

LEVEL
Intermediate

NUMBER
B1 3036R EN

LANGUAGE
English





Goals

- Can read, understand, and recall facts from a text about growing up surrounded by different languages.
- Can express straightforward ideas related to the advantages and disadvantages of growing up with different languages.







Vocabulary

compulsory

foreign
languages

vary

exposed to



soak up

bilingual

monolingual

multitask



Vocabulary



School uniforms are **compulsory** in the UK.

It is very useful to be able to speak at least one **foreign language**.



The age children start learning languages **varies** from country to country.

Children who are **exposed to** two languages from birth will be bilingual.





Vocabulary



Young children learn by **soaking up** everything around them.

Bilingual people can speak two languages equally well.



Monolingual people can speak only one language.

People who are able to **multitask** can do several things at once.





New words and phrases

dementia

She was suffering from **dementia**.

distinguish

I couldn't **distinguish** between the twins. They looked the same.

buck the trend

Other subscribers are turning away from the newspaper, but he is **bucking the trend**.

immersed in

I was so **immersed in** the movie I didn't realise how long it was.



Growing up with different languages

English people are famous for not being very good at speaking **foreign languages**, but it is not true that they don't have the **opportunity**. Foreign language classes are **compulsory** in UK schools between the ages of 7 and 14, and schools can choose which languages they offer. The most **common** language is French, followed by Spanish, and then there are others such as German, Mandarin Chinese, and Italian. Some schools **provide** classes in a foreign language before the age of 7, and almost all **allow** students to take a foreign language exam at the ages of 16 and 18. However, an exam in a foreign language at the age of 16 used to be **compulsory** in the UK, but it no longer is, resulting in fewer and fewer people each year choosing to learn languages beyond the age of 14.





Growing up with different languages

The UK is **bucking the** global **trend** in this, as other countries outside of the English-speaking world power forward with foreign language classes. Over three quarters of students in primary schools in the European Union learn English, with many students learning more than one language! In secondary schools, the **figure** rises to over 95% of students learning English. This means that most children in the EU grow up with English as a second language.





Fill in the gaps

Fill in the gaps with the information from the text.

1. Foreign language classes are compulsory in the UK for children aged _____ .
2. The most common foreign language in UK schools is _____ .
3. Children in the UK also learn _____ .
4. Over three quarters of primary school students in the _____ learn English.
5. Over _____ of secondary school students in the EU learn English.



Speaking

Answer the questions with your classmates or teacher.



1

Did you have the opportunity to learn a language at school?

2

Was it compulsory?

3

Which languages are the most common in schools in your country?



Bucking the trend

Why do you think **the UK** is **bucking the** global **trend** when it comes to language learning?
What **problems** might this cause in the future?





Growing up with different languages

The age that children start to learn does **vary** around the world. In some countries, particularly Asian ones such as China, Japan, and Vietnam, it is common to have classes in English for babies who cannot speak in any language yet. The focus is of course on listening practice.

In contrast, in Scandinavia children start learning languages around the age of 7. However, these children are **exposed to** languages on television much earlier than that. Most experts **agree** that the best time to start learning a language is at age 3 or 4, when the brain is like a **sponge** which can **soak up** information.





Growing up with different languages

So far we have looked at second language **acquisition**, but a large part of growing up with different languages is **bilingualism**: this means that someone is **equally comfortable** speaking in two languages. Many children in the UK grow up either **fully** or **virtually** bilingual as a result of having either one or both parents who speak a different language. The most common languages spoken are Welsh, Polish, and several languages **originating** in India and Pakistan. Bilingual children are **immersed in** two languages from very early in their childhood.





True or false?

	TRUE	FALSE
1. In Asian countries, children start learning languages around the age of 7.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. In Scandinavia, there are language classes for babies.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Experts agree that the best time to learn a language is between 3 and 4.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. There are not many bilingual people in the UK.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. The most common languages of bilingual people in the UK are Welsh and Polish.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Age

At what age do children start learning a language in your country?



When did you start learning English? Do you think age makes a difference?



