ENGLISH: The World’s Language

• 1582, 4 million people spoke English.
• 1780, 12 million people spoke English.
• 1828, 50 million people spoke English.
• 1920, 200 million people spoke English.
• Today, 2 billion people speak English.

“We can credibly imagine a genuine global language.”*

*The handbook of world Englishes By Braj B. Kachru, Yamuna Kachru, Cecil L. Nelson
The Lord’s Prayer, Matthew 6:9

1100, In Old English: (WSCp)
• Fæder ure þu þe eart on heofonum;

1380, In Middle English: (Wycliffe)
• Oure fadir that art in heuenes, halewid be thi name;
English Changes Over Time

1611, Early Modern English: The King James Bible
• Our father which art in heauen, hallowed be thy name.

1963, Late Modern English: The New Testament in Modern English (Phillips)
• Our Heavenly Father, may your name be honored;
2009, In Global English, Jean-Paul Nerriere

- Our Father, Who comes to us from above, Your name is holy.
Can English be better adapted so that your message translates all over the world?

This is where the writing style known as **Global English** proves to be a useful tool.
Standard English, or the English native speakers use every day, is bursting with nuances and idiosyncrasies that are difficult to translate into foreign languages. Unique or unusual grammatical conventions like the passive voice and implicit pronouns create confusion quickly in translation. Global English modifies the rules of Standard English to eliminate that confusion.
Global English Rules

In **Global English**, sentences are short. Word order is consistent and as predictable as possible. The passive voice is avoided. The relationship between the sentence’s subject and its modifiers is explicit. No metaphors or other types of figurative language are used. Everything is literal and logical.
112.1. **Laypersons.** When a lay member of a local church has accepted membership, license to preach, or ordination from any other religious organizations, or is engaging in independent church or missionary work, his or her membership in the local church shall, because of that fact, immediately cease, except in case that person shall secure the annual written approval of the local church board of the church in which said membership is held, and the annual written approval of the District Advisory Board of the district in which that church is located.
EXAMPLE #1: Global English

112.1 Laypersons. A lay member of a local church may lose his or her membership in the following ways.

• The member accepts a license to preach or ordination from another religious organization.
• The member engages in independent or missionary work with another organization.

A member can avoid this action by writing the local church board and receiving the annual written approval of the District Advisory Board.
EXAMPLE #2
If possible, maintain the original language

• **502.1** The Church of the Nazarene depends largely upon the spiritual qualifications, character and manner of life of its ministers. (538.17)

• **502.1** The Church of the Nazarene depends largely upon the spiritual qualifications, character, and manner of life of its ministers. (538.17)
Carol Anne Eby
Carol Anne Eby

• B.A., Speech, 1956, Trevecca
• M.A. English, 1957, George Peabody
• Missionary in Papua New Guinea, 20 years
• Classroom teacher, 40 years: high school, Bible College, and Trevecca Nazarene University
• Teacher of the year 1994, TNU
• Emerita status awarded 2000, TNU
• T-Award, layman, 2015.
• Published 4 books, free-lance writer for Nazarene NMI and Sunday School curriculum, Engage magazine, and devotional publications
English Idioms

How to shoot the breeze and have a ball while knocking them cold!

- Get out of hand
- Get your act together
- Cutting corners
- Cost an arm and a leg
- The devil is in the details
- Out of the frying pan and into the fire
- Weather the storm
- Pull someone’s leg
- A blessing in disguise
- Miss the boat
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Original</th>
<th>Global English</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The core of this unity is declared in the Articles of Faith of the Manual. . . This is the golden strand that is woven into the fabric of all we are and do as Nazarenes.</td>
<td>We express the foundation of our unity in the Articles of Faith in the Manual. . . The Articles of Faith establish and reflect who we are and what we do as Nazarenes.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Global English Examples

Original

“To promote evangelism in the local church and seek to conserve the fruits of evangelism.”

Global English

““To promote evangelism in the local church and look for ways to conserve the results of evangelism.””
<table>
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<td>”In addition, other immediate relatives of the pastor may be recused from the interview, . . .”</td>
<td>We defined “immediate family” as spouse, children, siblings, or parents.” Immediate family has different meanings in different cultures.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Global English Examples

Original
“The task of the council is to... make provisions* for these plans.”

Global English
“The task of the council is to... supply resources for these plans.”

*Provisions relates to food supplies.
“The remuneration of the pastor. . .”

