

Read the passage and accomplish the tasks below:

English belongs to the Germanic branch of the Indo-European family of languages. It is spoken as a native language by more than 300 million people, most of them live in North America, the British Isles, Australia, New Zealand, the Caribbean and South Africa. In several of the countries English is not the sole language (for example in Canada French is also spoken).

English is the second language for governmental, commercial, social or educational activities in the countries where native language is not English. In about 25 countries, English has been used as an official language or it shares that status with other languages.

Half of the world's scientific literature is in English. It is the language of automation, computer technology, international aviation, shipping and sport, literacy and public communication, diplomacy and the most frequently used language in the general conduct of UN business. It has become a world language.

1. Answer the following questions according to the text:

a) What family of languages does English belong to?

b) What is a sole language?

c) Why has English become a world language?

2. In the text, find synonyms for the following words:

to dwell (v.) _____

unique (adj.) _____

3. In the text, find antonyms for the following words:

foreign (adj.) _____

artistic (adj.) _____

4. Write *True* or *False*. Correct the false statements:

a) English is the sole language in Canada. _____

b) Half of the world population speak English as a native language. _____

c) German is the root of the English language. _____

5. Entitle the text.

6. Why is English considered a world language? Comment on it in 25 words.

7. Identify the main idea of the text and comment on it in 25 words.

GRAMMAR

I. Form nouns from the following verbs:

1. To explain _____
2. To know _____
3. To inform _____
4. To progress _____
5. To teach _____
6. To sing _____
7. To argue _____
8. To admit _____
9. To act _____
10. To examine _____

II. Fill in the blanks with *a / an / the* where necessary:

_____ last summer we went to _____ seaside for two weeks. Unfortunately, we had not booked _____ accommodation before we went, and we had _____ awful time finding _____ room to stay in. _____ only room we could find was very small, but it had _____ lovely view of _____ sea. The first day I stayed out so long, I got _____ terrible sunburn and had to stay in bed _____ next day.