Bilingualism

**Are many people in your country either fully or virtually bilingual?
Which languages do they tend to speak?**





Growing up with different languages

Up until a few years ago, bilingualism was thought to cause **confusion** and be bad for children's development. However, more recent studies have **proved** this completely wrong. As adults we might **imagine** that learning two languages from birth would be confusing, but this is untrue, as children are easily able to separate and **distinguish** between languages. Furthermore, children who are bilingual have many **cognitive** advantages over their **monolingual** friends. Bilingual babies of even six months old get bored more easily and want to see new things: this is linked with a higher IQ in later life.





Growing up with different languages

In adults, bilingualism also has many benefits. Bilingual adults can **multitask** more easily which might be because the brain is used to **switching** quickly from one thing to another. Bilingual adults in America also earn around \$3000 more per year on average than monolinguals. Bilingualism has even been shown to slow the development of **dementia** by around 4 years. With around 50% of the world's population now thought to be bilingual, it is becoming **the norm**.



Fill in the gaps

Fill in the gaps with the words below.

multitask

norm

distinguish

cognitive

confusion

1. Bilingualism is becoming the _____ in the world today.
2. Up until a few years ago, bilingualism was thought to cause _____.
3. Bilingual adults can _____ more easily than monolingual people.
4. Bilingual babies and children have greater _____ abilities than monolingual ones.
5. Children can easily _____ one language from another.





Getting confused



Do you ever find that you get **confused** when speaking a **foreign language**?

Do you sometimes **mix vocabulary** from two languages?

Can you give some examples of words you get confused by?