“This includes the power to . . . hypothecate.

“The pastor’s salary or wage. . .”

“This includes the power to . . . pledge money.
Global English Examples

Original
“authority to impanel a committee. . .”

Global English
“authority to appoint a committee. . .”

“The stewards shall constitute the Committee. . .”

“The stewards will form the committee. . .”
Global English Examples

Original
“will not jeopardize the spiritual life of the church.”

Global English
“will not put the spiritual life of the church in danger.”
Donna Gray

• BA, Trevecca Nazarene University, 1982
• MA, Middle Tennessee State University, 1986
• EdD, Trevecca Nazarene University, 2005
• Teaching at TNU, 1988-present
Global English
Several Guiding Principles

• Clarity
• No more than 25 words in a sentence
• Cardinal Rule – “Don’t make any change that will sound unnatural to native speakers of English” (p. 4 of *The Global English Style Guide*).
“Use a verb-centered writing style.”

- “reach an agreement” becomes “agree”
- “make a decision” becomes “decide”
- “provide an explanation” becomes “explain”
- “conduct an investigation” becomes “investigate”

The Global English Style Guide, p. 37
“Limit use of passive voice”
Use only when appropriate.

(Passive) The manual was developed by the management team.
(Active) The management team developed the manual.

“Passive voice is appropriate when the agent of action is unknown or unimportant”
(p. 42 of The Global English Style Guide)
The placement of “only”

General principle – place “only” next to what it modifies.
✓ (Faulty) “Treatment for the most common type of stroke is generally only effective within three hours of the first symptoms.”
✓ (Correct) “Treatment for the most common type of stroke is generally effective only within three hours of the first symptoms.”

Modifies “within three hours of the first symptoms”

The Global English Style Manual, p. 75
Example:

The Church of the Nazarene Manual

Original Version:
Our leaders and pastors are expected to give strong emphasis in our periodicals and from our pulpits to such fundamental biblical truths and will develop the faculty of discrimination between the evil and the good.

Global English Version:
We expect our leaders and pastors to emphasize biblical teachings that help people develop the ability to know the difference between good and evil.
Richard Leslie Parrott

BA, Psychology, Eastern Nazarene College, 1974
MA, Psychology, University of Missouri, 1975
MDiv., Nazarene Theological Seminary, 1980
Ph.D. Ed. Administration, Oregon State University, 1983
Pastor, Church of the Nazarene, 25 years
Director, the Doctor of Ministry Program and Leadership Center, Ashland Theological Seminary
Professor, Trevecca Nazarene University, since 2008
A GLOBAL CHURCH: Our Denomination is established in 162 world areas. We are, in fact, and in mission, a Global Church. Our 100th anniversary, October 6, 2008, was celebrated on the campus of Trevecca Nazarene University under the name, The Sun Never Sets on the Church of the Nazarene.
Psycho-Socio-Linguistics

We see and hear and otherwise experience very largely as we do because the language habits of our community predispose certain choices of interpretation (Sapir, 1933, pp. 155-156).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Common Language</th>
<th>Language Markers</th>
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<td>Language that is understood by everyone.</td>
<td>Language that identifies a specific group</td>
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</table>
DISTINCTIVE LANGUAGE: Cherished Terms*

1. A cherished term identifies the central purpose or ideology of the group.

2. A cherished term is valued, highly esteemed, guarded, prized, and held dear by members of the group.

*Parrott, Ph.D. Dissertation, 1983
(Original) . . . promote and **amplify** the necessity of *holiness evangelism*, by providing training opportunities, by conducting **rallies** and conferences, by emphasizing the need for local church revivals with *God-called evangelists* . . .

(Global) . . . promote and **expand** the following.
• The necessity of *holiness evangelism*
• Training opportunities
• **Rallies** and conferences
• Emphasizing the need for local church revivals with *God-called evangelists*
What’s Next?

We are asking *50 people from all world areas* to evaluate our work:

- Evaluate the personal *value and use* of the Global Manual in your leadership role.
- Evaluate any *problems* with the translation that may negatively impact your leadership.
- Finally, help up *fix problems* in the Manual that the committee has discovered through the process of translation.
Writing in Global English

A few authors have provided specific tips for writing Global English:

• Martin A. Schell – Website – American Services in Asia

• The Global English Style Guide: Writing Clear, Translatable Documentation for a Global Market” By: John R. Kohl