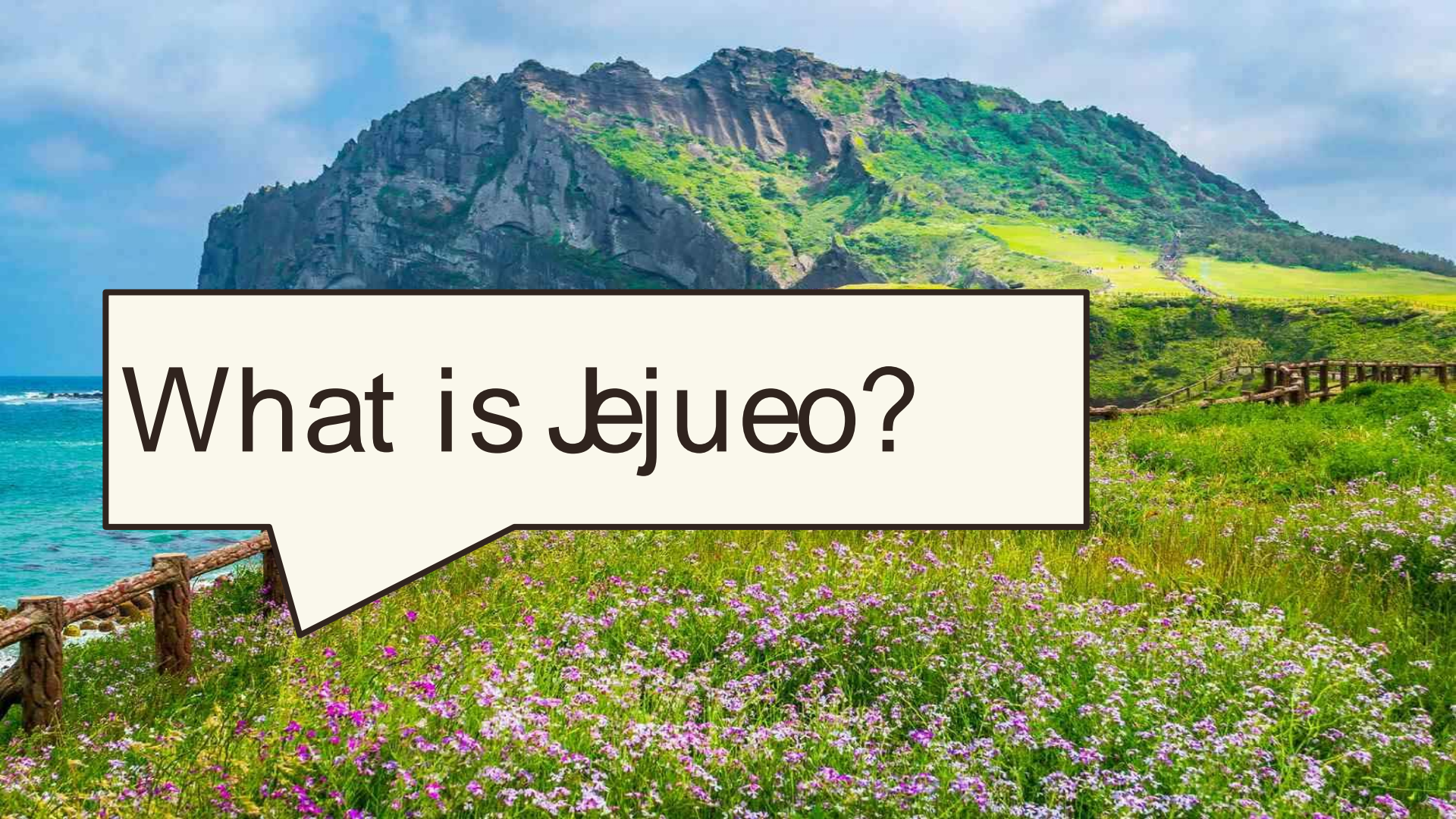


Sociolinguistic
Comparison of Jejuero and
Long Island Eastern
Algonquian Languages

Julie Wolfe



What is Jejuo?

Comparison

Long Island Eastern Algonquian Languages



Stages of Language Obsolescence of Ancestral Languages

1. In the beginning stages of language contact, only a few speakers are bilingual in either language community.
2. However, because the intrusive language is spoken by a group that is more powerful (e.g., economically, numerically, or technologically)—as was the case with the English settlers—the percentage of bilingual speakers in the substratum language community increases. (At this point, obsolescence of the ancestral language is not inevitable; it is possible for communities to remain bilingual without losing the ancestral language.)
3. As the percentage of bilingual speakers increases, the number of monolingual speakers of the ancestral language decreases, and the ancestral language is used in an ever-shrinking number of domains. Often, the dominant, intrusive language replaces the ancestral language in the public domain first, while the ancestral language is still used in the home.
4. As the dominant language becomes more important in public life, and particularly if the young are required to speak the dominant language, the percentage of bilingual speakers equally as comfortable in the ancestral language as in the dominant language decreases, and proficiency in the ancestral language becomes correlated with age. When children are no longer exposed to daily use of the ancestral language, they fail to gain proficiency in it, and its death is virtually assured (Garzon 1991:63–64; Kwachka 1992:68–69; Miller 1993:245; Reinschmidt 1991:291–92; Rhodes 1992).¹
5. As the language becomes moribund, the more proficient speakers may only be “semispeakers” of varying competencies (Dorian 1977), and the younger members of the speech community possess limited receptive skills and can produce only some words and phrases in the ancestral language.
6. After the death of the last proficient speakers of the ancestral language, some formulaic expressions or vocabulary of the ancestral language may be retained (Campbell and Muntzel 1989:182–86; Kwachka 1992:69).

Factors in Language Obsolescence

- ❖ Economic or subsistence-related reasons
- ❖ Education in dominant language
- ❖ Discouragement of the use of the ancestral language
- ❖ Lack of commitment to the ancestral language
- ❖ Dispersal of the language community
- ❖ Intensity of contact with the dominant language
- ❖ Eagerness of young people to embrace the dominant culture

Factors in Eastern Algonquian Language Obsol escence

- ❖ **Economic or subsistence-related reasons**
- ❖ **Education in dominant language**
- ❖ Discouragement of the use of the ancestral language
- ❖ Lack of commitment to the ancestral language
- ❖ Dispersal of the language community
- ❖ **Intensity of contact with the dominant language**
- ❖ **Eagerness of young people to embrace the dominant culture**

Factors in **Jejueo** Language Obsolescence

- ❖ Economic or subsistence-related reasons
- ❖ **Education in dominant language**
- ❖ **Discouragement of the use of the ancestral language**
- ❖ Lack of commitment to the ancestral language
- ❖ **Dispersal of the language community**
- ❖ **Intensity of contact with the dominant language**
- ❖ **Eagerness of young people to embrace the dominant culture**

A scenic landscape featuring a rocky beach in the foreground, a waterfall cascading down a cliff on the right, and a dense forest of green trees in the background. The sky is clear and blue. A large white speech bubble with a black border is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing the text "What's going to happen to Jeju?".

What's going to
happen to Jeju?