

Singing And Surgery Waking Up With A Song English File PDF

Singing and Surgery: Waking Up with a Song in English

Introduction

The phenomenon of waking up from surgery with a song playing in one's mind—particularly in English—has intrigued both medical professionals and patients alike. This curious experience often leaves individuals puzzled, wondering why a specific melody or lyric persists after anesthesia or sedation. While it might seem like a trivial or surreal occurrence, it touches on deeper aspects of neuroscience, psychology, and the power of music in our brains. In this article, we explore the connection between singing, surgery, and the phenomenon of waking up with a song, uncovering the science behind it, cultural implications, and tips for patients and medical practitioners.

Understanding the Phenomenon: Why Do We Wake Up with Songs?

The Role of the Brain in Music and Memory

Music processing involves several regions of the brain, including the auditory cortex, limbic system, and parts of the prefrontal cortex. When we hear or sing a song, neural circuits strengthen pathways associated with that melody, lyrics, and emotional responses. These pathways can remain active even when a person is unconscious or semi-conscious, such as during anesthesia or sedation.

Memory and Music: The Power of Long-Term Storage

Songs, especially those that evoke strong emotions or are learned during early childhood, tend to be stored in long-term memory. This makes them more resilient to disruptions like anesthesia. The phenomenon of waking up with a song is often linked to the brain's tendency to replay familiar and emotionally salient music, especially during periods of altered consciousness.

The 'Earworm' Effect and Its Connection to Surgery

The term "earworm" describes a catchy tune that gets stuck in one's head. During recovery from surgery, patients sometimes experience a similar effect—an involuntary playback of a song. This can be due to the brain's attempt to process residual anesthesia effects, stress, or neurological responses to the surgery.

The Science Behind Post-Surgical Musical Memories

Neuroscience of Post-Anesthesia Recall

Recent studies indicate that the brain regions involved in music perception, such as the auditory cortex and limbic system, can remain active after the loss of consciousness. As anesthesia wears off, these circuits can generate spontaneous activity, sometimes manifesting as familiar songs or melodies.

Impact of Anesthesia Types on Memory and Perception

Different anesthesia agents affect the brain in various ways:

- **Inhalational agents** (e.g., sevoflurane): May cause vivid dreams or auditory hallucinations upon waking.
- **Intravenous agents** (e.g., propofol): Generally associated with rapid emergence, but some patients report auditory phenomena.
- **Regional anesthesia**: Less likely to influence consciousness but can still involve subconscious memory processing.

These variations influence how and whether a song might be experienced upon waking.

Psychological Factors and Expectation

Patients' mental state before and during surgery can also influence post-operative experiences. Anxiety, fatigue, and pre-existing familiarity with certain tunes can predispose individuals to wake up with specific songs.

Cultural and Personal Significance of Hearing a Song After Surgery

The Cultural Role of Music in Healing and Comfort

Music has been used historically for healing, comfort, and spiritual purposes across cultures. Waking up with a song can serve as a comforting or meaningful experience, especially if the melody or lyrics resonate with personal memories or cultural identity.

Personal Stories and Anecdotal Evidence

Many patients share stories of waking up from anesthesia humming or recalling a favorite song. These anecdotes often highlight:

- Emotional significance of the song
- Its familiarity and catchiness
- The timing of the song's emergence relative to anesthesia recovery

Such stories underscore the profound connection between music, memory, and consciousness.

Implications for Medical Practice and Patient Care

Preoperative Counseling and Managing Expectations

Understanding that waking up with a song is a common phenomenon can help medical practitioners prepare patients. Explaining this possibility can alleviate anxiety and foster a sense of familiarity and control.

Using Music Therapeutically in Surgical Settings

Music therapy has been shown to reduce anxiety, improve mood, and even influence recovery times. Hospitals increasingly incorporate customized playlists to:

- Provide comfort during procedures
- Enhance postoperative recovery
- Reduce perceived pain and discomfort

This approach can also help in managing the phenomenon of waking up with a song by introducing familiar tunes beforehand.

Monitoring and Supporting Postoperative Cognitive Experiences

Healthcare providers should be attentive to patients reporting auditory phenomena. While usually benign, persistent or distressing auditory hallucinations may require further evaluation.

