

English No Longer the World Language?

Fill in the blanks with the words from the box. There are TWO words you will not need!

Many children in school _____ all over America are taking _____ language courses in Chinese. The concept is easy. On one day they learn everything in English and the next they _____ to Chinese.

It is an _____ to learn languages when you are young because small children _____ up the language and use it in _____ situations. Chinese has become so _____ that some schools even want to _____ parents Chinese courses.

Because of China's growing economy and _____, Chinese has become a language many people want to learn. In the United States about 50,000 students from kindergarten to eighth _____ are taking Chinese, _____ to only 5,000 in 2004. About 100 million people worldwide are studying Chinese as a second language.

The Chinese _____ has started a number of Confucius Institutes to _____ the Chinese language and the country's culture. Currently there are such institutes in over 60 countries. 2,000 students have _____ the program in the last two years.

In the Philippines people think that learning Chinese will allow them to get better _____ in the future. As more and more Chinese travel to other countries as tourists or on _____, people who can speak Chinese have an advantage over others.

In Panama one government official has even thought about making Chinese compulsory in _____ schools, however it is so hard to get enough _____ teachers to teach Chinese.

In the future Mandarin Chinese might not _____ English as the world's number one language but because China is _____ further it will become an important language.

additional
advantage
attended
business
change
classes
compared
everyday
expanding
fluently
government
grade
influence
jobs
language
offer
overtake
popular
public
qualified
soak
spread

