



Sociolinguistics

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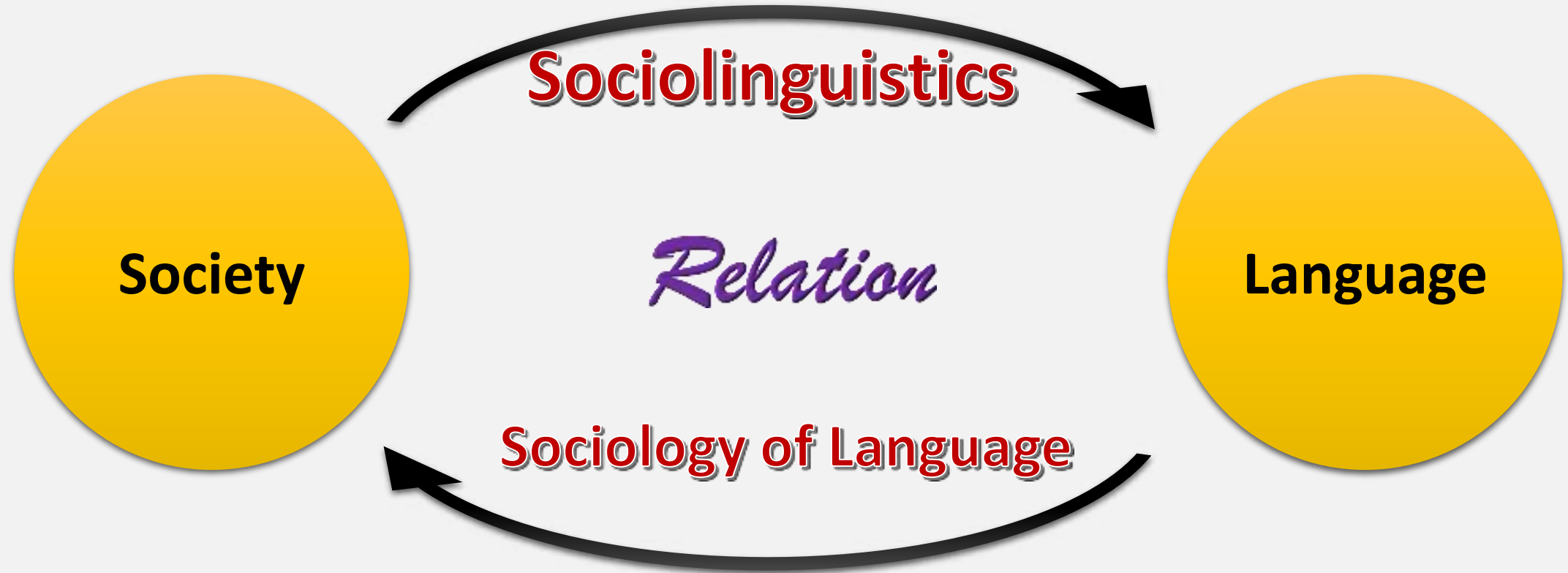
Sociolinguistics

Society
(*Sociology*)

+

Language
(*Linguistics*)

Sociolinguistics





Sociolinguistics

The scientific study of the **effect** of the different *aspects* of society on language.



Which Aspects?



