

advantages of learning foreign language

The Unfolding World: Unveiling the Advantages of Learning a Foreign Language in Today's Global Industry

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Published by: Global Business Insights (GBI), a leading publisher of research and analysis on international business trends and strategies. GBI is renowned for its rigorous editorial standards and commitment to providing insightful, data-driven content for professionals across various sectors.

Edited by: Mr. David Chen, Senior Editor at GBI. Mr. Chen has over 15 years of experience editing publications focused on global economics and business strategy, ensuring the accuracy and clarity of complex information for a wide audience.

Keywords: advantages of learning a foreign language, multilingualism, global business, career advancement, cultural understanding, communication skills, international competitiveness, language learning benefits, global market.

Abstract: This article explores the multifaceted advantages of learning a foreign language, particularly within the context of today's increasingly interconnected global industry. It examines the impact of multilingualism on career prospects, communication effectiveness, cultural understanding, and overall professional success. We delve into specific examples across various industries and offer practical advice for individuals and organizations looking to harness the power of language learning.

1. Enhanced Career Prospects: A Cornerstone of the

Advantages of Learning a Foreign Language

The advantages of learning a foreign language are undeniable in today's globalized marketplace. In an increasingly interconnected world, fluency in a second (or third, or fourth) language is no longer a desirable skill; it's becoming a necessity. Many companies prioritize candidates with multilingual abilities, as they represent a significant competitive advantage in international markets. This applies across a wide range of sectors, from international trade and finance to tourism, technology, and healthcare. Mastering a foreign language opens doors to a wider range of job opportunities, often with higher salaries and greater potential for career advancement. The ability to communicate directly with clients, partners, and colleagues in their native language fosters stronger relationships, builds trust, and ultimately leads to improved business outcomes.

2. Improved Communication and Negotiation Skills

Effective communication is paramount in any business environment. The advantages of learning a foreign language extend far beyond simple translation. It encompasses a deeper understanding of nuances, cultural contexts, and unspoken communication cues. Fluency enables more effective negotiation, fostering stronger relationships and leading to more favorable outcomes. Being able to communicate directly in a client's or partner's native language demonstrates respect and builds trust, crucial factors in forging successful long-term relationships. This aspect of the advantages of learning a foreign language cannot be overstated, particularly in sensitive cross-cultural business deals.

3. Deeper Cultural Understanding: A Key Advantage of Learning a Foreign Language

Learning a foreign language is intrinsically linked to gaining a deeper understanding of the culture associated with that language. This cultural understanding is invaluable in international business. It allows you to navigate diverse perspectives, understand unspoken rules of etiquette, and adapt your communication style to different cultural norms. This sensitivity is vital for building strong relationships with international partners and clients and avoiding misunderstandings that could hinder business success. The advantages of learning a foreign language in this aspect cannot be underestimated; it's a critical aspect of fostering effective cross-cultural collaboration.

4. Increased Cognitive Flexibility and Problem-

Solving Skills

Studies have consistently shown that multilingual individuals often possess enhanced cognitive abilities. Learning a foreign language strengthens cognitive flexibility, improves memory, and enhances problem-solving skills. These cognitive advantages translate to improved performance in various professional settings, making multilingualism a valuable asset in demanding and complex roles. The advantages of learning a foreign language extend beyond mere linguistic competence, contributing to broader cognitive enhancements.

5. Access to Global Networks and Opportunities

The ability to communicate in multiple languages expands your professional network exponentially. You gain access to a wider range of contacts, opportunities, and collaborations across the globe. This expands your professional horizons and provides access to innovative ideas and perspectives, ultimately boosting your career trajectory. This is a substantial advantage of learning a foreign language often overlooked, but crucial for long-term professional growth.

6. Boosting Your Company's International Competitiveness

For businesses, fostering multilingualism within their workforce is a strategic advantage. Companies with employees who speak multiple languages can more effectively tap into international markets, build stronger relationships with clients and partners, and navigate cultural nuances with greater ease. This enhances a company's global competitiveness and improves its chances of success in the international arena. The advantages of learning a foreign language for organizations are not just about individual employees; it's about elevating the company's overall standing in the global market.