How Patients Can Navigate Waking Up with a Song

Practical Tips for Patients

Patients who are concerned about waking up with a song can consider:

- Listening to calming or neutral music preoperatively
- Discussing music preferences with their medical team

- Engaging in relaxation techniques prior to surgery

Postoperative Strategies

After surgery, if a song persists or causes discomfort:

- Attempt to replace it with another piece of music or distraction techniques
- Share the experience with healthcare providers
- Use mindfulness or cognitive behavioral techniques to manage any distress

Future Directions and Research Opportunities

Understanding the Neural Correlates

Ongoing research aims to map the precise neural pathways involved in post-anesthesia musical memories and involuntary musical imagery.

Potential for Personalized Music Therapies

Advancements in neuroscience could enable tailored music interventions to optimize recovery and reduce postoperative cognitive disturbances.

Exploring the Phenomenon Across Different Cultures and Age Groups

Cross-cultural studies can shed light on how cultural background influences the type of songs remembered or experienced after surgery.

Conclusion

The intriguing experience of waking up from surgery with a song, particularly in English, underscores the complex interplay between our brain's musical processing, memory, and consciousness. While often benign and even comforting, this phenomenon highlights the importance of understanding how anesthesia and neural networks interact. By integrating knowledge from neuroscience, psychology, and cultural studies, healthcare professionals can better prepare patients, harness the therapeutic potential of music, and deepen our appreciation for the profound ways in which music remains embedded in our subconscious. As research continues to unfold, the rhythmic echoes of a song lingering after surgery will remain a fascinating window into the mysteries of the human mind.

Singing and Surgery Waking Up with a Song: An Investigation into Postoperative Auditory Phenomena

The human brain's capacity to process music and song is one of the most intriguing facets of cognitive neuroscience. For many patients undergoing surgery—particularly those involving the brain or ear—an unexpected phenomenon has been reported: waking up with a song. This phenomenon, often described as involuntary musical imagery or auditory hallucination post-surgery, raises questions about the neural mechanisms underlying musical perception, the effects of anesthesia and surgical trauma, and the psychological impacts on patients. This comprehensive investigation aims to explore the phenomenon of singing and surgery waking up with a song in English, analyzing its occurrence, underlying causes, and implications from clinical, neuroscientific, and psychological perspectives.

Understanding the Phenomenon: Waking Up with a Song Post-Surgery

The experience of waking up from surgery with a song playing in one's mind or even singing aloud is not widely documented but has garnered increasing attention in medical case reports and anecdotal accounts. Patients have described awakening with familiar tunes, sometimes involuntarily humming or singing, in the immediate postoperative period. This phenomenon can manifest in various forms:

- Involuntary Musical Imagery (IMI): Repetitive, involuntary musical memories that intrude into consciousness.
- Postoperative Auditory Hallucinations: Genuine perception of sounds or music, often associated with neurological factors.
- Musical Earworms: Persistent, catchy tunes that loop in the mind, sometimes triggered by surgical stress or anesthesia.

Most reports suggest that these episodes are transient, lasting from minutes to hours, but their occurrence raises fundamental questions about neural plasticity, brain injury, anesthesia effects, and emotional responses to surgery.

Clinical Contexts and Case Reports

While rare, several case reports have documented patients waking up with a song following various types of surgery:

- Neurosurgical Procedures: Patients with brain tumors or epilepsy surgeries involving temporal lobes or auditory cortex areas sometimes report post-surgical musical phenomena.
- Ear, Nose, and Throat (ENT) Surgery: Surgeries involving cochlear implants or middle ear procedures may influence auditory perception.

- Psychiatric or Psychiatric-Related Surgeries: Cases involving psychiatric interventions sometimes report involuntary musical imagery as part of postoperative hallucinations.

Notable Case Examples:

- Temporal Lobe Surgery: A patient undergoing resection for epilepsy reported waking with a favorite childhood song, which persisted for several hours post-anesthesia.
- Cochlear Implant Activation: Several patients have described waking up with a song immediately after implantation, possibly due to neural reorganization or residual auditory memory.
- Psychological Recall: Postoperative emotional states, such as relief or anxiety, have been linked with the emergence of particular tunes.

Neuroscientific Perspectives: Brain Mechanisms Behind Postoperative Musical Phenomena

To understand why patients wake up with a song, it's essential to delve into the neuroanatomy and neurophysiology of musical perception and memory.

