

4  You're going to listen to a radio interview with Jack, a bilingual teenager, his mother and an expert on bilingualism. Discuss the questions.

- What are the advantages of speaking more than one language? Are there any disadvantages?
- Do you think it could be difficult being a bilingual teenager? Why? What are the potential problems?

5  Listen to the interview. Are their ideas similar to your answers in exercise 4?

6  Listen to the interview again. Choose the correct answers to the questions.

- 1 How well did Jack's parents speak French?
A They were both fluent.
B His mother was fluent, but his father didn't speak French.
C They spoke a little french.
- 2 How does Jack describe the benefits of being bilingual?
A He is more open-minded.
B He has different personalities.
C He enjoys learning new languages.
- 3 What has been the most difficult part for him?
A Finding the right words to express his feelings and ideas.
B Being bullied and feeling different to his peers.
C Finding his own identity.
- 4 Why do bilingual children often do better at school?
A They are able to see the world through the eyes of other people.
B The parts of the brain used in a classroom situation are more efficient in bilingual people.
C Their capacity for memory doesn't decrease after they are four years old.
- 5 Why was Jack's early adolescence difficult for his family?
A He spent too much time on the internet.
B He often refused to speak to his parents in French.
C He had a period of refusing to speak in English.
- 6 How did his parents encourage him to keep his English alive?
A By taking him travelling and watching films in English.
B By sending him to stay with his family in England.
C By putting him in touch with other English-speaking teens and emphasizing the benefits of being bilingual.