies, television, and most recently the Internet have brought stories and characters from England and especially America into people's homes everywhere. But before this happened, English was already a global language. To find out why, we'll have to look back.

1. **Widespread** : something that happens in many different places at once.



At first, English was only spoken in the country that we now know as England, and it was a very different language to the one that is used today. English began as a language spoken by the Angles, Saxons, and Jutes. These were Germanic tribes who came to England almost 2000 years ago. Over time this Anglo-Saxon language changed as it was mixed with the languages of other groups of people who invaded the island, such as the Danes, who brought words from Norse, and the Normans who brought French. Words from Latin and Greek were also added over time because these were considered the languages of higher knowledge. Gradually English changed and became the language we know today.

By the 15th century England was a strong country which was able to start exploring, setting up colonies, and expanding into other lands.





Exploration: North America and the Caribbean

In 1497 England sent explorers to 'the New World'. (Now we call this land North, South and Central America and the Caribbean.) At first England was only interested in trading, but later people came to set up colonies and live. But England was not the only country which was interested in the New World: England faced competition from Holland, Spain, France, and Portugal. In the 17th and 18th centuries there were wars between the European powers. Through these wars England gained control of most of North America, as well as Jamaica and Barbados.

But controlling people who lived a sixty-day journey away by sea was not always easy. From 1775-1783 the settlers of the colonies in America fought against Britain for their independence. Britain lost the American War of Independence, and lost the American colonies. After this, Britain concentrated on Asia, Africa and the Pacific.

Surrender of General Burgoyne, John Trumbull, 1821.





The founding of Australia, Algernon Talmadge, 1788.

Australia, India and Africa

In 1770 Captain Cook, an English explorer, was the first European to land on the eastern coast of Australia. Australia was used by the British as a place to send prisoners from about 1788 to 1840, but later the colonies became strong and rich, especially after gold was found there.

In 1617 the British East India Company began to trade with India, and gradually it took control of parts of the country. After a rebellion in the mid-19th century, the British government took direct control, and most of India was ruled by Britain. India was Britain's most important colony for many years. It was called 'the jewel in the crown'.

In the 1800s Britain began adding African land to its empire. Other European countries competed for control of this continent. This was called 'the scramble² for Africa'. At the end of the 19th century England controlled the southern part of Africa and most of the east coast.

2. **scramble** : a struggle to compete with others in order to get something.

Why is the World Learning English?



Countries and islands as far away as Hong Kong, Singapore, Fiji and Burma were also added to Britain's empire. In the 19th century, Britain was the greatest power in the world.

The Sun Never Sets

By 1922 the British Empire was at its highest point. Almost a quarter of the population of the world lived under English rule and the Empire covered one fourth of the earth's surface. It was said that "The sun never sets on the British Empire" because the countries which were controlled by Britain could be found all around the world. If it was night in England, for example, it might be day in India, or Antarctica.



The End of an Empire

This could not continue forever. Many countries wanted their independence. Also, it was expensive to govern so many different countries in so many parts of the world. Gradually Britain began giving independence to most of its colonies.

By the second half of the 20th century Britain had lost or given up most of its colonies. Today it still has 14 territories, including Bermuda and many small islands such as the Caymans in the Caribbean Sea and Fiji in the Pacific.

What was Left Behind: the Language

English is still spoken in many countries which were once part of the British Empire. In India, for example, English was the language of government for eighty-nine years, and so it is still widely spoken and is an additional official language. In countries like Canada and Australia, English was always a major language because of the English settlers who stayed and became the first citizens of new countries.

English continues to be an important language for countries all over the world. Let's look at some of them.





The text and **beyond**

PET 1 **Comprehension check**

Look at the statements below. Decide if each statement is correct or incorrect. If it is correct, mark A. If it is not correct, mark B.

- | | A | B |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 English began to be spoken around the world about fifty years ago. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 2 The New World was the name Europeans gave to North and South America and the Caribbean. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 3 America became independent from England peacefully. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 4 England sent prisoners to Australia until the 20 th century. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 5 In the 'scramble for Africa', European countries took African land. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 6 England once controlled almost 25% of the world's people and land. | ☐ | ☐ |
| 7 Today England doesn't control any other countries. | ☐ | ☐ |

2 **Talk about it**

Talk about these questions with a friend, and share your answers with the rest of the class.