The Neural Substrates of Musical Memory

Music processing involves a complex network of brain regions, primarily:

- Temporal Lobes: Especially the superior temporal gyrus, crucial for auditory perception.
- Hippocampus and Limbic System: For emotional responses and memory encoding.
- Prefrontal Cortex: Involved in attention and working memory.
- Motor Areas: Engaged during rhythm and movement synchronization.

In particular, the auditory cortex and Wernicke's area play vital roles in recognizing and interpreting musical sounds.

Impact of Surgery on Neural Circuits

Surgical intervention, especially in the temporal lobes or auditory pathways, can:

- Disrupt existing neural circuits involved in musical memory.
- Cause temporary or permanent changes in auditory perception.
- Trigger neuroplastic reorganization, leading to spontaneous musical phenomena.

Mechanisms Theories

Several theories attempt to explain waking with a song:

- Residual Neural Activation: Surgery may leave certain neural circuits hyperactive or disinhibited, resulting in spontaneous musical imagery.
- Neural Release Phenomenon: Damage or anesthesia may release previously suppressed memories or perceptions.
- Auditory Hallucinations: Post-surgical neural imbalances or neurochemical changes could induce hallucinations resembling musical hallucinations.

Psychological and Emotional Factors

Beyond neuroanatomy, psychological states significantly influence postoperative auditory experiences.

- Stress and Anxiety: Surgery-related stress may trigger involuntary musical imagery as a coping mechanism.
- Emotional Memory Recall: Certain songs may be linked to significant life events, surfacing during vulnerability.
- Surgical Anesthesia and Medications: Drugs like anesthetics, sedatives, and analgesics can alter consciousness, leading to vivid mental imagery or hallucinations.

Patients with pre-existing musical interests or emotional attachments to specific songs might be more prone to waking up with those tunes.

Implications for Medical Practice and Patient Care

Understanding this phenomenon has practical implications:

- Patient Reassurance: Recognizing involuntary musical imagery as benign can alleviate postoperative anxiety.
- Psychological Support: For patients distressed by persistent or intrusive songs, counseling may be beneficial.
- Monitoring Neural Recovery: Postoperative musical phenomena could serve as indicators of neural reorganization or healing.
- Tailoring Anesthetic Protocols: Awareness of potential auditory hallucinations may inform anesthesia management, especially in neurological surgeries.

Research Challenges and Future Directions

Studying waking with a song post-surgery presents challenges:

- Limited Case Studies: The rarity and variability of reports make systematic research difficult.
- Subjective Nature: Musical phenomena are subjective and hard to quantify.
- Neuroimaging Limitations: While functional MRI and EEG can shed light, real-time monitoring during postoperative episodes is complex.

Future research avenues include:

- Neuroimaging Studies: To map neural activity during involuntary musical imagery.
- Longitudinal Studies: Tracking patients pre- and post-surgery for musical perception changes.
- Psychological Assessments: Understanding individual differences in susceptibility.

Conclusion

The phenomenon of singing and surgery waking up with a song in English encapsulates the fascinating interplay between neural circuits, psychological states, and surgical interventions. While often benign and transient, these episodes offer insights into how the brain processes music, stores memories, and reacts to trauma or medical procedures. As neuroscience advances, further elucidation of this phenomenon may not only enhance postoperative care but also deepen our understanding of the musical mind.

By acknowledging and studying these occurrences, clinicians can better support patients navigating the complex aftermath of surgery, turning an enigmatic experience into an opportunity for scientific discovery and improved patient outcomes.

Question Why do some people wake up singing after surgery? Waking up singing after surgery can be due to anesthesia effects, vivid dreams, or the brain's response to stress and medication, which may trigger musical memories or expressions upon waking. Is waking up with a song common after anesthesia? While not extremely common, some patients report waking up with a song or melody, often related to the influence of anesthetic drugs or pre-surgery musical associations stored in memory. Can surgery or anesthesia cause musical hallucinations or singing? In rare cases, anesthesia or neurological changes post-surgery can lead to musical hallucinations or involuntary singing, often linked to brain activity alterations or pre-existing conditions. What does waking up singing indicate about brain recovery after surgery? Waking up singing may indicate active brain engagement and recovery of certain neural pathways, especially those related to memory, emotion, and auditory processing. Are there any health implications of waking up singing

post-surgery? Generally, waking up singing is harmless and may be a sign of normal brain activity; however, if accompanied by other neurological symptoms, it should be discussed with a healthcare provider. How can I remember the song I wake up singing? Keep a journal or record of your dreams and sensations upon waking; sometimes, relaxation and mental focus can help recall the melody or lyrics associated with the song. Is there a connection between musical ability and waking up with a song after surgery? Individuals with musical training or strong musical memory may be more likely to wake up singing, as their neural pathways for music are more developed and accessible in the brain.