7. Enhanced Personal Enrichment

Beyond the professional benefits, learning a foreign language offers significant personal rewards. It enriches your life by exposing you to new cultures, perspectives, and ways of thinking. It can expand your travel experiences, deepen your understanding of the world, and foster greater empathy and cross-cultural understanding. This personal enrichment contributes to a more fulfilling and well-rounded life.

8. Improved Marketability and Salary Expectations

In many industries, multilingual skills command higher salaries and better job prospects. The advantages of learning a foreign language often translate directly into increased earning potential and career advancement opportunities. This is a significant incentive for individuals to invest in language learning, as it represents a tangible return on their investment of time and effort.

9. Long-Term Investment with Sustainable Returns

Learning a foreign language is a long-term investment that pays dividends throughout your career. The skills and knowledge acquired are valuable assets that remain relevant and in-demand across various industries and economic cycles. This makes it a sustainable investment with significant long-term returns, both personally and professionally.

Conclusion:

The advantages of learning a foreign language are multifold and far-reaching, extending across professional, personal, and cognitive domains. In today's globally interconnected world, multilingualism is no longer a luxury but a valuable asset that enhances career prospects, improves communication and negotiation skills, fosters cultural understanding, and boosts both individual and organizational competitiveness. Investing in language learning is an investment in your future, offering sustainable returns that continue to yield benefits throughout your life.

FAQs:

1. What is the best foreign language to learn for career advancement? The optimal language depends on your field and career goals. Consider languages prevalent in your industry and target markets.
2. How much time does it take to become fluent in a foreign language? Fluency varies greatly depending on individual learning styles, prior language experience, and immersion opportunities. Consistent effort and dedicated study are crucial.
3. Are there any online resources to help me learn a foreign language? Many excellent online resources, including language learning apps, websites, and virtual courses, can support your language learning journey.
4. What are some effective language learning strategies? Immersion,

consistent practice, active use, and focusing on all four skills (reading, writing, listening, and speaking) are crucial strategies.

5. How can I demonstrate my language skills to potential employers? Highlight your proficiency on your resume and cover letter. Consider obtaining language proficiency certifications.
6. Are there any scholarships or grants available to help with language learning? Many institutions and organizations offer scholarships and grants for language study; explore available options.
7. How can I practice my language skills outside the classroom? Engage in conversations with native speakers, watch films and TV shows, read books and articles, and immerse yourself in the target culture.
8. What are the challenges of learning a foreign language, and how can I overcome them? Challenges include motivation, time constraints, and potential frustration. Consistent effort, finding enjoyable learning methods, and seeking support are key to overcoming them.
9. Is it too late to learn a foreign language as an adult? It's never too late to learn a new language! Adults often bring valuable life experience and learning strategies to the process.

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advantages of learning foreign language: Why You Need a Foreign Language & how to Learn One Edward Trimnell, 2005 The first half of this book examines the commercial, social, and political implications of American monolingualism. The second half of the book explores the techniques and tools that a working professional can use to acquire functional skills in a new language.--Back cover.

advantages of learning foreign language: Becoming Fluent Richard Roberts, Roger Kreuz, 2017-02-03 Forget everything you've heard about adult language learning: evidence from cognitive science and psychology prove we can learn foreign languages just as easily as children. An eye-opening study on how adult learners can master a foreign language by drawing on skills and knowledge honed over a lifetime. Adults who want to learn a foreign language are often discouraged because they believe they cannot acquire a language as easily as children. Once they begin to learn a language, adults may be further discouraged when they find the methods used to teach children don't seem to work for them. What is an adult language learner to do? In this book, Richard Roberts and Roger Kreuz draw on insights from psychology and cognitive science to show that adults can master a foreign language if they bring to bear the skills and knowledge they have honed over a lifetime. Adults shouldn't try to learn as children do; they should learn like adults. Roberts and Kreuz report evidence that adults can learn new languages even more easily than children. Children appear to have only two advantages over adults in learning a language: they acquire a native accent more easily, and they do not suffer from self-defeating anxiety about learning a language. Adults, on the other hand, have the greater advantages—gained from experience—of an understanding of their own mental processes and knowing how to use language to do things. Adults have an especially advantageous grasp of pragmatics, the social use of language, and Roberts and Kreuz show how to leverage this metalinguistic ability in learning a new language. Learning a language takes effort. But if adult learners apply the tools acquired over a lifetime, it can be enjoyable and rewarding.

