1A A global language

Language Summary 1, Student's Book p127

Language ability VOCABULARY 1.1

1 Read what Carl, Heidi and Maria say about speaking languages. Fill in the gaps with the phrases in the boxes.

~~bad at~~ can't speak a word know a few words

To be honest, I'm quite [1] *bad at* languages. I [2] _____ of French that I learned at school, but I [3] _____ of anything else.


Carl

can also get by 'm reasonably good picked up


Heidi

My first language is Swiss German, but I live near the border, so I [4] _____ at Italian. I [5] _____ in French. We went to Lyon last summer and I [6] _____ the language very quickly.

also fluent in can have a conversation
'm bilingual it's a bit rusty

My mother is Spanish and my father is French so I [7] _____. I'm [8] _____ English, which I need for work. I [9] _____ in German, but [10] _____.


Maria

2 Rewrite these sentences using the words/phrases in brackets.

1 I don't know any Japanese. (word)
I can't speak a word of Japanese.

2 I speak enough German for holidays. (get by)
I _____ on holiday.

3 My sister can speak Chinese very well. (fluent)
My _____

4 I haven't spoken Portuguese for a long time. (bit rusty)
My _____

5 I learned a few words of Italian on holiday. (picked)
I _____

6 I can speak both Turkish and Spanish perfectly. (bilingual)
I'm _____

The English verb system GRAMMAR 1.1

3 **a** Match sentence beginnings 1–9 to endings a–i.

1 In the year 1000, English *b*
2 The English language was ___
3 A hundred years ago, many people were ___
4 Cambridge University Press has ___
5 By the 21st century, English had ___
6 Immigration, new technologies, popular culture and even war have ___
7 At present, over a billion people are ___
8 English is ___
9 However, more people speak ___

a now learning English worldwide.
b had approximately 40,000 words.
c all contributed to the growth of English.
d using French as an international language.
e grown to over 500,000 words.
f been publishing English-language teaching books since 1975.
g Mandarin Chinese than any other language.
h taken to North America by settlers in the 17th century.
i used as a first language in at least 75 countries.

b Match sentences 1–9 in **3a** to these verb forms.

Present Simple *9*
Present Continuous ___
Present Simple passive ___
Present Perfect Simple ___
Present Perfect Continuous ___
Past Simple ___
Past Continuous ___
Past Simple passive ___
Past Perfect Simple ___

LIVEWORKSHEETS

4 **a** Read the first part of an article about 'Basic English' and choose the correct verb forms.



The idea of inventing an international language is not a new one. Over the past 180 years, linguists [1]*have created / created* over ten different languages that [2]*are based/be based* on German, Spanish, English and even musical notes. One of the most influential of these [3]*had been/was* 'Basic English'.

By 1923, the First World War [4]*was/had been* over for five years, but Europe was still [5]*recovering/recovered* from its effects. Charles Kay Ogden, a linguist and writer, was running several bookshops in Cambridge. He [6]*had just written/just written* published a book which described how we use language. The success of his book [7]*has inspired/inspired* Ogden to design a universal language – one that was much simpler than English, but [8]*doesn't/didn't* require native English speakers to study a different language. In 1930, Ogden's book *Basic English: A General Introduction with Rules and Grammar* [9]*was/were* published.

It is estimated that, on average, it [10]*takes/took* about seven years to become fluent in English. Ogden [11]*believed/was believing* that 'Basic English' could be learned in seven weeks. There [12]*had been/were* only 850 words, and the grammar was simplified with very few exceptions to each rule.

b Read the second part of the article below and ill in the gaps with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

The language [1] ***attracted*** (attract) the attention of educators all over the world, but its development [2] _____ (interrupt) by the Second World War. After the war, both the British prime minister and the president of the United States [3] _____ (look) for ideas that might promote world peace. They both [4] _____ (give) speeches that supported the use of Basic English. In the past 60 years, the language [5] _____ (have) some success. In some parts of East Asia, teachers [6] _____ (still; use) Ogden's word lists. However, in the main, the language has disappeared.

Now that we [7] _____ (know) that there are many more non-native than native speakers of English, some linguists [8] _____ (recently; ask) whether we should revisit Ogden's ideas. There is even a version of the Wikipedia website which [9] _____ (write) in 'Basic English' for non-native learners of the language. Google it now!

LIVEWORKSHEETS