Benefits of bilingualism

**Had you heard about the
benefits of bilingualism for
children and adults?
Do you know any other
benefits?**

higher IQ

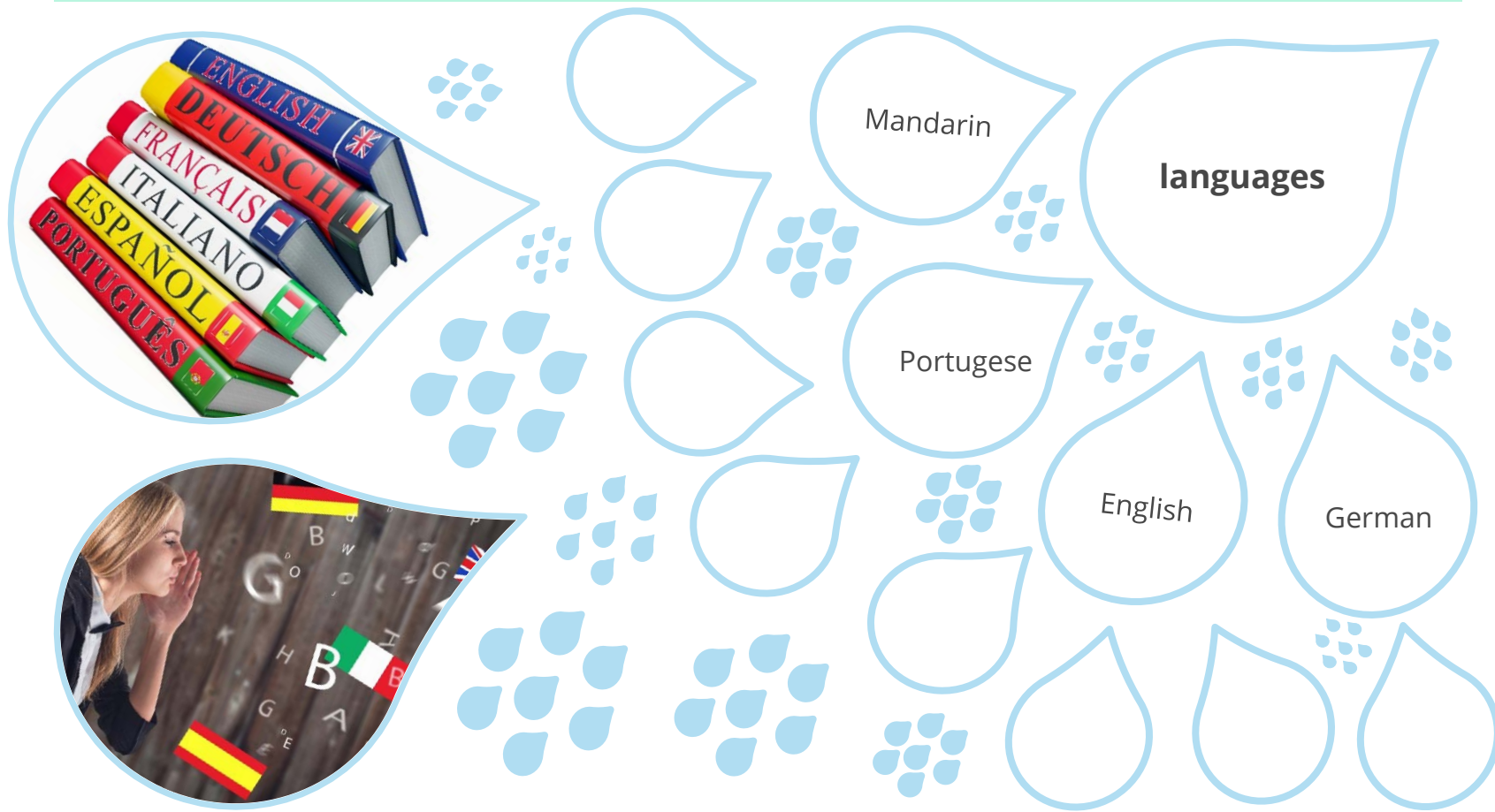
multitasking

dementia



Brainstorm

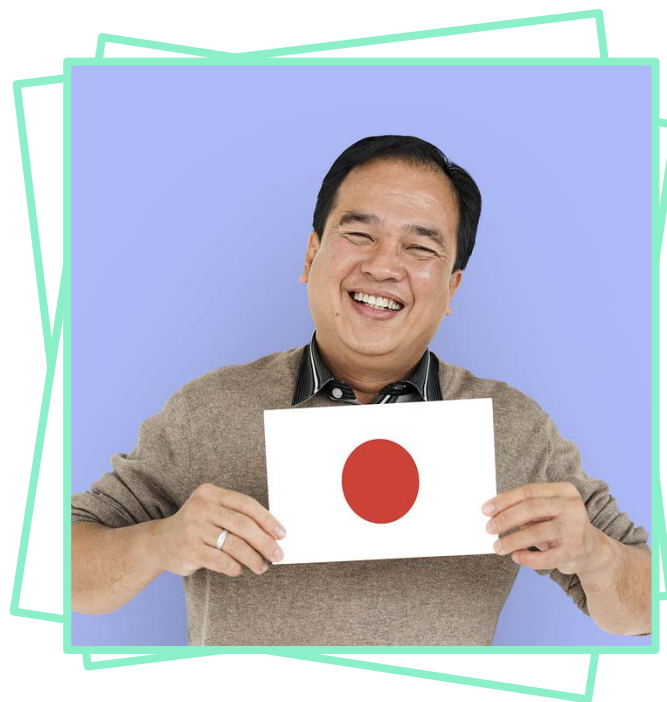
With your teacher, try to think of as many languages as possible. In which countries do people speak these languages?