advantages of learning foreign language: Fluent Forever Gabriel Wyner, 2014-08-05 NATIONAL BESTSELLER • For anyone who wants to learn a foreign language, this is the method that will finally make the words stick. "A brilliant and thoroughly modern guide to learning new languages."—Gary Marcus, cognitive psychologist and author of the New York Times bestseller *Guitar Zero* At thirty years old, Gabriel Wyner speaks six languages fluently. He didn't learn them in school—who does? Rather, he learned them in the past few years, working on his own and practicing on the subway, using simple techniques and free online resources—and here he wants to show others what he's discovered. Starting with pronunciation, you'll learn how to rewire your ears and turn foreign sounds into familiar sounds. You'll retrain your tongue to produce those sounds accurately, using tricks from opera singers and actors. Next, you'll begin to tackle words, and connect sounds and spellings to imagery rather than translations, which will enable you to think in a foreign language. And with the help of sophisticated spaced-repetition techniques, you'll be able to memorize hundreds of words a month in minutes every day. This is brain hacking at its most exciting, taking what we know about neuroscience and linguistics and using it to create the most

efficient and enjoyable way to learn a foreign language in the spare minutes of your day.

advantages of learning foreign language: *The Last Lingua Franca* Nicholas Ostler, 2010-11-23 Examines the rise and fall of English as the most widely spoken language in human history and discusses what language will overtake its dominance as English-speaking nations are challenged by the rising wealth of Brazil, Russia, India and China.

advantages of learning foreign language: *The Seagull Reader* Joseph Kelly, 2008 In 1859, Samuel Butler, a young Cantabrigian out of joint with his family, with the church, and with the times, left England to hew out his own path in New Zealand. At the end of just five years he returned, with a modest fortune in money and an immense fortune in ideas. For out of this self-imposed exile came *Erewhon*, one of the world's masterpieces of satire, which contained the germ of Butler's intellectual output for the next twenty years. *The Cradle of Erewhon* is an examination and interpretation of the special ways in which these few crucial years affected Butler's life and work, particularly *Erewhon* and *Erewhon Revisited*. It shows us Butler the sheep farmer, explorer, and mountain climber, as well as Butler the newcomer to The Colonies, accepting--and accepted by--his intellectual peers in the unpioneerlike little city of Christchurch, sharpening and disciplining his mind through his controversial contributions to the Christchurch Press. But more importantly, the book suggests the depth to which New Zealand penetrated the man and reveals new facets of influence hitherto unnoticed in *Erewhon* and *Erewhon Revisited*. The Southern Alps (Oh, Wonderful! Wonderful! so lonely and so solemn), the perilous rivers and passes, the character and customs of the Maoris--all these blend to afford new insights into a complex book. Butler was not the first to create an imaginary world as asylum from the harsh realities of this one (Vergil did the same in the *Eclogues*), nor was he the first, even in his own time, to protest against the machine as the enslaver of man, but his became the clearest and the freshest voice. On the biographical side, *The Cradle of Erewhon* offers new evidence for reappraising the man who for so long has been a psychological and literary puzzle. Why, for instance, did he repudiate his first-born book, *A First Year in Canterbury Settlement*? And why, once safely away from the entanglements of London, did he voluntarily return to them? Answers to these and other Butlerian riddles are suggested in the engrossing account of the satirist's sojourn in the Antipodes.

advantages of learning foreign language: *Planting Stories: The Life of Librarian and Storyteller Pura Belpré* Anika Aldamuy Denise, 2020-06-05 RECIPIENT OF THE PURA BELPRÉ HONOR * A Today Show's Best Kids' Books of 2019 * Indie Next List Pick * Junior Library Guild Selection * "An appealing tribute and successful remedy to the lack of titles about the groundbreaking librarian...a must-have for all libraries." —School Library Journal (starred review) An inspiring picture book biography of storyteller, puppeteer, and New York City's first Puerto Rican librarian, who championed bilingual literature. When she came to America in 1921, Pura Belpré carried the cuentos folklóricos of her Puerto Rican homeland. Finding a new home at the New York Public Library as a bilingual assistant, she turned her popular retellings into libros and spread story seeds across the land. Today, these seeds have grown into a lush landscape as generations of children and storytellers continue to share her tales and celebrate Pura's legacy. Brought to colorful life by Paola Escobar's elegant and exuberant illustrations and Anika Aldamuy Denise's lyrical text, this gorgeous book is perfect for the pioneers in your life. Informative backmatter and suggested further reading included. A Spanish-language edition, *Sembrando historias: Pura Belpré: bibliotecaria y narradora de cuentos*, is also available. "Anika Aldamuy Denise's intimate telling captures the magical, folk-tale feeling of Belpré's own stories. Her lyrical text, sprinkled like fairy dust with Spanish words, begs to be read aloud, while Paola Escobar's stylishly detailed and warmly expressive illustrations capture the joy of sharing stories." —New York Times Book Review

