**ST. CATHERINE HIGH**

**COMMUNICATION STUDIES MODULE 2**

**Language Situation in the Caribbean**

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| **Country** | **Language Situation** | **Official Language** | **Vernacular** | **Minority Language** | **Major Second Language** | **Language Planning Activity** |
| Cuba | monolingual | Spanish |  |  |  |  |
| Dominican Republic | monolingual | Spanish | Some English |  |  |  |
| Puerto Rico | monolingual | Spanish |  |  | English |  |
| Barbados | monolingual | English |  |  |  |  |
| Jamaica | Creole Continuum | English | English Creole |  |  | Growing awareness of Creole as Mother tongue and symbol of national identity. |
| St. Kitts, Nevis, Montserrat , Antigua , Barbuda | \* | English | English Creole |  |  |  |
| Guyana | Creole Continuum | English | Hindi, Bhojpuri, Amerindian |  |  |  |
| Belize | multilingual | English | Spanish, Mayan , Garifuna |  |  | Creation of bilingual population in English and Spanish |
| Trinidad | multilingual | English | Post Creole English | French, Spanish, Bhojpuri, Hindi |  |  |
| Grenada | Dying bilingualism | English | English influenced by French Creole. French Creole rapidly receding |  |  |  |
| St. Lucia/Dominica | Bilingualism | English | French Creole |  |  | Incipient standardization of French Creole |
| Haiti | diglossic | French | French Creole |  |  | Advanced Standardization  of Haitian |
| Martinique and Guadeloupe | diglossic | French | French Creole |  |  |  |
| Curacao | monolingual | Dutch | Papiamentu |  |  |  |
| Aruba & Bonaire | bilingual | Dutch | Papiamentu | English, Spanish |  |  |

**Diglossic refers to the use by a language community of two languages or dialects, a "high" or "H" variety restricted to certain formal situations, and a "low" or "L" variety for everyday interaction.**

**\* Language situation unknown**

**Language Profile of Caribbean Territories 2**

**Source: Mervyn Alleyne "A Linguistic Perspective on the Caribbean"**

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| Official Language | Country | Majority Language | Minority Language |
| Spanish | Cuba | Spanish |  |
| Spanish | Dominican Republic | Spanish |  |
| Spanish | Puerto Rico | Spanish | English |
| Spanish | Providence, San Andreas | English Creole |  |
| Spanish | Panama |  |  |
| English | Jamaica | English Creole |  |
| English | Guyana | English Creole | Bhojpuri, Amerindian Language, Dutch Creole |
| English | Antigua | English Creole |  |
| English | St. Kitts | English Creole |  |
| English | Montserrat | English Creole |  |
| English | St. Vincent | English Creole |  |
| English | Belize | English Creole | Spanish, Amerindian Languages |
| English | Trinidad and Tobago | English Creole | French Creole, Spanish  Bhojpuri, Yoruba |
| English | US Virgin Islands |  |  |
| English | Grenada | English influenced by French Creole | French Creole |
| English | St. Lucia | French Creole |  |
| English | Dominica | French Creole |  |
| French | Haiti | French Creole |  |
| French | Martinique | French Creole |  |
| French | Guadeloupe | French Creole |  |
| Dutch | Suriname | Sranan, Sarnami Hindi | Javanese, Maroon Creole languages, Amerindian Languages |
| Dutch | Netherland Antilles  (Saba, St.Eustatius,  St. Maarten)  Curacao, Bonaire, Aruba | Papiamentu, English | Spanish |