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## Lost languages.

Look at the plan in activity 1 on page 17 of the Skills Book and put the paragraphs below in the correct order.


The reason is inescapable. It's a fact that languages are dying, because young people all over the world are surrounded by modern culture. Movies, music and TV shows do not get made in endangered languages. The youth of today think it is unnecessary to learn tribal and cultural languages.

a

We live in a multilingual world, but for too long we have overlooked our endangered languages. Research by the United Nations claims that 50% of the world's 6000 languages are endangered. With one language dying out every two weeks, endangered languages will be extinct in a few decades.

b





If you think it's impossible to do anything, you're wrong! We can stop languages from dying by teaching them to our children and by recording them. In addition, the United Nations is doing outstanding work to keep languages and cultures alive for the next millennium. Log on to their website and find out how to stop languages and cultures from disappearing.

c

We have been losing languages for a long time. About 200 years ago, in Venezuela, an explorer heard a parrot speaking an extraordinary language. He asked the villagers what it was saying, but nobody could tell him. The parrot was the last surviving speaker of the Atures language. The language had died, but why?

d

It is important to keep languages alive, because language reflects the ideas and values of cultures. It is not just details and words which are lost if a language dies out, it is also a whole way of understanding human experience.

e



# 1 Writing plan.

Use the plan below to order the paragraphs from activity 1 on page 14 of the Classbook. Write the letter of the paragraph in the space provided.

## Plan:

1 Introduction

2 An example of a dying language

3 Why languages are dying

4 Why it is important to keep languages alive

5 How to stop languages from dying out



# learning strategy

## prefixes

- Prefixes are a group of letters or a word.
- We put prefixes at the beginning of a word to change the meaning.

**un** + **fair** = **unfair**  
prefix

There are three main types of prefix:

1. Whole word prefixes such as:  
out- over- under- up-  
outside underwater upstairs
2. Negative prefixes such as:  
in- un- dis- mis- im-  
incorrect invisible untie
3. Number prefixes such as:  
uni- bi- tri- deca- centi- milli- multi-  
bicycle triangle centimetre



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## Prefixes.

In groups, look at the texts in activity 1 on page 14 of the Classbook and find examples of words with prefixes. Write them in the table below.

### Whole word

overlooked


### Negative

inescapable


### Number

decades
