



English Conquers the World

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Until the 17th century, English was only spoken on the British Isles. Sailors and fishermen had sailed across the Atlantic and they said there was a new world behind the sea. The New World is today known as the USA and Canada.

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The original inhabitants in Australia were called the Aborigines. They had lived there in harmony with nature for at least 40,000 years. In 1788, the British started sending criminals to Australia. They continued to do so for the following fifty years. These criminals were the first white people who spoke English in Australia. The new inhabitants brought in new viruses and new ways of living. Many Aborigines died.

North America and Australia were not the only places where the British went. By the end of the 19th century, Britain ruled half the world. Today most former British colonies are independent countries and English is widely studied all over the world. That's why it's easy to manage in English almost anywhere in the world.