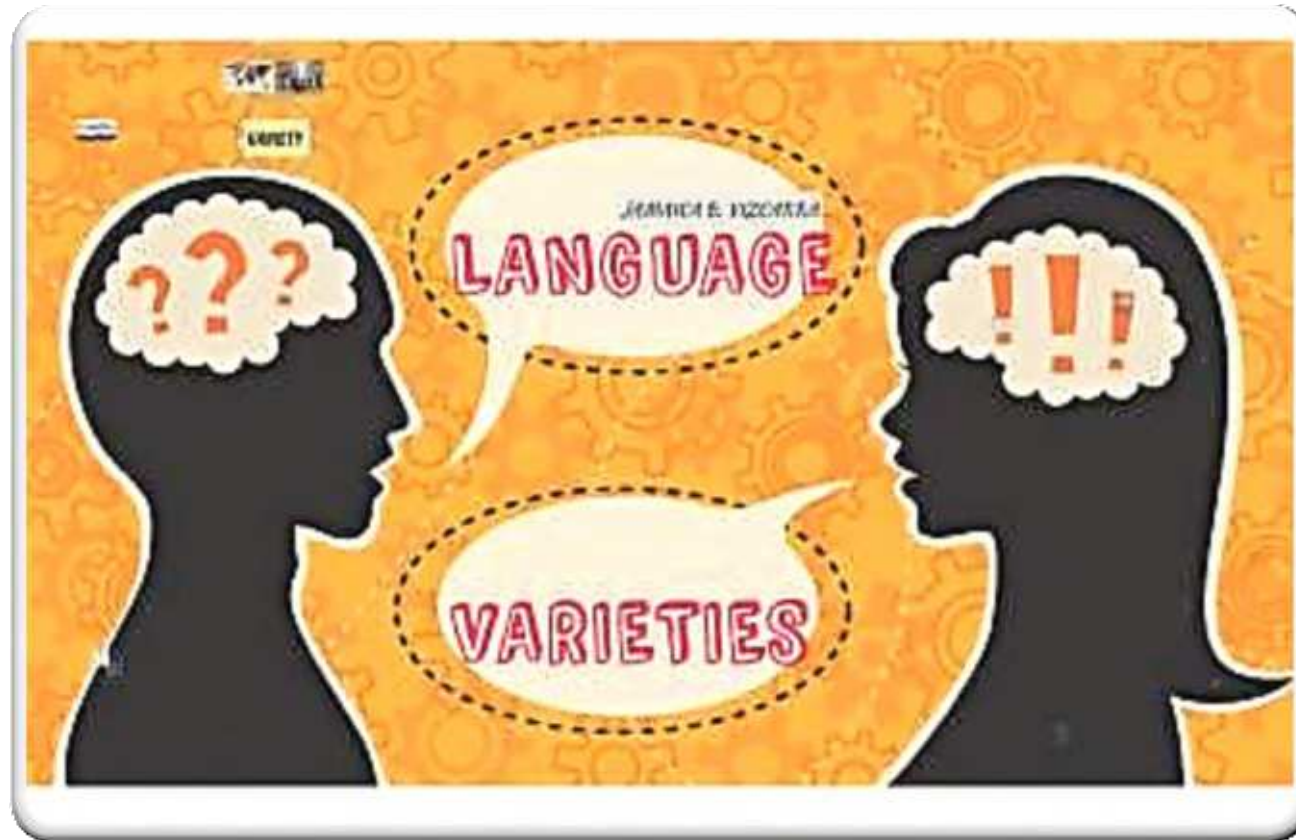
**If you were a sociolinguist,
what questions you might ask
and try to answer?**



Why humans speak different languages?



Why do we have many varieties in one language?



