ЕГЭ 26-31 The world's language

The English language is famous for the richness of its vocabulary. Webster's New International Dictionary lists 450,000 words, and the new Oxford English Dictionary has 615,000, but that is only part of the total. Technical and _____SCIENCE___ terms would add millions more.

The wealth of existing synonyms means that _____SPEAK___ of English have two words for something denoted by one word in a different language. The French, for instance, do not distinguish between house and home, between mind and brain. The Spanish cannot differentiate a chairman from a president.

In Russia, there are no native words for efficiency, challenge and engagement ring. Of course, every language has areas in which it needs, for _____PRACTICE___ purposes, to be more expressive than others. The Eskimos have fifty words for types of snow, though there is no word for just plain snow. _____NATURAL___, African languages have no native word for snow. Nowadays, globalization influences the _____DEVELOP___ of languages. Some native words _____APPEAR___, giving way to international terms.

ЕГЭ 26-31 Global Language

It is difficult to tell exactly how many languages there are in the world today. _____SCIENCE___ say there are about 2,700 languages, but no one has ever made a more definite count. In most countries there are at least two native languages, and in some cases — as in Cameroon — there are hundreds. The number of languages _____NATURAL___ changes as tribes die out or linguistic groups are absorbed.

Nowadays, globalization influences the _____DEVELOP___ of languages. New words appear, existing words acquire new meanings, native words give way to international terms. Almost all languages change. A rare exception is written Icelandic, which has changed so little that _____SPEAK___ of modern Icelandic can read sagas written a thousand years ago. If you drew a map of Europe based on languages, it would be different from a conventional map. For example, Switzerland would practically _____APPEAR___, becoming part of the surrounding areas of French, Italian, and German. Italy, too, would appear on the map not as one language, but as a whole _____VARY___ of broadly related but often mutually incomprehensible dialects.