

Contents

<i>List of figures</i>	page viii
<i>Preface to the second edition</i>	ix
<i>Preface to the first edition</i>	xi
<i>Map showing the counties of England</i>	xiv
1 What is language?	1
2 The flux of language	31
3 The Indo-European languages	57
4 The Germanic languages	85
5 Old English	105
6 Norsemen and Normans	137
7 Middle English	161
8 Early Modern English	185
9 Late Modern English	211
10 English as a world language	239
11 English today and tomorrow	265
<i>Notes and suggestions for further reading</i>	282
<i>Bibliography</i>	286
<i>Index</i>	298