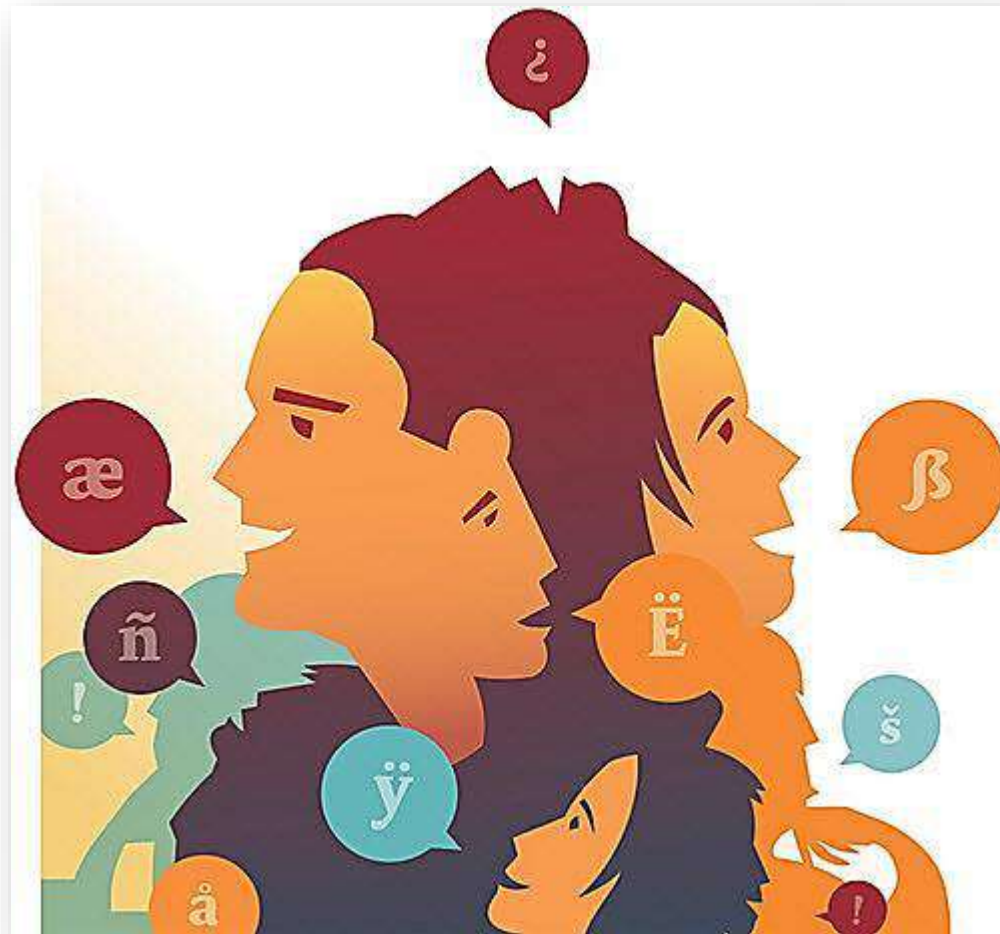
Why do we speak in different ways in different situations?



Why do we have many dialects in one language?



Why do we have many accents in one language?



***Do men and women talk
in the same way ?***



*If one speaks more than one
Language is there any possibility
to have a case of language interference?*



What is the impact of culture on language?



*Does social identity have an impact
on the way we speak?*



***Does social class have an impact
on the way we speak?***



*Is there any relation between
language and politics?*



*Does ethnicity play a role
in language use?*



What is the impact of Globalization on language?





