

## 3 READING

**b** Read *LinguaBlog* and check your answer to question 3 in 3a.

**c** Complete *LinguaBlog* with the superlative forms of the adjectives in the box.

difficult (x2) fast heavy big long old short  
expensive good

**d** Read *LinguaBlog* again. Who or what are these people talking about?

- 1 'He could speak to people from many different countries.'
- 2 'It's a very old language.'
- 3 'It takes a long time to learn the alphabet.'
- 4 'I'd love to have this book, but it costs too much.'
- 5 'She speaks too quickly! I can't understand her.'
- 6 'I can say the words but I never know how to write them correctly.'

**FACTS OF THE WEEK**

**One** Journalist Harold Williams was one of <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ language learners ever. He spoke 58 different languages.

**Two** Fran Capo of New York is <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ talker in the world. She can say 603 words in 54 seconds.

**Three** The Tamil language, from Southern India, is probably one of <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ languages in the world that people still speak today.

**Four** With over 600,000 words, the *Oxford English Dictionary* is one of the world's <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ dictionaries. It costs about £1,000. Is this <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ dictionary in the world? It's certainly <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ – it has 20 books and weighs 62 kilogrammes!

**Five** Rotokas, a language in the Solomon Islands, only has 12 letters, so it has <sup>7</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ alphabet in the world. Khmer, the language of Cambodia, has <sup>8</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ alphabet. It has 74 letters.

**Six** Many people say English is <sup>9</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ language for spelling. Some of <sup>10</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ words to spell are: *neighbour*, *foreign* and *awkward*.

## 4 VOCABULARY High numbers

**a** Find these numbers in 1c and *LinguaBlog*. What do they refer to?

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| three thousand        |  |
| nine hundred million  |  |
| six hundred and three |  |
| six hundred thousand  |  |