

1 Read the text and then mark the statements with R (right) or W (wrong).



There are a lot of stories about the origin of languages. Perhaps the most famous is the Tower of Babel. At the beginning of this story, everyone spoke the same language. They decided to build a city, Babel, with a tower tall enough to reach the sky. But the Creator wanted people to spread out over the Earth, so he confused them by making them all speak different languages. The citizens of Babel couldn't understand one another, gave up building the tower and moved to the four corners of the world, all with their own language. Nowadays, there are about 7,000 languages spoken around the world, but will there ever be a day when we all speak the same language? There will certainly be fewer languages. Experts suggest that by the end of this century, 90% of those 7,000 languages will vanish. Some languages will dominate, especially Chinese, Spanish and English, but others will disappear completely. It only takes one generation for that to happen. If no one speaks a language or writes it down, it can be lost forever. But does that mean we will all speak an international language?

2 Read the text again and decide if the sentences (1-4) are R (right) or W (wrong).

- 1 The citizens of Babel learnt all the world's languages.
- 2 Only Chinese, Spanish and English will exist in 100 years' time.
- 3 Zamenhof wanted Esperanto to bring people together.
- 4 English is the most popular language online nowadays.

Linguists have often tried to create international languages. In the 1870s and 1880s, L. L. Zamenhof developed Esperanto. The word means 'one who hopes' and Zamenhof hoped his newly-formed language would bring world peace.

It was unfortunate that his attempts to bring the world together happened as the world tore itself apart over a century of conflicts including two World Wars.

Esperanto survived, but it only has about 2 million speakers worldwide.

Perhaps in the future, as the Internet is the main way we connect to other people, we'll communicate in Textspeak: emojis and acronyms. One expert, Dr John McWhorter, disagrees: "Textspeak will be texted in, but how we talk and how we write will always be different. Just as people can speak two languages, they can write in two ways without the two influencing one another." For the moment though, English is the language of the Internet. 55% of all online communication is in English and that's unlikely to change in the near future. The distant future, though, is anyone's guess.

R	W
R	W
R	W
R	W

Play and watch the video, then mark the statements with Y (yes) or N (no):

Video

One Language for all?

Questions

Think

Mark statements 1-7 as **Y** (yes) or **N** (no).

- 1 Today, around 7,000 languages are spoken worldwide.
- 2 By the end of this century, most languages will disappear.
- 3 It only takes two generations for a language to die out.
- 4 Esperanto means 'one who hopes'.
- 5 There are about 2 billion Esperanto speakers in the world.
- 6 Dr John McWhorter argues that people will never talk and write in the same way.
- 7 For now, 55% of all communication on the Internet is in English.

Y	N

Read the Phrasal Verbs box. Then, complete the correct particle.

Phrasal Verbs

give sth away = to ruin a surprise

give back = to return sth

give in = to finally agree to what sb wants

give up = to stop doing sth you did regularly

1 Mum finally gave and bought me a new smartphone.

2 It was a surprise party for Jack, but Fran gave it .

3 Sally gave writing letters a long time ago.

4 Have you given Harry his book yet?

Choose the correct word.

- 1 Marie is fluent in English, but her **mother** / **native** tongue is French.
- 2 What's the **official** / **foreign** language of your country?
- 3 You should make **eye contact** / **tone of voice** to show you're interested.
- 4 Karen and Amy were **commenting** / **chatting** online all last night.
- 5 Have you got a moment, Larry? We need to **speak** / **discuss** your essay.
- 6 It is common to greet someone with a firm **handshake** / **posture**.
- 7 Harriet spent two hours **translating** / **interpreting** this document into Spanish.
- 8 My sister, Helen, gave me a warm **embrace** / **bow** to say 'thank you'.
- 9 Charlie was born in England – he's a **native** / **bilingual** English speaker.
- 10 The immigrants soon **adopted** / **discussed** the language of their new home.
- 11 Arturo left Spain twenty years ago, but he still has a Spanish **accent** / **dialect**.

▶ You will hear a man called Sam Bolton talking about his job. Listen and complete the gaps with the correct words. Write ONE or TWO WORDS or a NUMBER, DATE or TIME.



<input type="radio"/>	Sam's first job after university was at a local 1) <input type="text"/> .
<input type="radio"/>	Sam learnt how to speak Japanese in just 2) <input type="text"/> .
<input type="radio"/>	Sam says he likes 3) <input type="text"/> most of all.
<input type="radio"/>	Sam says that teaching 4) <input type="text"/> is not easy for him nowadays.
<input type="radio"/>	Sam uses 5) <input type="text"/> to stay in contact with all his friends.
<input type="radio"/>	Sam would love to teach in 6) <input type="text"/> one day.

adopt ... / усвојити

attempt ... / покушај

bilingual ... / билингвалан, који говори и разуме два језика

bow ... / наклон

conflict ... / сукоб

distant ... / далек

dominate ... / доминирати

embrace ... / загрљај

firm ... / чврст

influence ... / извршити утицај

mother tongue ... / матерњи језик

native speaker ... / изворни говорник

origin ... / порекло

posture ... / став, држање

posture ... / став, држање

spread out ... / раширити се

vanish ... / нестати

Well done!