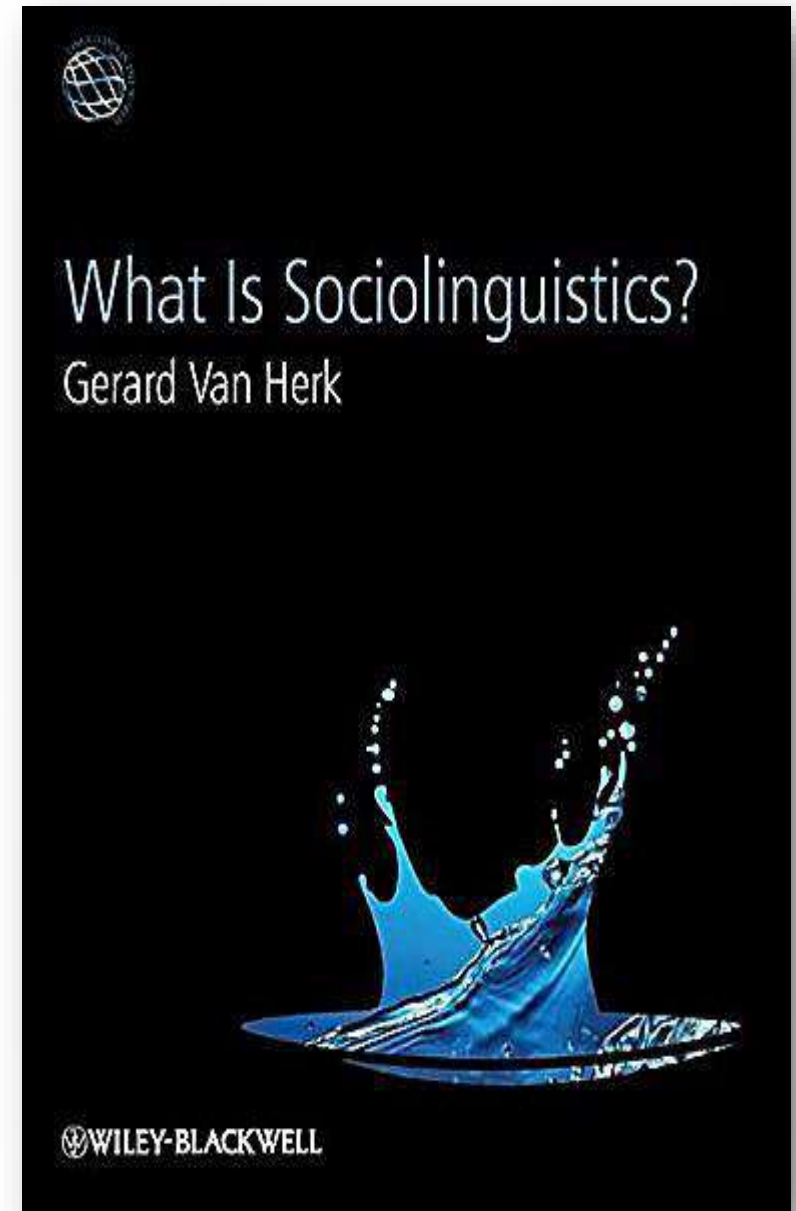
Do languages die?



How the study of Sociolinguistics started?



According to Herk, a Canadian linguist, deciding exactly when sociolinguistics began is like arguing about when the first rock “n” roll record was made. It’s entertaining for the participants, but it gives you only a slight understanding of how things got to where they are today.



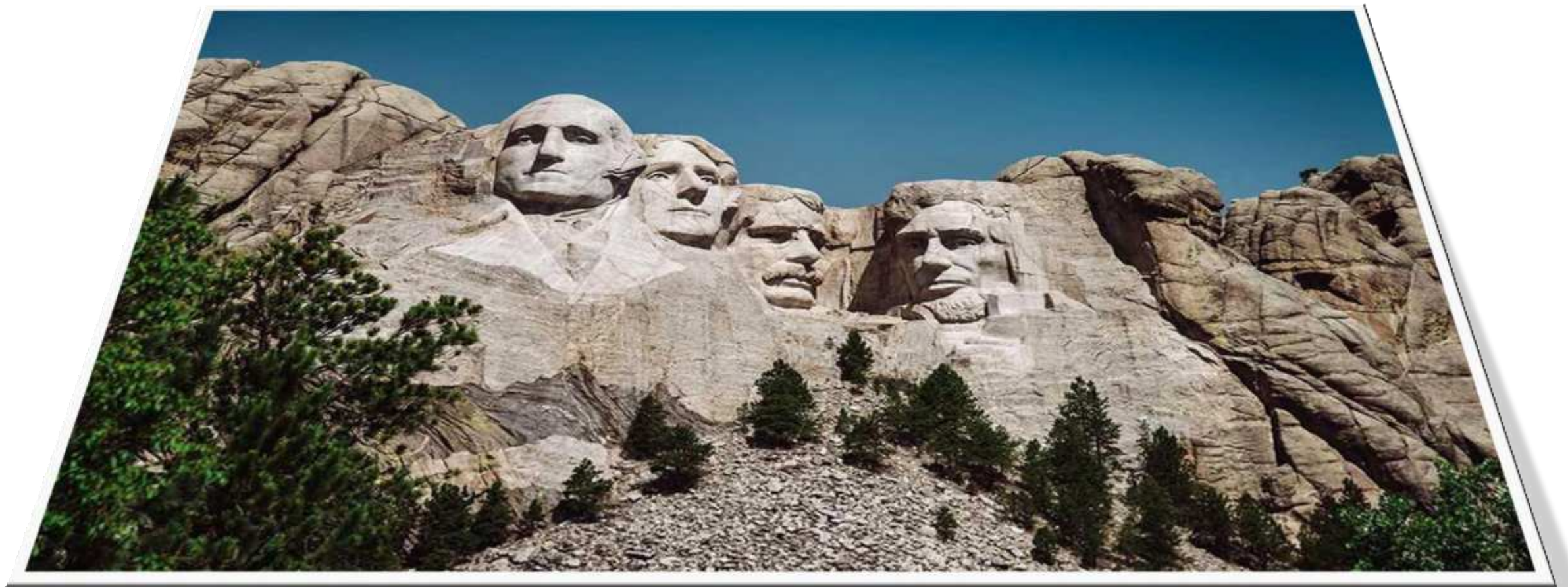
Herk states that for many people, the first systematic study of the **relationship** between **language variation** and **social organization** is described in a **1958** article by the sociologist **John L. Fischer (1923-1985)**.



