

V. Official and Standard Languages

A. Official Language

1. An official language is declared by the leaders of a country to be the language used in legal and governmental proceedings.
 - a) Can be used to create national identities.
2. The Official Language is often the language of the powerful, linguistic majority.
3. Declaration of a language is often controversial.

B Standard Language

1. Defined as the acceptable form of a given language, as declared by political or societal leaders.
 - a) British government declared "British Received Pronunciation" English as the standard form to be taught in schools
 - b) German schools teach "High German"