Through Language

Vocabulary Across cultures

Unscramble the words to complete the sentences.

1. If you move to a foreign country, you'll need to ..... (taadp) to a new way of life.
2. People have got a relaxed ..... (lseltiefy) here – I love it!
3. When I first moved here, I didn't know anyone, so I felt very ..... (yloenl).
4. This is just a ..... (tmreypora) address until I find something permanent.
5. When I crossed the ..... (erdrob) to Thailand, I had to start driving on the left.
6. When you travel, you meet people from many different ..... (uarcboksdng).
7. There was a lot to organise for my trip, so it was quite ..... (ustefrssl).
8. A lot of ..... (aptxes) from Portugal live here in Mozambique.

Match A to B to make phrases. Then match the phrases to the definitions below.

A	B
1. expand	..... a. in common
2. get	..... b. your horizons
3. take	..... c. to know
4. settle	..... d. down
5. have	..... e. advantage of

1. become happy and comfortable in a new place : .....
2. become familiar with : .....
3. be similar : .....
4. experience a variety of different things : .....
5. make good use of : .....

Complete the words and phrases in the sentences.

1. I wasn't a..... of the fact that I needed a visa to visit Vietnam.
2. You don't need to be f....., but it helps to learn some of the language.
3. Learning a f..... l..... is also good exercise for the brain.
4. When Emma started working with us, it took her a few months to s..... d....., but now she feels comfortable here.
5. Wherever you go in the world, you'll find that you have more i..... c..... with people than you think.
6. You should t..... a..... o..... the opportunity to learn about a new culture.

4 **Complete the text with the correct form of words and phrases from Exercises 1-3.**

NEW COUNTRY, NEW HOME

I think of myself as someone who is good at learning [1] ..... . So, before I went to live in Thailand, I didn't study the language because I thought I would learn it when I got there. I was already [2] ..... in English, Spanish and Italian, so I didn't expect Thai to present any major problems. Before arriving in Bangkok, I hadn't been [3] ..... that Thai was a tonal language (the intonation you use changes the meaning of a word). This makes it very different from the European languages that I speak, and although there are a few words that English and Thai [4] ....., there aren't many. So, it was very difficult to learn. This meant I couldn't speak to people, and as a result, I felt [5] ..... . But, I decided to [6] ..... the situation to learn as much Thai as I could. Once I'd made the decision, I worked very hard, and I gradually made new friends and [7] ..... . I still don't speak Thai really well, but at least it's no longer [8] ..... trying to ask for directions or order in a restaurant.



Grammar Non-defining and defining relative clauses

5 **Underline the relative clauses and add any missing commas.**

1. I found it very difficult to learn Urdu which is spoken in Pakistan.
2. I started studying Vietnamese in 2015 when I first visited the country.
3. Josephine whose father you met is very good at French.
4. I'm glad I'm going to Greece with Konstantina who can speak Greek.
5. In Belgium where people are often fluent in several languages there are three official languages: Dutch, French and German.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

6 **Connect each pair of sentences using the word in brackets. Make any necessary changes.**

1. Italian is the official language of some parts of Croatia and Slovenia. It only has 21 letters in its alphabet. (which)

   .....

2. Simon is learning Greek with Julia. Her ability to speak languages is amazing. (whose)

   .....

3. The USA hasn't got an official language. People from all over the world live there. (where)

   .....

4. Suzanne is teaching me to speak some German. She's my neighbour. (who)

   .....

5. I met Colin last week. We started the same French class then. (when)

   .....

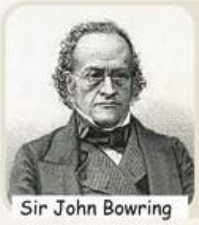
7 **Complete the text with the non-defining relative clauses A-F below.**

A. when people first wrote words down
B. where the population is around eight million people
C. which probably started around 150,000 years ago
D. which most of us do without thinking about it
E. who was the governor of Hong Kong in the mid-nineteenth century
F. whose first language was Polish

FACT FILE: Language

The ability to communicate through speech, [1] ....., is often described as the thing that separates us from the animals. Human language, [2] ....., is a truly amazing ability, so let's look at some interesting facts about it.

- Some people speak two or even three languages, and that is an impressive skill. But British diplomat Sir John Bowring, [3] ....., knew about 40 languages. Now, that is a lot of words to remember!


Sir John Bowring

- I think that even Sir John Bowring would find it difficult to cope with the number of languages in Papua New Guinea. In this country, [4] ....., nearly 850 different languages are spoken.
- Joseph Conrad, [5] ....., didn't learn English until he was around 21. It's amazing that he then went on to become one of the greatest English writers. I guess it's never too late to start learning another language.


Joseph Conrad

- Writing hasn't always been used to create interesting stories. Around 3000 BC, [6] ....., writing was used to keep a record of money and food.

8 **Read each sentence. Then complete the second sentence without changing the meaning. Use defining and non-defining relative clauses.**

1. Angelina's father comes from Belgium, so she is fluent in French.
   Angelina, ...
   .....
2. Most of the world's cocoa is grown in Africa.
   The continent .....
   .....
3. A French woman won the first prize.
   The woman .....
   .....
4. Jeremy's brother lives in Ireland. He visits Jeremy twice a year.
   Jeremy's brother, ...
   .....
5. The local carnival is celebrated every February.
   February is the month .....
   .....
6. I usually swim early in the morning because it's less crowded then.
   I prefer .....
   .....

Speaking Learning languages

9 **Complete the dialogue with the responses below.**

Yes. Lots of them are related to technology.
I think it will help me get a better job.
Yes, I think it's important.
By living in the country where it's spoken.
Not really. You need someone to speak to!
I think that Spanish and Arabic are spoken in many countries.

1. **A:** Do you think all students should learn a foreign language?
   B: .....
2. **A:** Has your language got words adopted from English?
   B: .....
3. **A:** What languages are spoken the most throughout the world?
   B: .....
4. **A:** What is the value of learning foreign languages?
   B: .....
5. **A:** What is the best way to learn a foreign language?
   B: .....
6. **A:** Is it possible to teach yourself a language?
   B: .....

LIVEWORKSHEETS