Fischer was studying how New England schoolchildren used “g-dropping,” alternating between *running* and *runnin*’. He found statistically significant **correlations** between each linguistic form and a student’s **sex** and **social class**. In other words, rather than **free variation**, in which the choice between forms is completely arbitrary and unpredictable, he found **structured variation**, in which the choice between forms is linked to other factors.



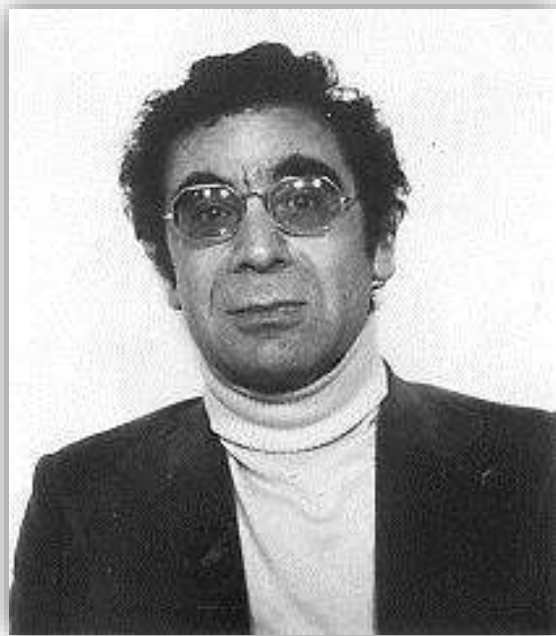
The Founding Fathers of Sociolinguistics !



William Labov pioneered a school devoted to showing the relevance of **social determinants of variation** for linguistic theory.

