

Verb Tenses and Word Formation

Written Practice



A. Fill in the gaps with the correct form of the given verb.

English 1. _____ (**give**) you access to some of the world's best universities
English 2. _____ (widely / **regarded**) as the language of higher education.
Oxford, Cambridge, Harvard and MIT 3. _____ (**be**) just a few of the famous universities that
occupy the lofty heights of the top of the world education league tables, and you 4. _____
(**need**) to speak English fluently for access to any of these, as they 5. _____ (**be**) all English-
speaking. It 6. _____ (**go**) without saying that if you 7. _____ (**be**) able
8. _____ (**study**) at one of these institutions, you 8. _____ (**start**) your
career with an illustrious name on your CV - and the benefits of that speak for themselves. If English 9.
_____ (not **be**) your native language, you 10. _____ (**need**) to take an
English test during the admissions process 11. _____ (**prove**) that your level of English 12.
_____ (**be**) up to scratch for the demands of the academic environment. If you 13.
_____ (**have**) your sights set on a top university, the effort you 14.
_____ (**put**) into study English as early as possible in your school years 15.
_____ (**reward**) when it 16. _____ (**come**) to the choice of universities
to which you can apply.

B. Complete the gaps with the correct form of the given word.

English is a fantastic intellectual challenge!

English is undoubtedly one of the 1. _____ (**hard**) languages to learn. Full of nuances, 2.
_____ (**expect**) pronunciations, odd rules and 3. _____ (**infuriate**)
exceptions to rules, it takes 4. _____ (**dedicate**) and perseverance to reach a good level of
5. _____ (**fluent**). If you're on the lookout for a new challenge, learning English may be just
what you're after. Not only that, but because it's so widely 6. _____ (**speak**), it opens you up
to a huge number of new 7. _____ (**culture**) experiences, which will help you develop life
skills, meet new people and grow your 8. _____ (**confident**) in handling new situations.

C. Complete the gaps with the correct form of the given words.

English will make you more desirable to employers

1. _____ (**be**) fluent in a second language clearly 2. _____
(**demonstrate**) a powerful brain and reflects someone who 3. _____ (**put**) in the huge
amount of time, resources and 4. _____ (**commit**) needed to master another language. But
while being 5. _____ (**lingua**) is impressive full stop, no matter what 6.
_____ (**combine**) of languages you speak, adding English to your CV 7.
_____ (**be**) particularly useful. Not only is it an especially complex language to get to grips
with, a fact that reflects well on you for having mastered it, but as we 8. _____ (**see**), it's also
an incredibly useful language to learn because so many countries speak it. You 9. _____
(**be**) in a much stronger position to apply for jobs overseas if you 10. _____ (**reach**) a good
level of fluency in English.

English 11. _____ (**refer**) to as "the language of business", and it's not hard to see why. If
you have ambitions to become an 12. _____ (**nation**) businessperson, it's essential that
you're able to speak English fluently; business conducted internationally is done in English more often than not.
Even if you 13. _____ (not **think**) of living and working abroad, that 14.
_____ (not **mean**) you 15. _____ (not **find**) English a helpful language
to put on your CV. There may well be plenty of English-speaking multinational corporations with offices in your
home country. What's more, English skills are just as 16. _____ (**desire**) to employers in
your own country and language as they are to employers in English-speaking countries.