

3 READING

b Read *LinguaBlog* and check your answer to question 3 in 3a.

c Complete *LinguaBlog* with the superlative forms of the adjectives in the box.

difficult (x2) fast heavy big long old short
expensive good

d Read *LinguaBlog* again. Who or what are these people talking about?

- 1 'He could speak to people from many different countries.'
- 2 'It's a very old language.'
- 3 'It takes a long time to learn the alphabet.'
- 4 'I'd love to have this book, but it costs too much.'
- 5 'She speaks too quickly! I can't understand her.'
- 6 'I can say the words but I never know how to write them correctly.'

FACTS OF THE WEEK

One Journalist Harold Williams was one of ¹_____ language learners ever. He spoke 58 different languages.

Two Fran Capo of New York is ²_____ talker in the world. She can say 603 words in 54 seconds.

Three The Tamil language, from Southern India, is probably one of ³_____ languages in the world that people still speak today.

Four With over 600,000 words, the *Oxford English Dictionary* is one of the world's ⁴_____ dictionaries. It costs about £1,000. Is this ⁵_____ dictionary in the world? It's certainly ⁶_____ – it has 20 books and weighs 62 kilogrammes!

Five Rotokas, a language in the Solomon Islands, only has 12 letters, so it has ⁷_____ alphabet in the world. Khmer, the language of Cambodia, has ⁸_____ alphabet. It has 74 letters.

Six Many people say English is ⁹_____ language for spelling. Some of ¹⁰_____ words to spell are: *neighbour*, *foreign* and *awkward*.

4 VOCABULARY High numbers

a Find these numbers in 1c and *LinguaBlog*. What do they refer to?

three thousand	
nine hundred million	
six hundred and three	
six hundred thousand	