

1. What is ELF?

ELF is essentially a 'contact language' for people of different first languages for whom English is the chosen means of communication, including native speakers of English when they engage in intercultural communication. However, ELF is emphatically *not* the English as a property of its native speakers, but is democratized and universalized in the 'exolingual' process of being appropriated for international use.

Gnutzmann, Claus. 2000. "Lingua franca". In Byram, Michael (ed.). 2004. *Routledge encyclopedia of language teaching and learning*. London: Routledge, 356-359.

Mauranen, Anna. 2005. "English as lingua franca: An unknown language?". In Cortese, Guiseppina; Duszak, Anna (eds.). *Identity, community, discourse. English in intercultural settings*. Bern: Peter Lang, 269-293.

Seidlhofer, Barbara. 2001. "Closing a conceptual gap: the case for a description of English as a lingua franca". *International Journal of Applied Linguistics* 11, 133-158.

Seidlhofer, Barbara; Breiteneder, Angelika; Pitzl, Marie-Luise. 2006. "English as a lingua franca in Europe". *Annual Review of Applied Linguistics* 26, 1-34.

2. Is ELF 'learner English'?

While all of us are, in a sense, life-long learners of any language, including our mother tongue (for instance when we extend our language use into new domains), there is still a (traditional) distinction made between the concepts of 'language learner' and 'language user'. With reference to this distinction, ELF speakers are not considered merely *learners* striving to conform to native-speaker norms but primarily *users* of the language, where the main consideration is not formal correctness but functional effectiveness. Of course using and learning are related (you can learn while using), but the point is that with ELF the emphasis is on use and the learning is incidental. This user language may certainly exhibit the same forms as learner English, but the significance of the forms is a different one.

Jenkins, Jennifer. 2006. "Points of view and blind spots: ELF and SLA". *International Journal of Applied Linguistics* 16, 136-62.

Jenkins, Jennifer. 2006. "Current perspectives on teaching world Englishes and English as a lingua franca". *TESOL Quarterly* 40, 157-181.

Seidlhofer, Barbara. 2004. "Research perspectives on teaching English as a lingua franca". *Annual Review of Applied Linguistics* 24, 209-239.

Seidlhofer, Barbara. 2005. "Standard future or half-baked quackery? Descriptive and pedagogic bearings on the globalisation of English". In Gnutzmann, Claus; Intemann, Frauke (eds.). *The globalisation of English and the English language classroom*. Tübingen: Gunter Narr, 155-169.

Seidlhofer, Barbara. 2007. "Common property: English as a lingua franca in Europe". In Cummins, Jim; Davison, Chris (eds.). *International handbook of English language teaching*. New York: Springer, 137-153.

3. Is ELF 'bad' English?

As we conceive of it, ELF is not bad or *deficient* English – it is just *different in form* from native speaker English and serves *different functions*. It does not in principle lack the potential to be effective for all the communicative purposes it is appropriated for. It can occur in any kind of intercultural communication ranging from the most rudimentary utterances to highly elaborate arguments. Proficiency in ELF, i.e. the ability to achieve mutual intelligibility in intercultural exchanges, seems to be determined by aspects such as cooperation, accommodation, lingua-cultural awareness and open-mindedness towards innovative linguistic forms rather than formal linguistic criteria.

Böhringer, Heike. 2007. *The sound of silence: silent and filled pauses in English as a lingua franca business interaction*. MA thesis, University of Vienna.

Breiteneder, Angelika. 2005. "The naturalness of English as a European lingua franca: the case of the 'third person -s'". *VIEWWS* 14/2, 3-26. <http://www.univie.ac.at/Anglistik/Views0502ALL.pdf>.

Cogo, Alessia; Dewey, Martin. 2006. "Efficiency in ELF communication: from pragmatic motives to lexico-grammatical innovation". *Nordic Journal of English Studies* 5/2, 59-93. <http://hdl.handle.net/2077/3148>.

Hülmbauer, Cornelia. 2007. "'You moved, aren't?' – The relationship between lexicogrammatical correctness and communicative effectiveness in English as a lingua franca". *VIEWWS* 16/2, 3-35. http://www.univie.ac.at/Anglistik/Views_0702.pdf.

Lichtkoppler, Julia. 2007. "'Male. Male.' — 'Male?' — 'The sex is male.'" The role of repetition in English as a lingua franca conversations". *VIEWWS* 16/1, 39-65. http://www.univie.ac.at/Anglistik/views_0701.PDF.

Pitzl, Marie-Luise. 2005. "Non-understanding in English as a lingua franca: examples from a business context". *VIEWWS* 14/2, 50-71. <http://www.univie.ac.at/Anglistik/Views0502mlp.pdf>.

Seidlhofer, Barbara. 2003. "Englisch als Lingua Franca und seine Rolle in der internationalen Wissensvermittlung. Ein Aufruf zur Selbstbehauptung". In Braun, S. & Kohn, K. (eds.). *Sprache[n] in der Wissensgesellschaft*. Frankfurt am Main: Peter Lang 2005, 27-45.

4. Does ELF exclude all use of other languages?

ELF relates to other languages in the sense that it is evolving within a multilingual context. Influences of other languages are a natural and crucial characteristic of ELF at all linguistic levels (phonological, lexicogrammatical and pragmatic). As a means of communication, ELF is only one of several components of the multilingual repertoire of speakers and often combines with other languages as appropriate to the intercultural communicative situation. ELF is essentially a 'partner language'.

Hülmbauer, Cornelia; Böhringer, Heike; Seidlhofer, Barbara. 2009. "Introducing English as a lingua franca (ELF): Precursor and partner in intercultural communication". In Cali, Chantal; Stegu, Martin; Vetter, Eva (eds.). *Enseigner - apprendre - utiliser le français langue internationale en Europe aujourd'hui: pour une perspective comparatiste*. *Synergies Europe* 3/09, 25-36. <http://ressources-cla.univ-fcomte.fr/gerflint/Europe3/hulmbauer.pdf>.

Jenkins, Jennifer. 2000. *The phonology of English as an international language*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Klimpfinger, Theresa. 2007. "'Mind you sometimes you have to mix' – The role of code-switching in English as a lingua franca". *VIEWWS* 16/2, 36-61. http://www.univie.ac.at/Anglistik/Views_0702.pdf.

Mondada, Lorenza. 2005. "Ways of 'doing being plurilingual' in international work meetings". In Gardner, Rod; Wagner, Johannes. (eds.). *Second language conversations*. London: Continuum, 18-39.

5. Do I speak ELF?

In line with our definition, *any* speaker using English for the purpose of intercultural communication (i.e. with a speaker of a different L1), in principle, speaks ELF – unless they (inappropriately) insist on speaking 'endolingually'. ELF is thus defined *functionally* by its use in intercultural communication rather than *formally* by its reference to native speaker norms. The crucial point is that speakers of whatever L1 can appropriate ELF for their own purposes without over-deference to native-speaker norms. This counteracts a deficit view of lingua franca English in that it implies equal communicative rights for all its users.

barbara.seidlhofer@univie.ac.at heike.boehringer@univie.ac.at cornelia.huelmbauer@univie.ac.at
--