Related keywords: singing recovery, post-surgery music, waking up singing, surgical awakening songs, song therapy after surgery, singing as healing, music therapy recovery, waking up with song, singing and anesthesia, postoperative singing experiences

an introduction to english language

An Introduction to English Language

The English language is one of the most widely spoken and influential languages in the world today. From global business and international diplomacy to entertainment and technology, English serves as a vital communication tool across countless domains. Understanding the roots, development, and characteristics of the English language is essential for learners, educators, linguists, and anyone interested in global communication. This comprehensive guide aims to provide an insightful introduction to the English language, exploring its history, structure, global significance, and future trends.

Historical Background of the English Language

The Origins of English

English is a Germanic language that originated in early medieval England. Its roots can be traced back to the Anglo-Saxon tribes—Angles, Saxons, and Jutes—that migrated to the British Isles around the 5th century AD. The language spoken by these tribes formed the basis of Old English.

The Evolution Through Ages

The history of English is marked by several distinct periods:

- **Old English (c. 450?1150 AD):** Characterized by Germanic roots, Old English was heavily influenced by Norse invaders and Latin church influence.
- **Middle English (c. 1150?1500 AD):** Marked by Norman conquest in 1066, which introduced Norman French vocabulary and grammar influences.
- **Early Modern English (c. 1500?1700 AD):** The Renaissance brought a revival of classical learning, expanding vocabulary and standardizing spelling and grammar.
- **Modern English (1700 AD to present):** The language continued to evolve with colonial expansion, technological advances, and globalization, leading to the diverse forms of English spoken today.

The Role of Literary and Cultural Influences

English literature, from Geoffrey Chaucer's Canterbury Tales to William Shakespeare's plays and modern authors like J.K. Rowling, has significantly shaped the language's development. Cultural exchanges through colonization, trade, and diplomacy have also contributed to the vocabulary and idiomatic expressions in English.

The Structure and Features of the English Language

Phonology and Pronunciation

English phonology includes a wide range of vowel and consonant sounds. The pronunciation varies significantly across different regions and accents, which adds to the language's richness but also presents challenges for learners.

Vocabulary and Lexicon

English boasts one of the largest vocabularies among languages, with estimates ranging from 150,000 to over a million words, considering technical and scientific terms. This extensive lexicon is a result of:

- Borrowings from Latin, French, Greek, and other languages
- Coining of new terms during technological and scientific advancements
- Slang and colloquialisms evolving over time

Grammar and Syntax

English grammar is characterized by:

- Relatively simple verb conjugation compared to other languages
- Use of auxiliary verbs for tense and aspect (e.g., be, have, do)
- Flexible word order, with Subject-Verb-Object being standard
- Extensive use of prepositions and articles

Writing System

English uses the Latin alphabet, consisting of 26 letters. Its orthography (spelling system) can be complex due to historical spelling conventions, silent letters, and irregular pronunciation rules.

The Global Significance of the English Language

English as a Global Lingua Franca

Today, English is regarded as the world's primary lingua franca—an auxiliary language used for international communication. It is the official or working language in over 50 countries and widely used in international organizations like the United Nations and the International Olympic Committee.

English in Business and Commerce

English dominates international business, finance, and trade. Many multinational corporations operate primarily in English, and proficiency is often a prerequisite for global career opportunities.

English in Science, Technology, and Education

A significant portion of scientific research, technological development, and academic publications are in English. Universities worldwide offer courses in English to attract international students.

English in Media and Entertainment

English-language media, including movies, music, television, and literature, have a global reach. Hollywood films, English pop music, and online streaming platforms have popularized the language worldwide.