advantages of learning foreign language: *Teaching English to Young Learners* Janice Bland, 2015-09-24 Aimed at student teachers, educators and practitioners, *Teaching English Language to Young Learners* outlines and explains the crucial issues, themes and scenarios relating to this area of teaching. Each chapter by a leading international scholar offers a thorough introduction to a central theme of English as a foreign language (EFL) with preteens, with clear presentation of the

theoretical background and detailed references for further reading, providing access to the most recent scholarship. Exploring the essential issues critically and in-depth, including the disadvantages as well as advantages of Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) with young learners, topics include: - task-based learning in the primary school; - storytelling; - drama; - technology; - vocabulary development; - intercultural understanding; - Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) scenarios; - assessment. Innovative and rapidly emerging topics are covered, such as immersion teaching, picturebooks in the EFL classroom and English with pre-primary children.

advantages of learning foreign language: Fluent in 3 Months Benny Lewis, 2014-03-11
Benny Lewis, who speaks over ten languages—all self-taught—runs the largest language-learning blog in the world, *Fluent In 3 Months*. Lewis is a full-time language hacker, someone who devotes all of his time to finding better, faster, and more efficient ways to learn languages. *Fluent in 3 Months: How Anyone at Any Age Can Learn to Speak Any Language from Anywhere in the World* is a new blueprint for fast language learning. Lewis argues that you don't need a great memory or the language gene to learn a language quickly, and debunks a number of long-held beliefs, such as adults not being as good of language learners as children.

advantages of learning foreign language: How to Learn a Foreign Language Paul Pimsleur, 2013-10
In this entertaining and groundbreaking book, Dr. Paul Pimsleur, creator of the renowned Pimsleur Method, the world leader in audio-based language learning, shows how anyone can learn to speak a foreign language. If learning a language in high school left you bruised, with a sense that there was no way you can learn another language, *How to Learn a Foreign Language* will restore your sense of hope. In simple, straightforward terms, Dr. Pimsleur will help you learn grammar (seamlessly), vocabulary, and how to practice pronunciation (and come out sounding like a native). The key is the simplicity and directness of Pimsleur's approach to a daunting subject, breaking it down piece by piece, demystifying the process along the way. Dr. Pimsleur draws on his own language learning trials and tribulations offering practical advice for overcoming the obstacles so many of us face. Originally published in 1980, *How to Learn a Foreign Language* is now available on the 50th anniversary of Dr. Pimsleur's publication of the first of his first audio courses that embodied the concepts and methods found here. It's a fascinating glimpse into the inner workings of the mind of this amazing pioneer of language learning.

advantages of learning foreign language: The Way of the Linguist Steve Kaufmann, 2005-11
The Way of The Linguist, A language learning odyssey. It is now a cliché that the world is a smaller place. We think nothing of jumping on a plane to travel to another country or continent. The most exotic locations are now destinations for mass tourism. Small business people are dealing across frontiers and language barriers like never before. The Internet brings different languages and cultures to our finger-tips. English, the hybrid language of an island at the western extremity of Europe seems to have an unrivalled position as an international medium of communication. But historically periods of cultural and economic domination have never lasted forever. Do we not lose something by relying on the wide spread use of English rather than discovering other languages and cultures? As citizens of this shrunken world, would we not be better off if we were able to speak a few languages other than our own? The answer is obviously yes. Certainly Steve Kaufmann thinks so, and in his busy life as a diplomat and businessman he managed to learn to speak nine languages fluently and observe first hand some of the dominant cultures of Europe and Asia. Why do not more people do the same? In his book *The Way of The Linguist*, A language learning odyssey, Steve offers some answers. Steve feels anyone can learn a language if they want to. He points out some of the obstacles that hold people back. Drawing on his adventures in Europe and Asia, as a student and businessman, he describes the rewards that come from knowing languages. He relates his evolution as a language learner, abroad and back in his native Canada and explains the kind of attitude that will enable others to achieve second language fluency. Many people have taken on the challenge of language learning but have been frustrated by their lack of success. This book offers detailed advice on the kind of study practices that will achieve language breakthroughs. Steve has developed a

language learning system available online at: www.thelinguist.com.

