

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

LANGUAGE- is human speech, either spoken or written. Language is the most common system of communication.

HOW CAN LEARNING FOREIGN LANGUAGE HELP YOU?

- *It increases your range of communication.
- *By learning another language, you gain knowledge of the customs and ways of life of other nations.
- *A foreign language can help add to your knowledge of your own language.
- *Learning it helps you add to your general stock of informations. It can be a key that unlocks new fields of knowledge.
- *Knowledge of foreign language can help you gain a spirit of broad human tolerance.
- *You can easily work with computers.
- *You can work in other states.
- *It involves four different skills: speaking, reading, writing, understanding.
- *ect.

THE MAKEUP OF LANGUAGE:

All languages have certain things in common:

- *A SOUND-PATTERN is a group of sounds that the human speech organs can utter.
- *WORDS are sounds or sound-patterns that have a meaning.
- *GRAMMATICAL STRUCTURE is the manner in which words are combined to form larger, meaningful units such as sentences.

LANGUAGE FAMILIES:

- *THE INDO-EUROPIAN (Albanian, Armenian, Balto-Slavic, Celtic, Germanic, Greek, Indo-Iranian, Romance)
- *OTHER LANGUAGE FAMILIES (The Sino-Tibetan, The Afro-Asian, The Ural-Altic, Japanese and Korean, The Dravidian, The Malayo-Polynesian...)

A FEW DIFFERENCES BETWEEN BRITISH ENGLISH AND AMERICAN ENGLISH:

BRITISH ENGLISH

- *flat
- *store
- *lift
- *petrol
- *holiday
- *pavement
- *sweet
- *post
- *biscuit
- *apologise/specialise/organise

- *travel>travelling
- *get>got>**got**
- *burn>burnt or **burned**

- *to/in hospital
- ***at** weekends
- ***in** a street
- *different from/**to**
- ***have** a bath/shower

SOCIAL SPECIES OF LANGUAGE:

AMERICAN ENGLISH

- *apartment
- *shop
- *elevator
- *gasline
- *vacation
- *sidewalk
- *candy
- *mail
- *cookie
- *apologize/specialize/organize

- *travel>traveling
- *get>got>**gotten**
- *burn>burned

- *to/in **the** hospital
- ***on** weekends
- ***on** a street
- *different from/**than**
- ***take** a bath/shower

- *FORMAL language is used in public articles, on TV and radio...
- *INFORMAL language is used in daily speech.
- *DIALECT is a form of a language that is spoken in one part of a country.
- *JARGON is a vocabulary and set of expressions used by a particular group of persons.
- *SLANG consists of words and phrases that are used in unconventional ways.

VOCABULARY:

- *ACCENT is the emphasis placed on a certain syllable of a word.
- *BLEND is a word made up of parts of two or more other words.
- *COGNATES are words in different languages that have the same original source.
- *COINAGE is an invented word.
- *COLLOQUIALISM is an informal, but not slang, expression.
- *ETYMOLOGY is a branch of linguistics (the scientific study of language) that studies the origin and development of words.
- *HYBRID WORD is composed of parts from two or more languages.
- *IDIOM is an expression in one language that cannot be accurately translated into another. The meaning of an idiom cannot be seen from the individual words in it.
- *ILLITERACY is the inability to read and write.
- *LOAN WORD is a word borrowed from another language, either in its original form or modified.
- *NEOLOGISM is a newly coined word that has not been generally accepted.

THE SPREAD OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE:

- *United States of America
- *Canada
- *South and East Australia
- *England
- *North Ireland and a part of Ireland
- *South Africa
- *New Zealand
- *Islands around Cuba
- *Gvaiana
- *ect.

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