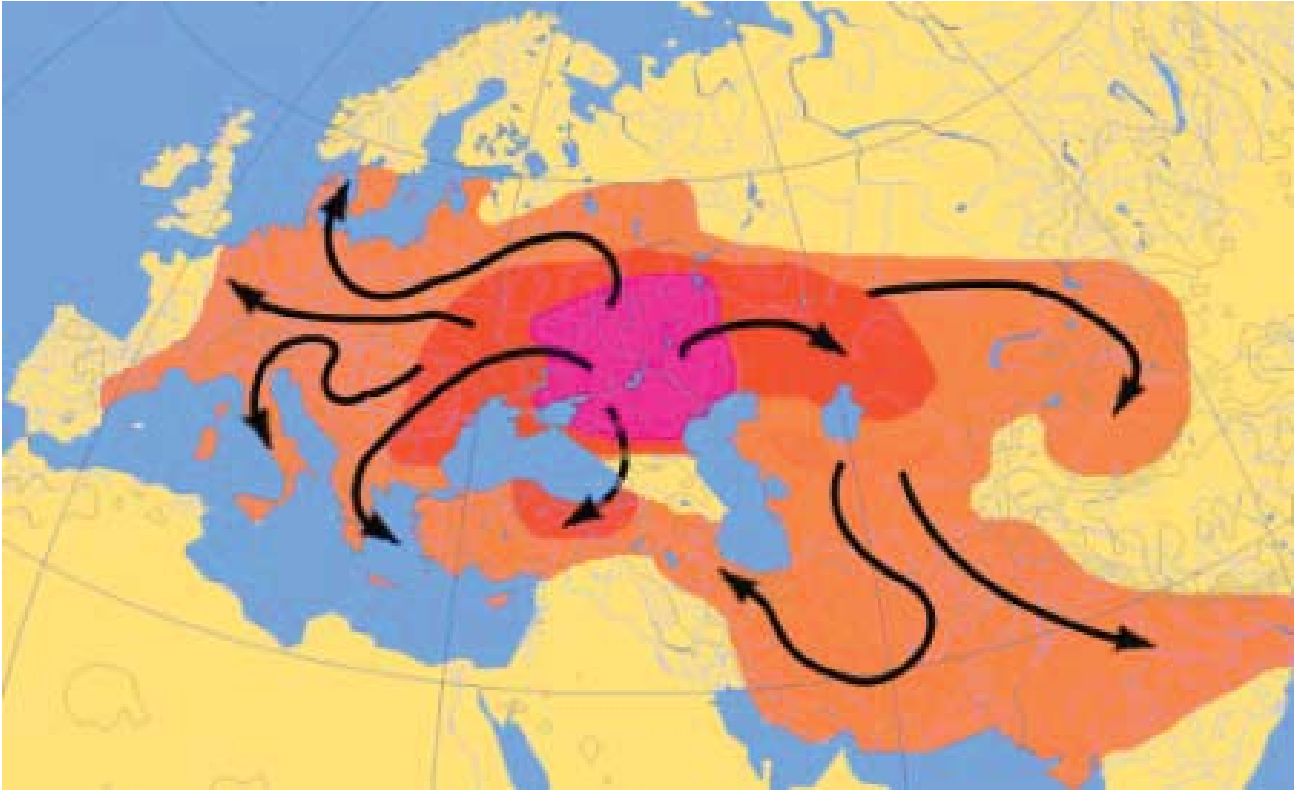


The history of the English Language

1. Proto-Indoeuropean (around 3500-2500 BC)

- Similarities and systematic differences between hundreds of words in many languages found from Europe to India. Examples:

	Engl.	Gothic	Sanskrit	Greek	Latin	PIE
father	father	<u>f</u> adar	pita	pater	pater	*p ^h ater-
foot	foot	<u>f</u> otu	padam	poda	pedem	*ped-
brother	brother	<u>b</u> rothar	b ^h ratar	p ^h rater	<u>f</u> rater	*b ^h rater-
carry	bear	<u>b</u> aira	b ^h arami	p ^h ero	<u>f</u> ero	*b ^h er-
6	six	saihs	sas	<u>h</u> ex	sex	*seks
7	seven	sibun	septa	<u>h</u> epta	septem	*septm
same	same	sama	samah	<u>h</u> omos	simil-	*samos
10	ten	<u>t</u> aihun	dasa	deka	decem	*dekm-
tree	tree	<u>t</u> ruī	dru	drys		*druo-
eat	eat	<u>i</u> tan	ad-	ed-	edere	*ed-
3	three	<u>t</u> hri	tri	tris	tres	*trei-
live	quick	/kwius/	jivah		vivos	*gwei-
man	were- wolf	wair	virah		vir	*wi-ro-



Spread of PIE around 1000 BC



Not many languages in Europe are not Indo-European, e.g. Basque, Finnish, Estonian, Georgian, Hungarian, Turkish



Indo-Iranian branch of Indo-European Languages
(<http://webpace.ship.edu/cgboer/indoeuropeanlanguages.html>)

Language families descended from PIE

Germanic (Gothic, German, **English**, Danish...)

Celtic (Irish Gaelic, Scots Gaelic, Cornish...)

Italic (Latin → French, Italian, Spanish, Romanian...)

Hellenic (Greek)

Balto-Slavic (Latvian, Lithuanian, Russian, Polish,
Czech...)

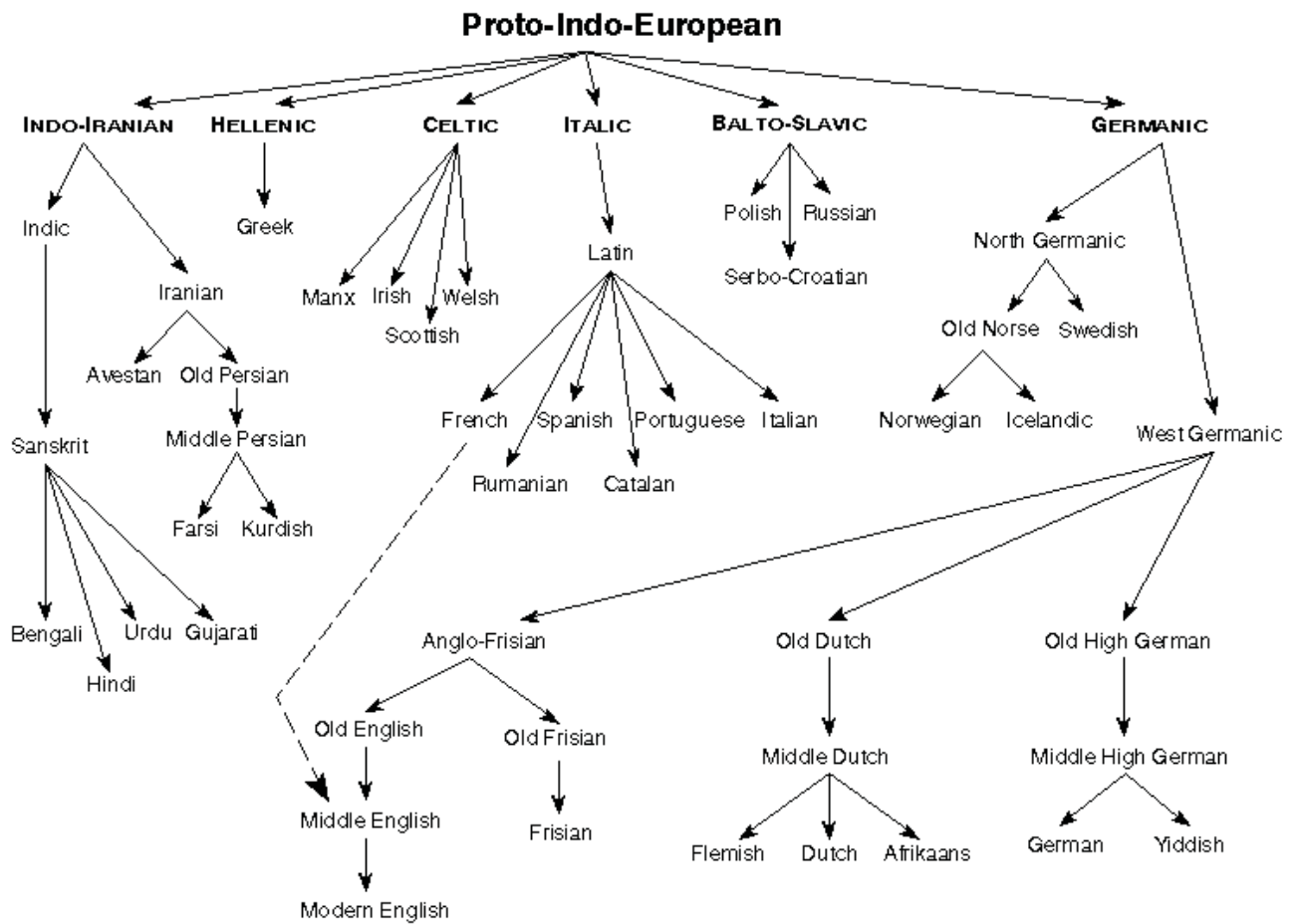
Tocharian (extinct languages in Western China),

