

THE IMPORTANCE OF LEARNING FOREIGN LANGUAGE

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Abstract: *The article is about the importance of learning foreign language. Learning a new language enhances personal and professional growth. It allows people to connect across cultures, gain better career opportunities, and develop critical cognitive skills. Furthermore, language learning promotes empathy and understanding, making it a valuable tool for global communication and collaboration.*

Keywords: *interconnect, new language, society global opportunities, communication, self - development, new cultures, history, travel.*

In today's interconnected world, learning a new language has become more essential than ever. In an increasingly globalized world, the ability to speak multiple languages is no longer just a useful skill but a necessity. Language is not just a means of communication; it is a bridge that connects people cultures and ideas. Learning a new language opens up countless opportunities for personal and professional growth. It is not just about speaking another unlocking opportunity, broadening your horizons and enhancing your cognitive abilities. Here are additional reasons why learning a language is vital.

Enhancing career opportunities: being bilingual or multilingual is increasingly valued by employers worldwide. Many companies especially those with global operations, prefer candidates who can communicate in multiple languages. This skill gives you a competitive edge, especially in industries like international business, diplomacy, tourism and technology. It also allows you to work in different countries and collaborate with international teams which can further advance your career.

Increased mental flexibility: Research shows that multilingual individual has better mental flexibility. They tend to switch between tasks more efficiently and have improved multitasking abilities. Learning and using multiple languages strengthens your brain, making it easier to adapt to new situation and think critically. This can be beneficial in problem - solving both in personal and professional life. Studies have shown that it improving memory, problem-solving skills and multitasking abilities. It can also delay intellectual decline in older adults, making it a lifelong investment in mental health. Learning a language enables children to analyses information and solve problems better as they can select relevant information and ignore irrelevant or misleading information. They become more rational and objective decision makers.

Improved understanding of your native language. When you learn new language you gain a deeper understanding of your own. Learning grammar, sentence, structure and vocabulary in another language makes you more aware of how language functions. This

MODERN EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM AND INNOVATIVE TEACHING SOLUTIONS

awareness can help you improve your writing and speaking skills in your native tongue as well. Building empathy and cultural sensitivity. Learning a new language helps you develop empathy towards other cultures. It allows you to see the world from different perspectives and fosters a deeper understanding of different ways of life. This cultural sensitivity is invaluable, particularly in today's globalized world where diverse communities are working together. Understanding cultural nuances can help you communicate more effectively and avoid misunderstanding.

Boosting confidence and self-esteem. Mastering a new language is a great achievement and can significantly boost your confidence. It helps you step outside your comfort zone, challenge yourself and set personal goals. The process of learning a language, especially when you start speaking with native speakers, can improve your self-esteem and encourage you take on new challenges. Access to richer travel experiences. When you speak the language of the country you are visiting, you dive deeper into the culture. You are no longer limited to tourist destinations; you can explore hidden gems and communicate with locals to get authentic travel experiences. Language skills make it easier to navigate and understand the local culture, food, traditions and history. This enriches your travel experience and makes it more memorable.

Social connections and networking. Speaking multiple languages open the door to meeting people from different backgrounds, expanding your social circle and building connections worldwide. You can engage with people at conferences, social events or even online communities that speak different languages. This not only broadens your network but also helps you form meaningful relationship and friendships. Improved memory and cognitive function. Studies have shown that learning languages can delay the onset of cognitive decline and dementia in older people. Regularly practicing a second or third language exercises the brain and keeps it sharp. It improves memory recall, increases attention span and helps with learning other skills. A well-exercised brain can also aid in academic performance and other intellectual activities.

Learning a new language is very beneficial and important, but it comes with some disadvantages.

Time-consuming process. Learning is not something that happens overnight. It often requires years of dedicated effort to reach a level where you can confidently speak, write and understand the language.

Balancing language learning with work, studies or family commitments can be challenging. Moreover, for some complex languages like Mandarin or Arabic fluency can take even longer due to their unique alphabets and tonal systems. Language learning can be an expensive endeavor. Quality courses, private tutors, advanced software like Rosetta Stone or even subscription-based apps like Duolingo plus come with a significant cost. Additionally, attending in-person language classes or immersive language-learning programs abroad may require travel, expenses, making it even more costly. For those who cannot afford such resources, the quality of their language learning experience might suffer.



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Frustration with complex grammar and pronunciation. Different languages come with their own set of rules and complexities. For instance, languages like English, German and Russian have cases that completely change the form of words depending on their function in a sentence. Meanwhile, tonal languages like Chinese require learners to distinguish between subtle differences in pitch to convey meaning. Repeated mistakes in grammar or pronunciation can lead to feeling of frustration and a lack of motivation to continue. One of biggest challenges for language learners is finding people to practice with. If you are learning a language like Japanese and Korean, but live in a region where these languages are not commonly spoken, you may struggle to develop your conversational skills. Even with technology, such as language exchange apps or online tutors, real- life interaction remains irreplaceable, and its absence can hinder your progress significantly.

Even after putting in all the hard work, if you do not use the language regularly, your skills will deteriorate. This is particularly true for vocabulary and conversational fluency. Maintain language skills requires consistent practice, which can feel like a lifelong commitment. Language learning requires a lot of mental energy. Juggling vocabulary, grammar pronunciation and cultural nuances can be overwhelming. Learners often put pressure on themselves to perform well, which leads to stress. Moreover, the fear of making mistakes in front of native speakers can create anxiety, making it harder to practice speaking.

Learning has both good and bad sides , but more good. In addition, learning a foreign language also exposes you to new words and sentence structures. These things will help you learn other languages! This is because these words and structures exist across many different language families like Romance or Germanic. So once a person has retained them in one language, they will have an easier time picking up similar words or phrases in another language later on down the road.

In conclusion, learning a language is not just about acquiring a skill, it is about expands horizons. It enriches our minds, strengthens our connection with others and prepares us for a globally interconnected future. Embracing language learning is a step toward personal development and a more inclusive world. It is an essential asset that can help you achieve success in a variety of ways.

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