



The World of Languages
and Languages of the World

Romance Languages

Today we will learn about one of the most important branches of the Indo-European languages tree.

Get your thinking caps on...

Objectives

- We can see which modern languages belong to the sub-family of Romance languages and where they originate.
- We can examine where in the world Romance languages are spoken.
- We can observe similarities and differences between Romance languages.



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Let's go!

- What do you think of first when you hear the word *romance*?
- Does it have the same meaning as a noun, a verb and an adjective?
- What is the connection between this word and languages?
- Can you name any Romance languages?

romance

[*noun, adjective* roh-mans, roh-mans; *verb* roh-mans]



Let's travel to... the Roman Empire!

- Do you remember the linguistic tree and the **Indo-European** language family?
- **Romance Languages** are a subgroup of the Indo-European language family.
- They include different modern languages that evolved from popular Latin.
- **Latin** (spoken by the Romans) had many dialects that eventually became.... **Romance Languages**!



How much do you know?

Match the questions on the left with the answers on the right:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. How many people speak Romance Languages? | a. Spanish, Portuguese, French, Italian, and Romanian. |
| 2. How many Romance languages are there? | b. Mostly in the Americas, Europe, and Africa. |
| 3. In which parts of the world are they spoken? | c. More than 900 million. |
| 4. Which Romance Languages have the most speakers? | d. 43. |



Alcuni fatti sulle lingue romanze...

Language	Native speakers	Official language in...	Fun Facts
?	500 million	Spain, Latin America, Philippines, Equatorial Guinea	A phonetic language: words are spelled exactly as they are pronounced
?	250 million	9 countries: Portugal, Brazil, Angola, Mozambique, etc.	Its longest word has 29 letters: <i>anticonstitucionalíssimamente</i>
?	77 million	29 countries: France, Belgium, Canada, Haiti, Senegal, etc.	Influenced many English words, especially food and cooking
?	67 million	Italy, San Marino, Vatican, Switzerland	Official language of classical music
?	24 million	Romania and Moldova	The only Romance language that prevailed in Eastern Europe



Détectives linguistiques... are you ready?

What similarities and differences can you spot?



French	Italian	Spanish	Portuguese
lundi	lunedì	lunes	segunda-feira
mardi	martedì	martes	terça-feira
mercredi	mercoledì	miércoles	quarta-feira
jeudi	giovedì	jueves	quinta-feira
vendredi	venerdì	viernes	sexta-feira
samedi	sabato	sábado	sábado
dimanche	domenica	domingo	domingo



¿Qué tienen en común las lenguas romances?

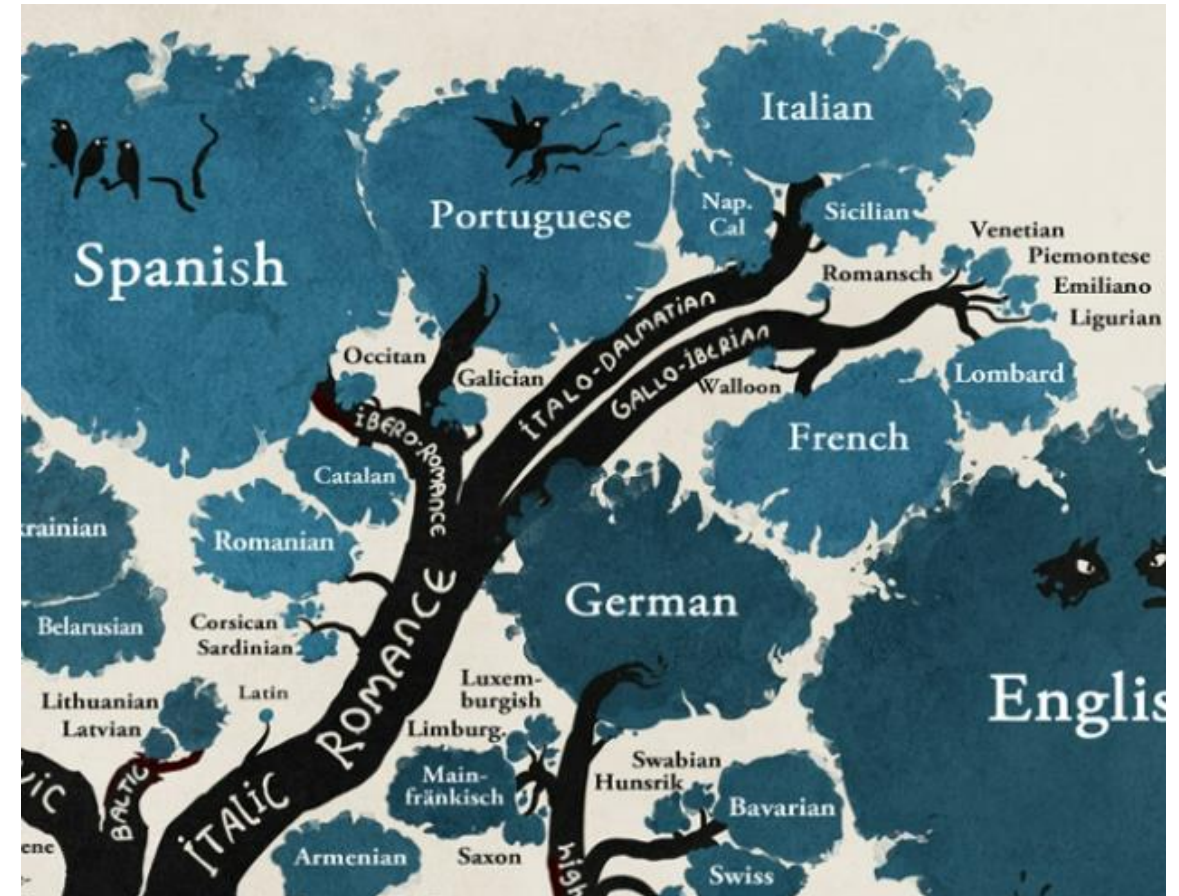
- They are written in the classical Latin alphabet
- Two grammatical genders: masculine and feminine
- Similar words
- Similar verb conjugation
- Similar grammatical structures
- The names of months, days, and weeks are not capitalized



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Um desafio final

- Observe carefully the Romance languages branch in Minna Sundberg's illustration.
- Identify at least 5 Romance languages that we have not mentioned so far
- Can you guess where these languages are spoken?



Links between languages.

Can you spot these words in the following languages?

my town

July

party

music

first

big

Spanish	El primero (uno) de julio hay una gran fiesta en mi ciudad. Hay mucha comida, bebida y música.
Italian	Il primo luglio c'è una grande festa nella mia città. C'è un sacco di cibo, bevande e musica.
French	Le premier juillet il y a une grande fête dans ma ville. Il y a beaucoup de nourriture, de boisson et de musique.

WoLLoW would like to know...

What is the name of the language that Romance languages originated from?

What are the most widely spoken Romance languages?

Mention three similarities between Romance languages.



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