

Listen to the interview and fill in the 10 missing phrases in the blanks.

Let's hear now from Susanna Zaraysky. She speaks seven languages, and spent many years teaching English abroad and has even written a book called *Language is Music*. Um ... Is this er ... reluctance to learn foreign languages, um ... just a feature of Britain or, do you think, all English-speaking peoples?

SUSANNA I think it's all over the English-speaking world and I think there are two main reasons: one, as I agree with your previous speaker that there's **1** necessity. People don't see the necessity and, so, necessity breeds motivation, and for example we see that in Brazil there are English-language schools **2** everywhere because they need to learn English to be able to sell their products abroad. The other reason is, is that English speakers have little to no **3** to the sounds of foreign languages because almost all of our media is in English, so people in other countries will start to listen to music in English, watch programmes er ... from the United States or from the UK or from other parts of the world in English. And so, they get used to the sounds and prior er ... exposure to the sounds of a language make it much easier for a student to learn a language and it's much more fun, when you have music and ... and media.

I Is that what happened to you? I mean were you exposed to foreign languages from a young age?

S I was. I mean, I was born in the former Soviet Union and I came to the United States when I was three but I grew up in an area with a large Hispanic **4** and Vietnamese population, so I heard Spanish from a young age even though I didn't start formally studying it until I was 15 or 16. So I already knew a lot of songs in Spanish when I started learning. So, when I had to learn grammar and words, I ... I had a context in which to reference to what I was learning in school.

And because I already knew songs, I already knew some words and it was fun and I could pronounce things. So music is a huge aspect of language learning.

I So, you had a bit of a **5** if you like, but um what would be your **6** to other English speakers, perhaps averse to learning foreign languages?

S To find music that they like in the other language. Um ... to find television programmes that they like in the language ... To watch movies in the other language. Because your heart has to

7 the language. You have to actually like it, because you live a language more than you study it. So you have to find something that you like about it. For example, if somebody likes watching soc ... uh ... football, they can watch football programmes in another language, so they're at least **8** what it sounds like. Um ... If they like a certain type of a movie, whether it's animation, they could look for those type of animation programmes in other languages.

I And er **9** , you reckon?

S Of course, of course. Because, you know, people ... you get paid more money usually in government jobs if you speak another language. You have much more oppor ... You have many more opportunities to do **10** if you speak another language. And, I mean, in the United States we have 20 per cent of our population speaks another language at home, so even for domestic marketing reasons it's important.

I Susanna Zaraysky, who speaks seven languages.

CULTURE NOTE Susanna Zaraysky was born in St Petersburg but moved to the USA when she was three. She is a polyglot and to date, she has studied eleven languages, seven of which she can speak fluently. She has written two books, *Language is Music* and *Travel Happy, Budget Low*, and regularly speaks to teachers and students around the world about learning foreign Languages.

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1. a lack of
 2. popping up
 3. exposure
 4. population
 5. head start
 6. advice
 7. resonate with
 8. getting used to
 9. it's worth it
 10. trade