**WORD FORMATION**

*WRITE THE CORRECT ANSWERS IN CAPITAL LETTERS!*

**ENGLISH IN THE THIRD MILLENNIUM**

On the anniversary of Shakespeare's ……………………………….(DIE), Bridget Lewis talks about the future of the English language.

Two thousand years ago English did not exist. A thousand years ago it was a language spoken by ………………………………..(LITTLE) than two million people.

Now it is the most …………………………………….(INFLUENCE) language in the world, spoken by more than a billion people on the planet, as their first, second or third language. English …………………………………….(CURRENT) dominates science, ……………………………….(BUSY), the mass media and popular culture. For example, 80% of e-mails on the Internet are English. But where will English be at the end of the third millennium?

One view is that English is going to become even more important as a ………………………………(GLOBE) lingua franca, dominating the world's trade and media while most of other languages will become localised or just die out.

At present, over half the world's 6,500 languages are in …………………………..(DANGEROUS) of …………………………………..(EXTINCT)

Another view is that English is already breaking up, as Latin did, into several separate languages. There are already dictionaries of the »New Englishes«, such as Australian English, full of words that a British English ……………………………….(SPEAK) would not recognise.

……………………………………(HOPE), neither of these things will happen. Although different ………………………………….(VARY) of English will continue to develop around the world, standard English will survive for international ……………………………………….(COMMUNICATE).

In …………………………………..(ADD), the ……………………………………..(FRIGHT) prospect of a …………………………………(CULTURE) uniform world totally dominated by one language is …………………………………..(POSSIBLE). Already, other languages are fighting back against the grip of English on the Net.

…………………………………………….(GOVERN) around the world are also starting to protect smaller languages and recognise the ……………………………………(IMPORTANT) of ………………………….(CULTURE) and linguistic …………………………………………(DIVERSE).

English will probably stay in control for a long time, at …………………………….(LITTLE) while the USA remains the top superpower,, but it …………………………………..(DEFINITE) won't become the only language in the world.

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