Indo-Iranian (Persian, Pashto, Sanskrit, Hindi, Urdu...)

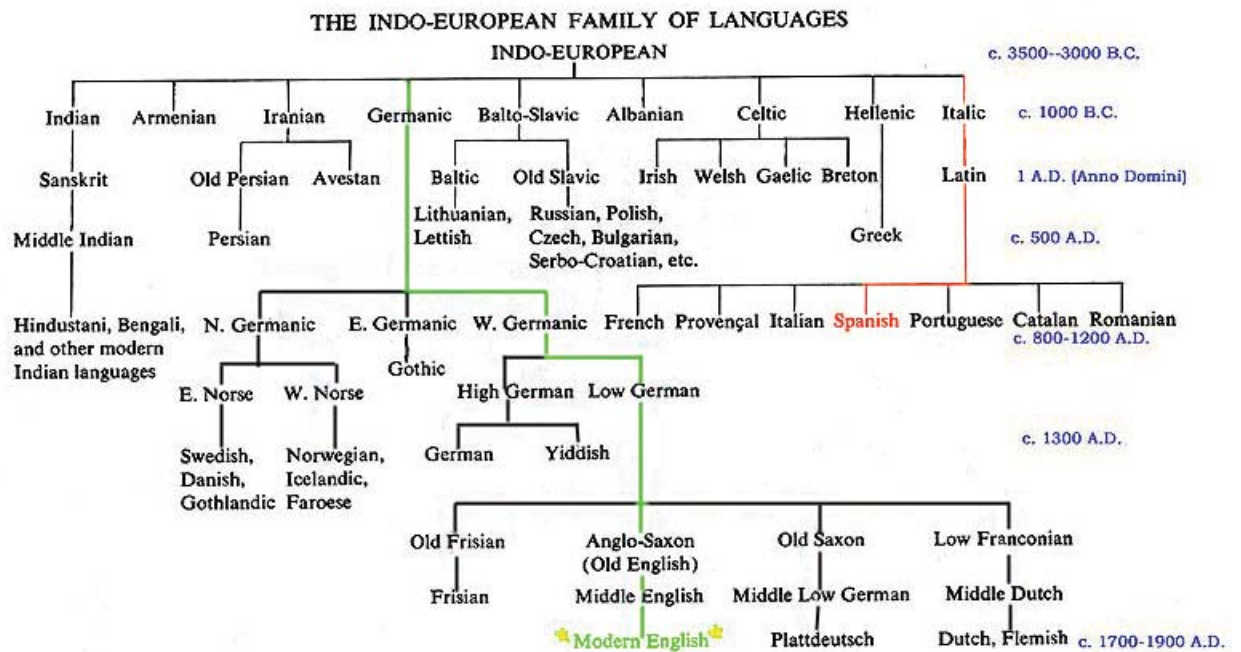
Armenian

Anatolian (extinct languages in Turkey, Syria),

Albanian



Prepared by Jack Lynch, jlynch@andromeda.nfgers.edu



www.linguistics.com/indoeuropean_languages.htm