

Esperanto is what is called a planned, or artificial, language. It was created more than a century ago by Polish eye doctor Ludwik Lazar Zamenhof. Zamenhof believed that a common language would help to alleviate some of the misunderstandings among cultures.

In Zamenhof's first attempt at a universal language, he tried to create a language that was as uncomplicated as possible. This first language included words such as *ab*, *ac*, *ba*, *eb*, *be*, and *ce*. This did not result in a workable language in that these monosyllabic words, though short, were not easy to understand or to retain.

Next, Zamenhof tried a different way of constructing a simplified language. He made the words in his language sound like words that people already knew, but he simplified the grammar tremendously. One example of how he simplified the language can be seen in the suffixes: all nouns in this language end in *o*, as in the noun *amiko*, which means "friend," and all adjectives end in *-a*, as in the adjective *bela*, which means "pretty." Another example of the simplified language can be seen in the prefix *mal-*, which makes a word opposite in meaning; the word *malamiko* therefore means "enemy," and the word *malbela* therefore means "ugly" in Zamenhof's language.

In 1887, Zamenhof wrote a description of this language and published it. He used a penname, Dr. Esperanto, when signing the book. He selected the name Esperanto because this word means "a person who hopes" in his language. Esperanto clubs began popping up throughout Europe, and by 1905 Esperanto had spread from Europe to America and Asia.

In 1905, the First World Congress of Esperanto took place in France, with approximately 700 attendees from 20 different countries. Congresses were held annually for nine years, and 4,000 attendees were registered for the Tenth World Esperanto Congress scheduled for 1914, when World War I erupted and forced its cancellation.

**31A** Esperanto has had its ups and downs in the period since World War I. **31B** Today, years after it was introduced, it is estimated that perhaps a quarter of a million people are fluent in it. **31C** Current advocates would like to see its use grow considerably and are taking steps to try to make this happen. **31D**

22. The topic of this passage is

- ☐ a language developed in the last few years
- ☐ one man's efforts to create a universal language
- ☐ how language can be improved
- ☐ using language to communicate internationally

23. According to the passage, Zamenhof wanted to create a universal language

- ☐ to resolve cultural differences
- ☐ to provide a more complex language
- ☐ to build a name for himself
- ☐ to create one world culture

25. It can be inferred from the passage that the Esperanto word *malespera* means

- ☐ hopelessness
- ☐ hope
- ☐ hopeless
- ☐ hopeful

26. Look at the expression *popping up* in paragraph 4. This expression could best be replaced by

- ☐ leaping
- ☐ shouting
- ☐ hiding
- ☐ opening

28. It can be inferred from the passage that the Third World Congress of Esperanto took place
- ☐ in 1905
  - ☐ in 1907
  - ☐ in 1909
  - ☐ in 1913
29. According to the passage, what happened to the Tenth World Esperanto Congress?
- ☐ It had 4,000 attendees.
  - ☐ It was scheduled for 1915.
  - ☐ It had attendees from 20 countries.
  - ☐ It never took place.
30. Look at the expression ups and downs in paragraph 6. This expression is closest in meaning to
- ☐ tops and bottoms
  - ☐ floors and ceilings
  - ☐ take offs and landings
  - ☐ highs and lows
32. Click on the paragraph that describes the predecessor to Esperanto.
33. This passage would most likely be assigned reading in a course on
- ☐ European history
  - ☐ English grammar
  - ☐ world government
  - ☐ applied linguistics
34. The paragraph following the passage most likely discusses
- ☐ how current supporters of Esperanto are encouraging its growth
  - ☐ another of Zamenhof's accomplishments
  - ☐ the disadvantages of using an artificial language
  - ☐ attempts to reconvene the World Congress of Esperanto in the 1920s