advantages of learning foreign language: Age and the Rate of Foreign Language Learning Carmen Muñoz, 2006-07-07 This book examines the various ways in which age affects the process and the product of foreign language learning in a school setting. It presents studies that cover a wide range of topics, from phonetics to learning strategies. It will be of interest to students and researchers working in SLA research, language planning and language teaching.

advantages of learning foreign language: When in French Lauren Collins, 2017-11-07 A language barrier is no match for love. Lauren Collins discovered this firsthand when, in her early thirties, she moved to London and fell for a Frenchman named Olivier—a surprising turn of events for someone who didn't have a passport until she was in college. But what does it mean to love someone in a second language? Collins wonders, as her relationship with Olivier continues to grow entirely in English. Are there things she doesn't understand about Olivier, having never spoken to him in his native tongue? Does "I love you" even mean the same thing as "je t'aime"? When the couple, newly married, relocates to Francophone Geneva, Collins—fearful of one day becoming a Borat of a mother who doesn't understand her own kids—decides to answer her questions for herself by learning French. *When in French* is a laugh-out-loud funny and surprising memoir about the lengths we go to for love, as well as an exploration across culture and history into how we learn languages—and what they say about who we are. Collins grapples with the complexities of the French language, enduring excruciating role-playing games with her classmates at a Swiss language school and accidentally telling her mother-in-law that she's given birth to a coffee machine. In learning French, Collins must wrestle with the very nature of French identity and society—which, it turns out, is a far cry from life back home in North Carolina. Plumbing the mysterious depths of humanity's many forms of language, Collins describes with great style and wicked humor the frustrations, embarrassments, surprises, and, finally, joys of learning—and living in—French.

advantages of learning foreign language: Bilingual Children Jürgen M. Meisel, 2019-06-27 This practical and reassuring guide will enable readers to make informed decisions about how to raise their child bilingually.

advantages of learning foreign language: How to Improve Your Foreign Language Immediately Boris Shekhtman, 2003 This book provides a unique set of tools designed to enhance an individual's success in communication in a foreign language environment. The devices presented allow the speaker of a foreign language to demonstrate the level of his/her language more impressively. These techniques were developed and tested by the author with adult professionals in such varied fields as journalism, diplomacy, government, and international business.

advantages of learning foreign language: Polyglot: How I Learn Languages Kat— Lomb, 2008-01-01 KAT LOMB (1909-2003) was one of the great polyglots of the 20th century. A translator and one of the first simultaneous interpreters in the world, Lomb worked in 16 languages for state and business concerns in her native Hungary. She achieved further fame by writing books on languages, interpreting, and polyglots. *Polyglot: How I Learn Languages*, first published in 1970, is a collection of anecdotes and reflections on language learning. Because Dr. Lomb learned her languages as an adult, after getting a PhD in chemistry, the methods she used will be of particular interest to adult learners who want to master a foreign language.

advantages of learning foreign language: ¿Por Qué? 101 Questions About Spanish Judy Hochberg, 2016-10-20 *¿Por qué? 101 Questions about Spanish* is for anyone who wants to understand how Spanish really works. Standard textbooks and grammars describe the what of Spanish - its vocabulary, grammar, spelling, and pronunciation - but *¿Por qué?* explains the why. Judy Hochberg draws on linguistic principles, Hispanic culture, and language history to answer questions such as: Why are so many Spanish verbs irregular? - Why does Spanish have different ways to say you? - Why is h silent? - Why doesn't Spanish use apostrophes? - Why does Castilian Spanish have the th sound? Packed with information, guidance, and links to further research, *¿Por qué?* is an accessible study guide that is suitable for Spanish students, instructors, native speakers, and the general reader. It is a valuable supplementary text for serious students of Spanish at all

levels, from beginning to advanced. ¿Por qué? also covers topics usually left to specialized books, including the evolution of Spanish, how children and adults learn Spanish, and the status of languages that co-exist with Spanish, from Catalan to Spanish sign language to the indigenous languages of Latin America.

