

PIDGIN

A pidgin, or pidgin language, is a grammatically simplified means of communication that develops between two or more groups that do not have a language in common. It is typically a mixture of simplified languages or a simplified primary language with other languages' elements included. It is most commonly employed in situations such as trade, or where both groups speak languages different from the language of the country in which they reside. Fundamentally, a pidgin is a simplified means of linguistic communication, as it is constructed impromptu, or by convention, between individuals or groups of people.

A pidgin is not the native language of any speech community, but is instead learned as a second language. It may be built from words, sounds, or body language from multiple other languages and cultures. They allow people who have no common language to communicate with each other. Pidgins usually have low prestige with respect to other languages. Not all simplified or 'broken' forms of a language are pidgins. Each pidgin has its own norms of usage which must be learned for proficiency in the pidgin.