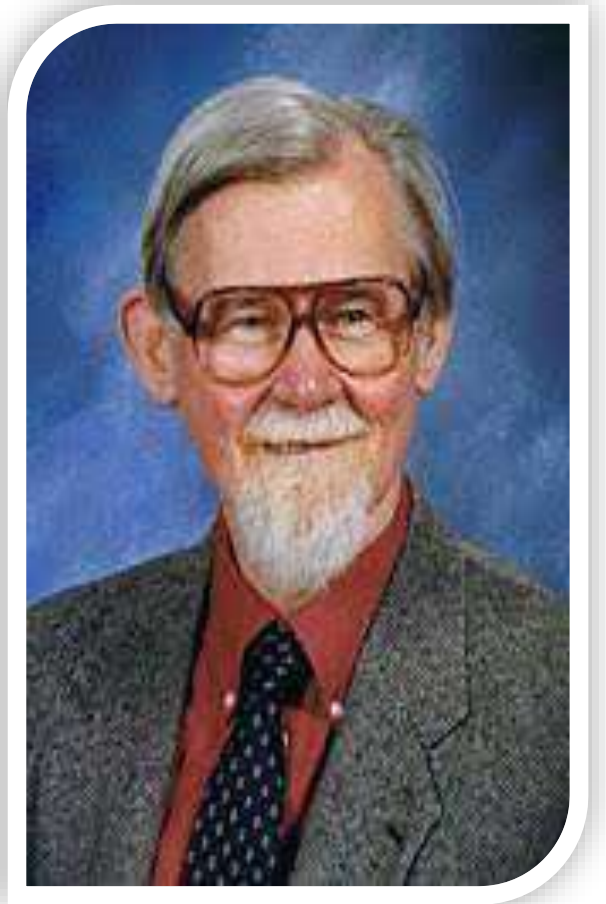


Basil Bernstein (1924-2000) ,
the British sociologist who
worked on **class-related** 'codes'.





Dell Hymes (1927-2009), whose adaptation of **Roman Jakobson's** (1896-1982) theory of communication shaped the **ethnography of communication** and educational linguistics.



Charles Ferguson (1921-1998), an American linguist who was best known for his work on **diglossia***

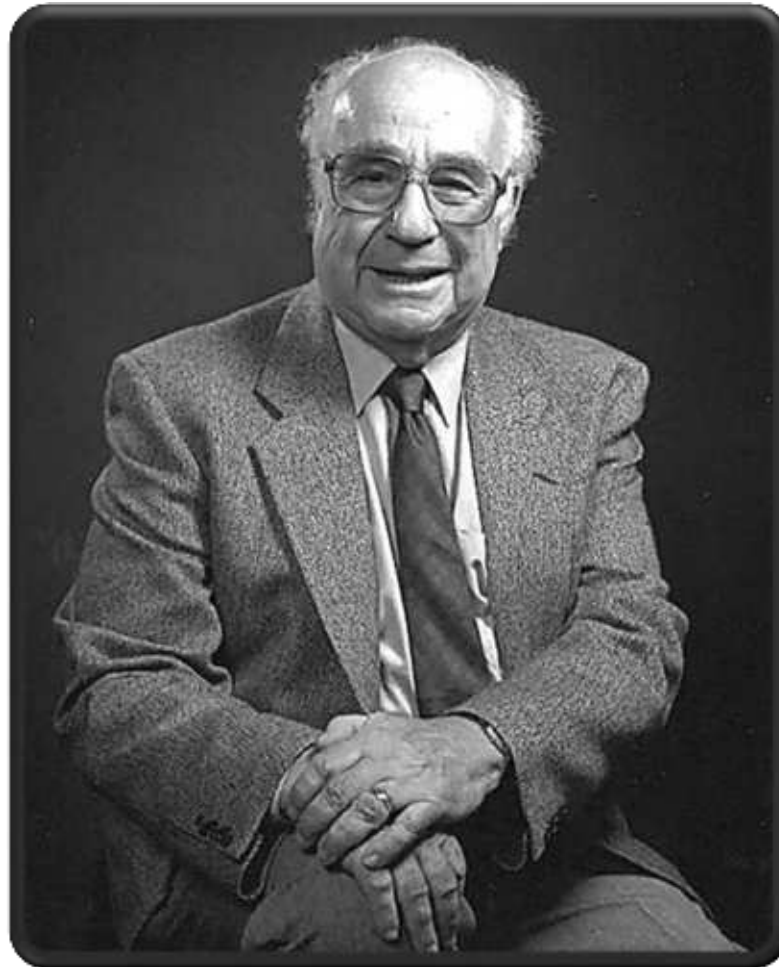
The **TOEFL** test was created under his leadership at the Center for Applied Linguistics in Washington DC.



*** Diglossia**

Refers to the situation in which the two dialects or languages are used by single person or community.

John Gumperz (1922-2013), founder of
interactional sociolinguistics.



Joshua Fishman (1926-2015), an American linguist who specialized in the **sociology of language**, **bilingual education**, and **language and ethnicity**.





Thank You!