- 1 Is it right for one country to control another country? What are some problems that could happen?
- 2 Does your own country control any other lands? Did your own country ever have colonies?
- 3 Why is it strange to say that people 'discovered' land in North America or Australia? Who was living there at the time?



PET 3 Practice

Read the text below and choose the correct word for each space. For each question, mark the letter next to the correct word – A, B, C or D.

A Famous English Queen

Queen Victoria ruled England at a time when the British Empire was very strong. She is a symbol of England and of a time in history. Victoria became queen when she was only 18 years (0)^B . When she (1) twenty-one she married her cousin Albert. The two were very happy together and had nine children and 42 grandchildren. When Albert died (2) 1861, Victoria was (3) sad that she did not appear in public (4) ten years, and she wore black dresses for the rest of her life. Victoria never married (5) , but for years she was very close to one of her servants, who was a man from Scotland named James Brown. Their story is told in the film *Mrs. Brown* (1997). Another film, *The Young Victoria* (2009), is (6) her first years as queen and her marriage to Albert. She became very popular in England as the empire became (7) successful. Victoria was queen for 63 years, (8) 1837 to 1901, which is longer (9) any other English queen or king. This time in history is known (10) 'the Victorian era'.

- | | | | |
|------------|--|----------|---------|
| 0 A aged | ☒ B old | C older | D young |
| 1 A is | B had | C was | D until |
| 2 A in | B on | C then | D at |
| 3 A such | B very | C so | D felt |
| 4 A during | B while | C at | D for |
| 5 A more | B again | C not | D any |
| 6 A about | B around | C for | D told |
| 7 A more | B most | C better | D well |
| 8 A for | B ago | C from | D yet |
| 9 A then | B as | C so | D than |
| 10 A as | B by | C like | D from |



4 Plan your journey (part 1)

Look through the chapter again. What countries have been written about? Would you like to visit any of these places? Imagine that you are planning a journey around the world, and can go to any of the places here. Which places would you visit? Why? How long would you spend in each place? Write your top three choices.

Look back on this question as you read through the book. Maybe you will change your mind!

Hollywood and the Internet have brought stories and characters from America into people's homes.

We use the present perfect to talk about 1) events that happened at an unspecified time in the past, 2) events or states that began in the past and have continued until now, 3) recent actions with effects in the present. However, we use the simple past to talk about events or states that are finished and happened at a specific time in the past.

5 Present perfect and simple past

Complete the sentences by using the present perfect or the simple past. Choose the best verb from the box:

~~die~~ travel love live land

- 0 Thousands of people have died from smoking-related illnesses. Over a thousand people died from smoking-related illnesses in 2007.
- 1 I you for years, and I still do!
I you, but now I never want to see you again.
- 2 Jerry in that little house until he died.
Sandra here for six months, but next year she might move.
- 3 In 1770 Captain Cook on the shores of Australia.
Many European explorers on these shores over the years.
- 4 you ever to Africa?
Yes, I there in 2005.



Before you read

1 What do you know?

What do you already know about Australia and New Zealand? Look at the pictures with a friend and talk about them. Do you know these places, people and animals? How are they connected with Australia and New Zealand?



A



B



C



D



E



F

2 Vocabulary

Match the sentence beginnings (1-5) and endings (A-E) to form sentences. The underlined words in each sentence will be important in the next chapter.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 The beliefs, ideas, art, and knowledge of a group of people ... | A their children had children, and their <u>descendants</u> are still living there. |
| 2 Irish people came to live in America in the 1800's. They had children, ... | B such as palm trees to evergreens. |
| 3 A <u>plateau</u> is an area which is high ... | C but they have different <u>accents</u> , or ways or pronouncing their words. |
| 4 There are many different <u>species</u> of trees, ... | D is also called their <u>culture</u> . |
| 5 People from England, America, and Australia all speak English, ... | E but flat, like a mountain with no peak. |