Being bilingual

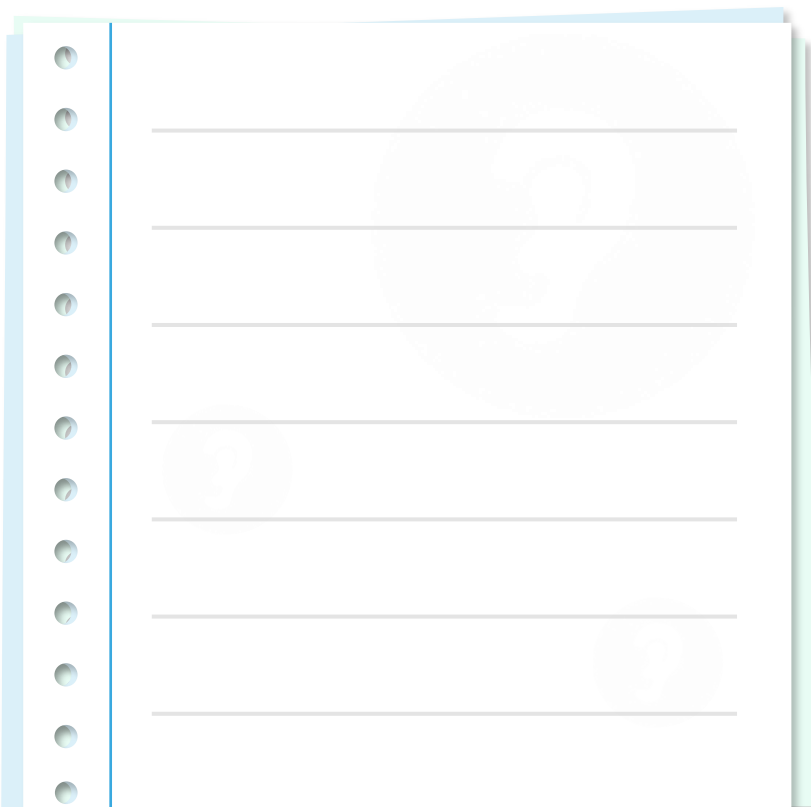
If you could be bilingual in any two languages, which would you choose and why?





Dictogloss

Your teacher is going to read to you, write down what you hear them say.



Listen up!



a
c b



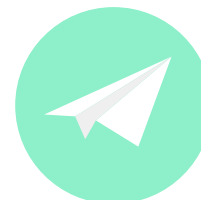


Reflect on the goals

Go back to the second slide of the lesson and check if you have achieved all the goals of the lesson.

yes

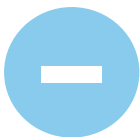
no





Reflect on this lesson

Think about everything you have seen in this lesson.
What were the most difficult activities or words? The easiest?