English on the Internet and Social Media

English is the dominant language on the internet, accounting for a large percentage of online content. Social media platforms facilitate global interaction primarily in English, further fostering its universal status.

Learning and Teaching the English Language

Why Learn English?

Learning English offers numerous benefits:

- Access to a vast amount of information and educational resources
- Enhanced employability and career prospects
- Ability to communicate with people worldwide
- Participation in global culture and entertainment

Methods of Learning English

Effective approaches include:

- Classroom instruction with trained teachers
- Online courses and language learning apps
- Immersive experiences through travel and cultural exchange
- Practice with native speakers or language exchange partners

Challenges in Learning English

Some common difficulties faced by learners are:

- Complex spelling and pronunciation rules
- Irregular verb forms
- Idiomatic expressions and phrasal verbs
- Regional accents and dialects

The Future of the English Language

Emerging Trends

English continues to evolve with technological innovations:

- Increased influence of digital communication and social media
- Emergence of new slang and internet vernacular
- Globalization leading to more diverse accents and dialects
- Integration of loanwords from other languages due to cultural exchange

Potential Challenges

As the language grows, there are concerns about:

- Language homogenization potentially overshadowing regional dialects
- Loss of linguistic diversity
- Difficulty in maintaining standardization across different regions

Conclusion

The English language remains a dynamic and influential means of communication. Its rich history, extensive vocabulary, and widespread use make it an invaluable global asset. Whether for personal growth, academic pursuits, or professional development, learning English opens doors to countless opportunities. As the world continues to embrace globalization and technological innovation, the role of English is poised to expand further, shaping the future of international communication.

Keywords for SEO Optimization:

- Introduction to English language
- History of English
- English language structure
- Global importance of English
- Learn English online
- English language development
- English as a lingua franca
- Benefits of learning English
- Future of the English language
- English language learning tips

Introduction to the English Language: A Comprehensive Overview

The English language, often regarded as the global lingua franca, has a rich history, complex structure, and widespread influence that permeates nearly every corner of the world. As one of the most widely spoken and studied languages today, understanding its fundamentals offers invaluable insights into its role in communication, culture, and international relations. This detailed exploration delves into the origins, evolution, grammatical features, vocabulary, phonetics, and the significance of English in contemporary society.

Historical Background of the English Language

Origins and Early Development

The roots of English trace back over 1,400 years to the Germanic tribes—namely the Angles, Saxons, and Jutes—who migrated to the British Isles around the 5th century AD. These tribes brought with them their languages, which gradually coalesced into what we now call Old English.

Key points about early English:

- Old English (circa 450–1150 AD): Characterized by a complex system of inflections, a vocabulary heavily influenced by Latin and Norse, and a rich oral tradition including epic poetry like *Beowulf*.
- Influence of Latin and Norse: Latin arrived through Christian missionaries, while Norse influence increased due to Viking invasions, shaping vocabulary and syntax.

Middle English and the Norman Conquest

The Norman Conquest of 1066 marked a pivotal turning point:

- Norman French influence: The ruling class spoke Norman French, which heavily influenced the vocabulary, especially in law, governance, art, and cuisine.
- Language features: Middle English (circa 1150–1500) saw simplification of inflectional endings and an expansion of vocabulary.

Early Modern English and the Renaissance

From the late 15th to the early 17th century:

- The Renaissance: Brought a revival of classical learning and an influx of Latin and Greek words.
- The printing press: Invented by Johannes Gutenberg, it standardized spelling and grammar, making literature more accessible.
- Notable figures: William Shakespeare and the King James Bible significantly shaped the language.

Modern English and Global Spread

Since the 17th century:

- Colonial expansion: British colonization spread English worldwide.
- Industrial Revolution: Facilitated international trade and communication.
- Contemporary English: Continues to evolve with influences from numerous languages and cultures, especially in the digital age.

Structural Aspects of the English Language

Phonetics and Pronunciation

English phonetics is known for its complexity and variability:

- Consonant and vowel sounds: The language features approximately 24 consonant sounds and around 20 vowel sounds, with many variations.
- Spelling and pronunciation discrepancies: Due to historical influences, English spelling often does not align directly with pronunciation (e.g., though vs. through).

