1A I THOUGHT I COULD PICK UP ITALIAN BY EAR

1 GRAMMAR
Adverbs and adverbial phrases

a Complete the text with the words in the box.

clearly apparently effectively widely
unfortunately ~~simply~~ extremely



Whether you are a student, a professional athlete, an engineer, or [1] simply a tourist, English has become a(n) [2]_____ important skill to acquire. English will soon be the language of choice in most major fields of study, if it isn't already. Therefore, students embarking on their studies [3]_____ need to decide: What language do I want to get my degree in? Degrees in medicine delivered in English at a university in Poland are [4]_____ very popular, but you need a reasonable level of English to start. If you need to study English before college, it's [5]_____ agreed that you learn the most [6]_____ in an English-speaking environment. [7]_____, not all students can afford the time and cost of studying abroad.

b Put the words in the correct order to make sentences.

1 that hard / people think / not / Russian is / to learn / difficult, but it's .
People think Russian is difficult, but it's not that hard to learn.

2 you listen / rapidly if / will improve / and watch movies / to music / your English .

3 England / language schools / opened / in the seventies in / a lot of .

4 presumably / you lived / so / speak / you / fluently / French / in Paris, .

5 hardest / for / adult learners, / listening is / the / usually / skill .

6 never / vocabulary / new / I / down / write / almost .

2 VOCABULARY Language learning

a Underline the correct words to complete the sentences.

1 I studied German in college, but I'm going to Berlin next year to *pick* / *brush* / *take* up on it.
2 My brother speaks four languages – he really has an *ear* / *eye* / *mouth* for them.
3 I know Japanese is hard, but you have to keep *on* / *to* / *at* it if you want the job.
4 I'm French, but my son was born in Italy. From an early age, he *pulled* / *picked* / *took* up a lot of Italian expressions.
5 I studied in China, and I *fought* / *raced* / *struggled* with writing the characters for a long time.
6 It takes time to get *accustomed* / *ready* / *along* to a new teaching style.
7 My Spanish is a little *cracked* / *broken* / *rusty*. I haven't spoken it for a while.
8 My sister can hold a *chat* / *speech* / *conversation* in several European languages.

3 VOCABULARY Noun forms

a Read the text and complete the words in the sentences below.

PROGRAMS



We run a complete five-year degree program in medicine, with all lectures and seminars delivered in English by our very competent and dedicated staff. Participants must have an excellent level of English and above all be highly motivated to be capable future doctors. Our program is very interactive, and nearly all our candidates pass with good grades, despite living in Warsaw, where there are so many things to take your mind off studying. We have occasional misunderstandings when one language interferes with another, but generally the program runs well.

1 An advanced level of English is an absolute n*ecessity* in this program.
2 Our teachers show great d_____ to the program and the students.
3 M_____ is never a problem for our students, who all want to become doctors.
4 All our lectures have elements of i_____ to involve the students.
5 There are many d_____ in a city like Warsaw, so students have to stay focused.
6 Our students need both medical and linguistic c_____, which can be challenging.
7 Polish students may feel a r_____ to speak English if all their classmates speak Polish.
8 It is hard to avoid i_____ from the mother tongue, even if your English is excellent.

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