advantages of learning foreign language: Dot Complicated Randi Zuckerberg, 2013-11-05 With *Dot Complicated: Untangling Our Wired Lives*, new media pioneer Randi Zuckerberg offers an entertaining and essential guide to understanding how technology and social media influence and inform our lives online and off. Zuckerberg has been on the frontline of the social media movement since Facebook's early days and her following six years as a marketing executive for the company. Her part memoir, part how-to manual addresses issues of privacy, online presence, networking, etiquette, and the future of social change.

advantages of learning foreign language: The Gift of Languages Fabrice Jaumont, Kathleen Stein-Smith, 2019 The emergence of newer international standards and the focus on STEM education are transforming entire educational sectors. Yet, as schools focus more attention to developing global competencies and 21st century skills in their pedagogy, it has become critical to re-engage educators and school communities with the goals of language education, multilingualism, and multiliteracy while promoting interconnectedness, empathy, and mutual comprehension among our youth. With this in mind, it is important to understand the potential of multilingual education as it can serve our societies' new expectations, and provide the right tools for success to our younger generations. *The Gift of Languages: Paradigm Shift In U.S. Foreign Language Education* explores the many advantages of multilingual education and sets the stage for a new paradigm in our approach to teaching and learning languages. The book touches on the issue of foreign language deficit in the United States and the changes that need to occur in our schools to better serve our children and our linguistic communities. The book also explores the growth of dual-language education in recent years and explores the connection between both multilingual programming and solving the United States' foreign language problem. The discussion on language education in the United States has never been neutral; moreover, it has traditionally provided substantive direction and exerted significant authority over educational policy. Yet, this debate needs to move towards viewing multilingual education as an essential approach for our society, and as something that should be prevalent among educational policymakers. The audience for this book includes educators, language teachers, school leaders, school boards, program directors, scholars, and policy makers particularly if they want to join forces in building the future of education and investing in the multilingual capital of our nation. This book is part of *The Bilingual Revolution Series*. Praises We are at a critical point in our nation in which we can continue to hold on to our monolingual past, or embrace a multilingual and more inclusive future. *The Gift of Languages* helps us prepare and understand the necessary paradigm shift to adopt and implement a multilingual curriculum and mindset in our schools and communities. Co-authored by two pioneers and experienced experts in the bi- and multilingual education space, the book is a must read for educators, policy makers, community leaders, students, and interested parents who want to make meaningful changes now. – Andrew H. Clark, Ph.D. Chair, Dept. of Modern Languages & Literatures, Fordham University *The Gift of Languages* should awaken all Americans, especially the policy makers, for the need to raise future generations of multilingual citizens to compete and thrive in our global community. One of our founding fathers and presidents, Thomas Jefferson, spoke to and acted upon the need for teaching languages when he founded the University of Virginia; as a nation, we have not lived up to his words and actions. Let us remind ourselves that we started out a linguistically and culturally diverse group of peoples that came together to build a strong nation over the years. Linguistic diversity is the gift that our nation needs to give itself! – Francesco L. Fratto President, The Foreign Language Association of Chairpersons and Supervisors “Mastering languages is essential for communicating with and understanding others, respecting each other, and appreciating our heritages and our roots. *The Gift of Languages* offers an invaluable toolbox for policy makers, educators, families and students who are already working in the field of language and those who

hope to create the kind of paradigm shift that the authors advocate. The book provides cogent arguments in favor of expanded language learning at all levels, and especially argues in favor of expanding the breadth and variety of multilingual educational opportunities already spreading in public school systems from Utah to Louisiana to New York and beyond. The authors cite examples of the “Bilingual Revolution” already underway and provide the kinds of arguments and examples that resonate for educators and drive policy towards furthering the way we value language education in the United States. The book is indispensable for anyone interested in the future of foreign language education.” – Jane F. Ross, Ph.D. President and Founder, French Heritage Language Program

