Do you speak 2020?

Aspects of Contemporary English

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Some method should be thought on for ... fixing our language for ever ... it is better a language should not be wholly perfect, than that it should be perpetually changing.

Jonathan Swift

... habits redolent of disgusting newness ...

Richard Stanihurst, 1577
Trying to stop change was like trying to ‘lash the wind’.

Samuel Johnson

The language that it may have taken you a lifetime to learn will not stand still.

David Crystal

User vs Learner

A language is not a commodity to be acquired once and for all,

but an endlessly emergent dynamic system, being shaped and reshaped by all who use it.

Diane Larsen Freeman

https://nnesofthemonth.wordpress.com/2014/08/01/dr-diane-larsen-freeman/
Why look at language change in the classroom?

- learners likely to come across contemporary language
- social media-driven, ‘their’ language
- making language (learning) more up-to-date, relevant and exciting
- equipping them for using English in the real world
- promoting creativity and experimentation with the language
- helping make them more open to change and diversity
- having fun 😊
Recent and/or ongoing changes or new words in English?

- non-standard grammar
- new words / uses
- the rise of the affix
There are just a few dozen grammatical features commonly identified as nonstandard English.

*David Crystal, The Stories of English*
Tory leadership race Who's backing who?

16 Review Saturday Guardian 01.10.05

Fiction

Who's fooling whom?

'Wenger was stood at the door, shouting at me!

Alex Taylor 10 Nov 2020

Do you know this person outside of Facebook?

Friend requests are for connecting with people you know well, like classmates, friends, family and coworkers. Please don’t send this friend request unless you know this person personally.
Looking for:                   

Describe yourself in 50 words or less

It's 50 words or FEWER actually. LESS is used for non-countable quantities, collective amounts or degrees. FEWER means 'not as many'. The terms are NOT interchangeable.

The dating agency found no matches
Hi Carmel and Sue,

I hope this finds you well. I’m actually just enquiring on behalf of a teacher mine. She’s Russian and is wanting to get some teaching work in the UK.

We can, however, use some state verbs in the continuous form. This is when we want to emphasize that the feeling or attitude is at a particular time and temporary. The state verbs that we most commonly use like this include: be, enjoy, expect, feel, like, love, look (like), need, think, want.

I’m loving this pasta.
I’m really enjoying work at the moment.
We were expecting you to arrive earlier.
The internet’s being a bit temperamental at the moment.
triple jump

zip code

garage sale

petrichor

https://www.merriam-webster.com/time-traveler
New dictionary words 2019

Climate strike: Protests in cities across the world

This makes me facepalm so hard i'm gonna have a bruise on my forehead

When I get hangry, thangry or tangry, things get even worse*, but I’m not always good at knowing what my own body needs and giving it to myself, e.g. food, drink, rest.

Definition of binge-watching

having multiple episodes or parts that can be watched in rapid succession: suitable for binge-watching

Source: Collins, OED and Merriam-Webster
Latinx

Mr. Ms. 

Mx

he she they

XE XIR XS XIRS

RESPECT MY PRONOUNS
If the English language had been properly organised, then there would be a word which means both “he” and “she”, and I could write, “If John or Mary comes, heesh will want to play tennis,” which would save a lot of trouble.

*The Christopher Robin Birthday Book* (A. A. Milne, 1930)
2 Complete the student text with the perspective language from the list.

environmentally in ethical terms historically from a social perspective in terms of engineering physically

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Text 2

Historically, gold is one of the most significant elements known to mankind. For many thousands of years it has been exchanged and traded for goods, and used for jewellery and decoration. The first gold coins were made in Asia Minor in 600 BCE, and from the 13th century gold became a way for most European economies to measure their strength.
The rise of the affix
Pre-save the new Katie Melua album on Spotify, Apple Music or Deezer for a chance to win a handwritten set of lyrics and signed album.

Mr Hancock said the government would listen to MPs but "can't pre-commit to following whatever they vote for".

We pre-looked at the menu. We know what we’re having.
re-  eg repurpose, rewild, reskill, replatform

up-, down-  eg upskill, upcycle, uptick, upvote, downvote

-free  eg carbon-free, meat-free, lactose-free

-less  eg cashless, paperless, driverless, contactless
Rewild a quarter of UK to fight climate crisis, campaigners urge

Second-hand — sorry — “repurposed” flowers. See the new American company Revased. It takes flowers that have been used in large arrangements and repurposes them.

Cities Worldwide Are Reimagining Their Relationship With Cars
US President Donald Trump has denied downplaying the seriousness of Covid-19 ... At a televised event with voters, Mr Trump said he had "up-played" it.

Ms Lawler said the sector has proved particularly resilient to recessions in the past, and will do so again. She expects to see a uptick in customers who recognise the importance of fitness and exercise in the fight to stay heal...
epidemic
pandemic
co-morbidities
antibody, antigen, anti-vaxxer
asymptomatic, asynchronous
self-isolation, self-quarantine, self-certification
unmute, unprecedented
in / on / under lockdown

social distancing / physical distancing

the new normal

flatten the curve

die of / from / with Covid

(to) bubble

'Covididiots' criticised on Tui quarantine flight

Trikini

Riding the Coronacoaster
Lucy Collins is feeling disappointed.

1 min

A summer full of snaccidents has finally taken its toll.
Complete the secondditional sentences with your own ideas. For example, *If I wasn’t so busy all the time, I’d read a lot more.*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oxbridge</td>
<td>1849</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>brunch</td>
<td>1896</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>smog</td>
<td>1905</td>
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<tr>
<td>sexpert</td>
<td>1924</td>
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<tr>
<td>motel</td>
<td>1925</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brexit</td>
<td>2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>covidiot</td>
<td>2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• online socialising from the comfort of your own living room
• the anniversary of becoming FB friends
• a holiday/vacation where you live
• a ‘vegetarian’ who sometimes eats meat
• a chair piled high with your clothes
• the 😞 feeling you get when you run out of coffee
• a selfie of your legs and the view beyond (eg on the beach)
ibis.com
Join the staycation nation from £39
The latest dose of ibis news BOOK YOUR ST...

19 Sep

Chairdrobe
(noun)
Piling clothes on a chair in place of a closet or a dresser; also see: floordrobe.

Happy friendversary! 😊

A friendversary to celebrate!
Anna-Mária and Jon became friends on Facebook 3 years ago.

Katie Evans, marketing director for the chain, said the burger was aimed at "flexitarians". She added it wanted the burger to replicate the "flame-grilled taste" as closely as possible.
I didn’t mean to gain weight. It happened by snaccident.
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