If you have time, go over
the most difficult slides again



Answer key

Activity p. 19

1. norm, 2. confusion, 3. multitask, 4. cognitive, 5. distinguish

Activity p. 14

1. F, 2. F, 3. T, 4. F, 5. T

Activity p. 9

1. 7 – 14, 2. French, 3. Spanish, German, Mandarin, Italian, 4. the EU, 5. 95%

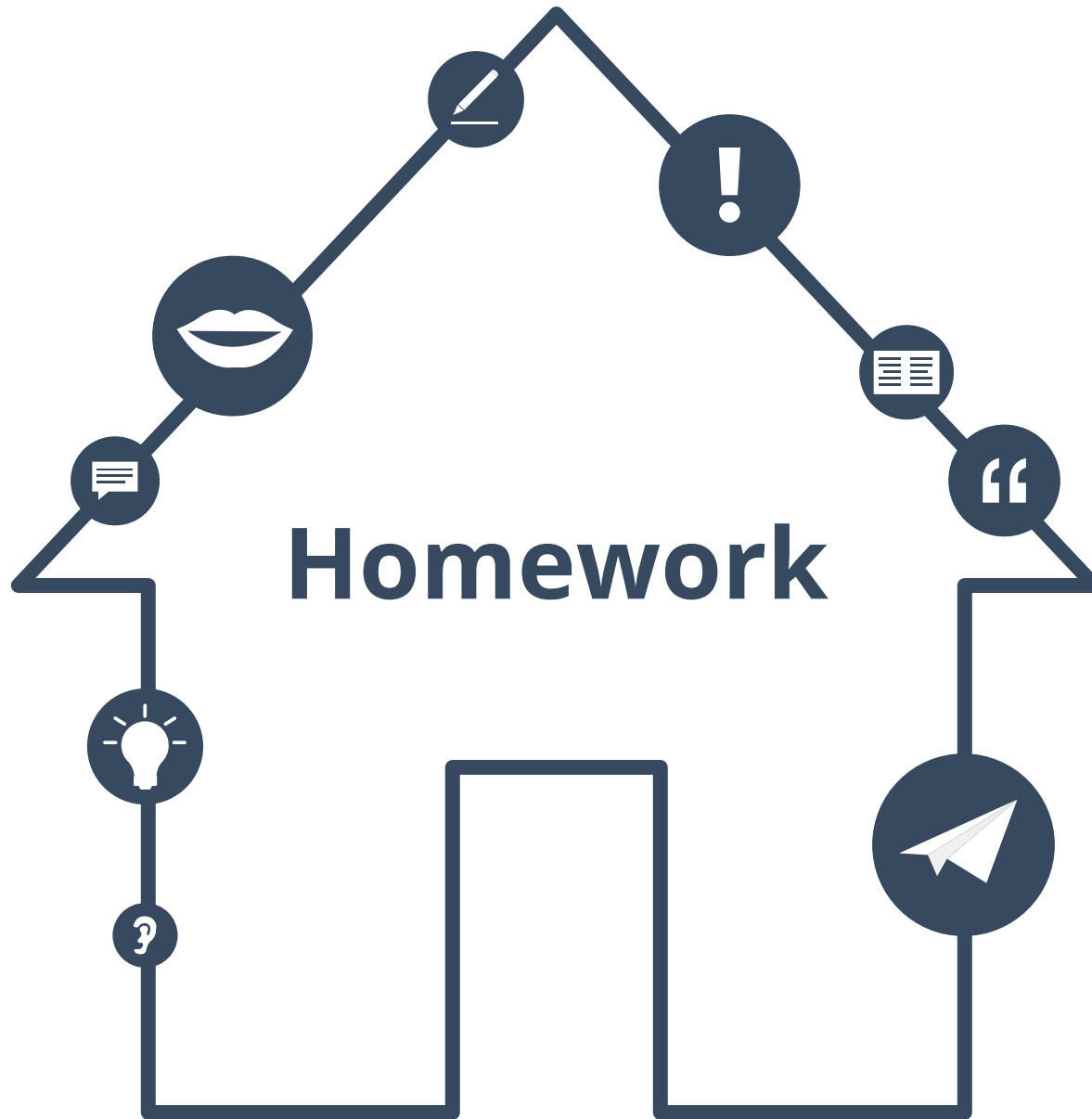


Transcription

The age that children start to learn does vary around the world. In some countries, particularly Asian ones such as China, Japan, and Vietnam, it is common to have classes in English for babies who cannot speak in any language yet. The focus is of course on listening practice.

In contrast, in Scandinavia children start learning languages around the age of 7. However, these children are exposed to languages on television much earlier than that. Most experts agree that the best time to start learning a language is at age 3 or 4, when the brain is like a sponge which can soak up information.

So far we have looked at second language acquisition, but a large part of growing up with different languages is bilingualism: this means that someone is equally comfortable speaking in two languages. Many children in the UK grow up either fully or virtually bilingual as a result of having either one or both parents who speak a different language. The most common languages spoken are Welsh, Polish, and several languages originating in India and Pakistan. Bilingual children are immersed in two languages from very early in their childhood.





Fill in the gaps with the words on the right

1. It is _____ for children between 7 and 14 to learn a foreign language in the UK.
2. However, most choose not to continue after 14, which _____ the global trend.
3. 95% of secondary school students in _____ learn English.
4. The most popular language to learn in UK schools is _____.
5. Around _____ of the world's population is bilingual.

the EU

French

bucks

50%

compulsory



Writing

**Write a text of about 200 words about growing up with foreign languages in your country.
Try to include new vocabulary from the lesson.**

○	
○	
○	
○	
○	
○	
○	
○	
○	
○	
○	
○	
○	
○	
○	
○	



Homework answer key

Activity p. 30

1. compulsory, 2. bucks, 3. the EU, 4. French, 5. 50%



About this material

Find out more at
www.lingoda.com



This material is provided by

lingoda

lingoda Who are we?



Why learn English online?



What kinds of English classes do we offer?



Who are our English teachers?



How do our English certificates work?



We also have a language blog!