

1. You are going to read an article about learning foreign languages. For questions 43-52, choose from the sections (A-D). The sections may be chosen more than once.

In which section does the writer

explain why a particular achievement is beneficial?

43	<input type="text"/>
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say language learners tend to be treated sympathetically?

44	<input type="text"/>
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claim that something has failed to be proven?

45	<input type="text"/>
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point out what people need in order not to give up?

46	<input type="text"/>
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encourage people to use language creatively?

47	<input type="text"/>
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say people will become accustomed to something?

48	<input type="text"/>
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say learners need to be determined to reach their goal?

49	<input type="text"/>
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mention characteristics that enhance learning ability?

50	<input type="text"/>
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assure people that something is unnecessary?

51	<input type="text"/>
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admit that a suggestion is unconventional?

52	<input type="text"/>
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How to learn a language

A

This might sound obvious, but if you don't have a good reason to learn a language, you're less likely to stick with it over the long run. Wanting to impress people with your language skills is not a very good reason; wanting to get to know a person in his or her own language is another matter entirely. And once you've decided on a language, it's crucial to commit. I say to myself: 'OK, I want to learn this and I'm therefore going to do as much as I can in this language.' I try to think my everyday thoughts in it, even speak out loud to myself in that language. It might sound really weird, but doing that is a great way to practise if you're not able to use it all the time. It can keep new words and phrases fresh in your mind and build up your confidence for the next time you speak with someone.

B

Being able to have a simple conversation is a huge reward in itself. Reaching milestones like that early on is very motivating. You don't have to go abroad; you can meet people who speak the language in your own country and practise with them. Having a partner, such as a friend or relative, on your language adventure will push both of you to always try just a little bit harder. I've learned several languages together with my brother. If he realises that I'm doing more than he is, he'll try and outdo me – and the other way round. We sometimes practise by writing and recording songs – you could try that. Think of some fun ways to practise your new language: write a poem or even draw a comic strip.

C

The idea that children are inherently better learners than adults is turning out to be a myth, and new research cannot find a direct link between age and the ability to learn. However, it may still be worth trying to learn the way kids do because they certainly are fast learners. The key to learning as quickly as a child may be to simply take on certain childlike attitudes, for instance, lack of self-consciousness and willingness to make mistakes. This means being ready to put yourself in potentially embarrassing situations, which can be scary, but it's the only way to develop and improve. No matter how much you learn, you won't ever speak a language without putting yourself out there: talk to strangers in the language, ask for directions, order food, try to tell a joke. The more often you do this, the better your language skills will become.

D

Just as you must learn to look before you can draw, you must learn to listen before you can speak. Every language sounds strange the first time you hear it, but the more you expose yourself to it, the more familiar it will be. Believe me, we're able to pronounce anything, it's just we're not used to doing it. Pronunciation is as much physical as mental, and different languages make different demands on your tongue, lips and throat. One way to improve is to really look at someone while they're saying words that use that sound, and then to try to imitate them. You can try to imitate a native speaker, or watch foreign-language films on TV. And it's good to remember you're not going to annoy people by speaking their language poorly. Most people will be patient and encouraging, and glad that you're trying to communicate with them.

2. You **must** answer this question. Write your answer in **140 – 190 words** in an appropriate style.

In your English class you have been talking about education. Now your English teacher has asked you to write an essay for homework. Write your essay using all the notes and giving reasons for your point of view.

**Some parents teach their children at home rather than sending them to school.
Is this a good or a bad thing for the children?**

Notes

Write about:

1. having a parent as a teacher
2. making friends
- 3.....(your own idea)