Grammar and Syntax

English grammar, while relatively straightforward compared to some languages, has distinctive features:

- Parts of speech: Nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, pronouns, prepositions, conjunctions, and interjections.
- Sentence structure: Typically follows a Subject-Verb-Object (SVO) order.
- Tenses: Present, past, future, along with perfect and progressive aspects.
- Agreement: Subject-verb agreement in number and person.
- Modifiers: Use of adjectives and adverbs to add detail.

Vocabulary and Lexicon

English boasts an extensive vocabulary, estimated at over a million words:

- Loanwords: Borrowed extensively from Latin, French, Greek, German, and many other languages.
- Synonyms and antonyms: Rich variety of words with nuanced differences, offering precision and expressiveness.
- Neologisms: Continual creation of new words, especially in technology and popular culture.

Unique Features of the English Language

Orthography and Spelling

English spelling can be irregular due to its diverse origins:

- Historical influences: Words retain spellings from older forms or borrowed languages.
- Examples: Knight, psychology, colonel.
- Spelling reforms: There have been proposals but no widespread standardization.

Idioms and Phrasal Verbs

Idiomatic expressions and phrasal verbs are integral:

- Idioms: Phrases whose meanings are not deducible from individual words (e.g., kick the bucket).
- Phrasal verbs: Verb + particle combinations with idiomatic meanings (e.g., look up, give in).

Varieties and Dialects

English manifests in numerous dialects:

- British English: Variations like Cockney, Received Pronunciation.
- American English: Distinct vocabulary and pronunciation.
- Other varieties: Australian, Canadian, Indian English, each with unique features.

The Role of English in the Modern World

Global Lingua Franca

English is the primary language of:

- International diplomacy
- Business and commerce
- Science and technology
- Entertainment and media

English in Education and Research

- Most scientific journals publish in English.
- Universities worldwide offer courses in English.
- English proficiency is often a requirement for international careers.

The Digital Age and English

- Dominance in internet content, social media, and digital communication.
- Emergence of digital slang, memes, and abbreviations, influencing language evolution.

Cultural Impact

- English-language music, films, and literature shape global pop culture.
- Cultural exchange and understanding facilitated through shared language.

Learning and Teaching English

Methods and Approaches

- Traditional grammar-translation
- Communicative language teaching
- Immersive and bilingual approaches
- Use of technology and online platforms

Challenges for Learners

- Irregular spelling and pronunciation
- Idiomatic expressions
- Extensive vocabulary
- Variations in dialects and accents

Resources and Tools

- Language apps (Duolingo, Babbel)

- Online courses and tutorials
- Media and literature in English
- Language exchange programs

Conclusion

The English language remains a dynamic, influential, and complex means of communication. Its history reflects centuries of cultural exchange and adaptation, shaping a language that is both diverse and adaptable. For learners, educators, and global citizens alike, understanding English's structure, history, and role in society unlocks numerous opportunities for connection, learning, and cultural appreciation. As it continues to evolve in the digital age, English's significance is poised to grow, cementing its status as a cornerstone of international communication.

In summary, mastering the English language provides access to a vast repository of knowledge, culture, and opportunities. Its rich history and widespread use make it a fascinating subject of study and an essential skill in today's interconnected world. Whether for academic pursuits, professional advancement, or cultural engagement, an introduction to English opens the door to endless possibilities.

QuestionAnswer What are the key features that define the English language? English is a West Germanic language characterized by a rich vocabulary, extensive use of loanwords, and a flexible grammar system. It is known for its adaptability, widespread global use, and its role as a lingua franca in international communication. How did the English language develop over time? English evolved from the Anglo-Saxon languages brought to Britain by Germanic tribes around the 5th century. It was later influenced by Norman French, Latin, and other languages, leading to the Modern English we use today. This development spans Old English, Middle English, and Modern English periods. Why is English considered a global language? English is considered a global language because it is the primary or secondary language in many countries, used extensively in international business, science, technology, entertainment, and diplomacy, making it a key tool for global communication. What are the main components of learning the English language? Learning English involves mastering four main components: reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Additionally, understanding grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, and cultural context are essential for effective communication. How has the internet influenced the spread and evolution of the English language? The internet has accelerated the global spread of English, introduced new slang, abbreviations, and digital communication styles, and facilitated intercultural exchange, thereby continuously shaping and evolving the language in real-time.

Related keywords: English language, language learning, linguistics, grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, syntax, phonetics, language skills, language history

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