Over 60% of people on the planet are bilingual or multilingual — which suggests that this is the norm for human beings — and multiple studies demonstrate the cognitive, social, political, and financial benefits of bilingualism. Yet in the United States, we regularly hear news stories about people being shamed, bullied, and sometimes violently harmed for speaking other languages, even when they also speak English. Accessibly written, this book offers detailed arguments for both why and how the nation should embrace and promote linguistic diversity. Options for adults are expertly addressed, yet the authors invest even greater passion and detail in promoting early educational programs in which no child is left monolingual. I can think of no better way to shift our nation’s view of itself from “English Only” to “English Plus” and create a more inclusive society. We need a roadmap, and this book clearly lays out the territory and possible trajectories as it motivates us to make the journey. – Kimberly J. Potowski, Ph.D. Professor in the Department of Hispanic and Italian Studies, University of Illinois at Chicago

About the Authors Fabrice Jaumont is the author of *The Bilingual Revolution: The Future of Education is in Two Languages* (TBR Books, 2017), which provides inspirational vignettes and practical advice for parents and educators who want to create a dual-language program in their own school. He has also published several books and articles on philanthropy, higher education, heritage languages, cinema, and the arts. Fabrice Jaumont is Education Attaché for the Embassy of France to the United States, a Program Director for FACE Foundation in New York, and the founder of New York in French. He is also a Senior Fellow at Fondation Maison des Sciences de l’Homme in Paris. Fabrice Jaumont holds a Ph.D. in Comparative and International Education from New York University. For more information, visit the author’s blog: fabricejaumont.net

Kathleen Stein-Smith is the author of *The U.S. Foreign Language Deficit: Strategies for Maintaining a Competitive Edge in a Globalized World* (Palgrave-MacMillan, 2016), *The U.S. Foreign Language Deficit and How It Can Be Effectively Addressed in the Globalized World: A Bibliographic Essay* (Edwin Mellen Press, 2013), and *The U.S. Foreign Language Deficit and Our Economic and National Security: A Bibliographic Essay on the U.S. Language Paradox*. (Edwin Mellen Press, 2013). Kathleen Stein-Smith is Associate University Librarian at Fairleigh Dickinson University, Chair of the American Association of Teachers of French Commission on Advocacy, and member of the American Translators Association Education & Pedagogy Committee. She has taught foreign languages at high school and college level, taught adult learners, delivered TEDx talk on the U.S. foreign language deficit. She holds a Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Studies from Union Institute & University. For more information, visit the author’s blog: kathleensteinsmith.wordpress.com

advantages of learning foreign language: *The Power of Babel* John McWhorter, 2003-01-07

There are approximately six thousand languages on Earth today, each a descendant of the tongue first spoken by Homo sapiens some 150,000 years ago. While laying out how languages mix and mutate over time, linguistics professor John McWhorter reminds us of the variety within the species that speaks them, and argues that, contrary to popular perception, language is not immutable and hidebound, but a living, dynamic entity that adapts itself to an ever-changing human environment. Full of humor and imaginative insight, *The Power of Babel* draws its illustrative examples from languages around the world, including pidgins, Creoles, and nonstandard dialects.

advantages of learning foreign language: First Language Use in Second and Foreign Language Learning Miles Turnbull, Jennifer Dailey-O’Cain, 2009-08-24 This volume offers fresh perspectives on a controversial issue in applied linguistics and language teaching by focusing on the

use of the first language in communicative or immersion-type classrooms. It includes new work by both new and established scholars in educational scholarship, second language acquisition, and sociolinguistics, as well as in a variety of languages, countries, and educational contexts. Through its focus at the intersection of theory, practice, curriculum and policy, the book demands a reconceptualization of code-switching as something that both proficient and aspiring bilinguals do naturally, and as a practice that is inherently linked with bilingual code-switching.

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The book builds upon what students have already learned and emphasizes connections between topics as well as between theory and applications. The goal of each section is to enable students not just to recognize concepts, but to work with them in ways that will be useful in later courses, future careers, and as engaged citizens. In order to help students understand the ways that government, society, and individuals interconnect, the revision includes more examples and details regarding the lived experiences of diverse groups and communities within the United States. The authors and reviewers sought to strike a balance between confronting the negative and harmful elements of American government, history, and current events, while demonstrating progress in overcoming them. In doing so, the approach seeks to provide instructors with ample opportunities to open discussions, extend and update concepts, and drive deeper engagement.

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