LANGUAGES

A. Choose a color or shading pattern for each of the top ten languages listed below and mark that color or shading in the last column of the table. Then color in the areas where each language is spoken on the map below.

N o	Language	Language Family	Script(s)	Speakers (Millions)	Major Countries of Distribution	Color/ Shade
1	Mandarin	Sino-Tibetan	Chinese Characters	1151	China, Malaysia, Taiwan, Singapore	
2	English	Indo-European	Latin	1000	USA, UK, Australia, Canada, New Zealand	
3	Spanish	Indo-European	Latin	500	Mexico, Central and South America, Spain	
4	Hindi	Indo-European	Devanagari	490	North and Central India, Fiji	
5	Russian	Indo-European	Cyrillic	277	Russia, Central Asia	
	Arabic	Afro-Asiatic	Arabic	255	Middle East, Arabia, North Africa	
7	Portuguese	Indo-European	Latin	240	Brazil, Portugal, Angola, East Timor	
8	Bengali	Indo-European	Bengali	215	Bangladesh, Eastern India	
9	French	Indo-European	Latin	200	France, Canada, West Africa, Central Africa	
10	Malay, Indonesian	Malayo- Polynesian	Latin	175	Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore	



- A. Almost three quarters of the world's population speak a language from what two language families?
- B. What language family is the most widely dispersed throughout the world?

C. What languages are the most widely distributed throughout the world? Choose three of these most widely distributed world languages and provide a plausible explanation for the distribution pattern of each.							