

Difficulty level: C1 / advanced

This activity helps with part 1 of the Reading Use of English paper. You should complete this activity in 15 minutes.

Read the text below. Use the word given in (CAPITALS) to form a word that fits in the gap next to it.

Second Language Learning

There has been much debate in recent times about when young people should take up a second language. This has been especially fuelled in recent times by the increasing **(IMPORTANT)** placed on the English language. It is now commonplace to see parents providing a substantial amount of **(FUNDING)** on additional tuition on language lessons to give their children every **(COMPETITION)** edge. In the past decade, language institutes have sprung up in numerous centres, all claiming to provide rapid **(ADVANCED)** in English. There has been a push by many parents to expose their children to English in their formative years. This, many claim, will make the language more **(INSTINCT)** and ensure that all pronunciation errors can be avoided. There is some evidence which points to youngsters who have been raised in bilingual families, where the language spoken at home is different to the one that they **(CONVERSATION)** with in their external environment. While these children can switch between two languages with greater **(EASY)** , it remains to be seen whether this is **(ADVANTAGE)** when learning additional languages.