

a. Fill in: **first, accent, native, body, language, tongue, speech, talk.**

- 1 You can understand a lot about how a person is feeling by examining his ..... **language**.
- 2 Jack speaks four languages, but his ..... **language** is English.
- 3 Jane speaks French so well you'd think she was a ..... **speaker**.
- 4 It's difficult to understand someone who has a strong **regional** .....
- 5 The **official** ..... of The Netherlands is Dutch.
- 6 German is his **mother** ..... although he also speaks excellent French.
- 7 We made some **small** ..... about the weather and then went on to talk about the contract.
- 8 I didn't mean to offend you – it was just a **figure** of .....

**2** Use the words in the list to complete the sentences, as in the example.

• speaker • tongue • accent • talk • language

*Colloquial language is not suitable for written work.*

- 1 I could tell he was a native ..... by his pronunciation
- 2 She has a regional ..... even though she's lived abroad for 20 years!
- 3 German is her mother ....., but she's also fluent in English
- 4 I'm tired of all this small .....! Can't we talk about something else?
- 5 I'm not sure which is his first ....., but I know he was born in Germany



## Words often confused

**5** Choose the correct word to complete the sentences. Which sentence matches the picture?

- 1 They look so alike it's difficult to (say/tell/speak/talk) the difference between them.
- 2 Come on, (say/tell/talk/speak) your mind. I want your honest opinion.
- 3 It's a surprise, so don't (say/tell/speak/talk) a word.
- 4 He's such a chatterbox! He (says/tells/speaks/talks) non-stop.
- 5 She's terribly bossy. She loves (saying/telling/speaking/talking) people what to do.
- 6 I'm meeting Jim tonight to (say/tell/speak/talk) business.

