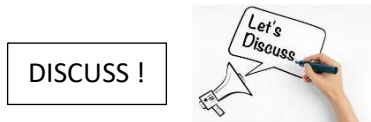


Warm up

Name the official languages that are spoken in the countries below.

1. The Netherlands: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Switzerland (4 languages): \_\_\_\_\_
3. China (2 languages): \_\_\_\_\_
4. Tanzania (2 languages): \_\_\_\_\_
5. Iran: \_\_\_\_\_
6. Iceland: \_\_\_\_\_
7. Brazil: \_\_\_\_\_
8. Thailand: \_\_\_\_\_



DISCUSS !

Now discuss these questions about the languages above.

1. Do you know any of these languages? Which would you be most likely to learn?
2. Which language do you think would be the hardest to learn? Why? Which would be the easiest?
3. Which language do you think would be the most useful to learn? Why?

Vocabulary

Look at the sentences below. What do you think the words and phrases in bold mean? Match them to the definitions on the right.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Teenagers use a lot of <b>slang</b> that I don't understand. | a. the ability to speak a language easily and well               |
| 2. It took me four years to <b>master</b> Spanish.              | b. a large number of different words and expressions             |
| 3. It's easy to <b>pick up</b> .                                | c. learn something very well                                     |
| 4. It has a rich <b>vocabulary</b> .                            | d. strange and very different                                    |
| 5. My <b>fluency</b> in English has improved a lot this year.   | e. learn by listening and practising                             |
| 6. Learning all the tenses can be <b>challenging</b> .          | f. difficult but interesting                                     |
| 7. It's completely <b>alien</b> to me.                          | g. difficult to understand                                       |
| 8. The grammar is very <b>complicated</b> .                     | h. very informal words and expressions used by a group of people |



Now answer these questions:

1. What language do you think is very complicated? Why?
2. What part of learning English is most challenging for you?
3. Do you prefer to pick up new languages from music, TV and movies or do you prefer to study the grammar and vocabulary in a textbook?
4. What can you do to improve your fluency in English?
5. What languages have you mastered already? How long do you think it will take you to master English?

Listening - Part 1

Listen to the conversation and answer the questions below.

1. What language is Sarah learning? \_\_\_\_\_
2. How long has she been studying? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What two things in English are hard for Nico? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Why is Sarah lucky? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Why does Nico not want to say "fat"? \_\_\_\_\_
6. What does Sarah say is the opposite of "overweight"? \_\_\_\_\_

Listening - Part 2 (vocabulary recycling)

Read through the first part of the script. Then fill gaps with the vocabulary words from exercise 2.

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| 1. Nico:  | Hey Sarah! How are you?  |
| 2. Sarah: | Pretty good. I'm just on my way home from French class.  |
| 3. Nico:  | How are your classes going?  |
| 4. Sarah: | Great! My teacher says that I've come a long way. In the beginning I could hardly say a word, but now my _____ <sup>1</sup> is pretty good.  |
| 5. Nico:  | That's great. You must be studying very hard.  |
| 6. Sarah: | I am. I've been taking classes for almost a year, and I try to practise as much as possible. I'll be ordering <i>cafe au lait</i> in Paris in no time!   |
| 7. Nico:  | I wish English was easier _____ <sup>2</sup> . I understand a lot and can get by in conversations. But the grammar is very _____ <sup>3</sup> and it is hard for me to understand _____ <sup>4</sup> .   |
| 8. Sarah: | Yeah, the grammar is definitely hard to _____ <sup>5</sup> . And English also has a really _____ <sup>6</sup> , which can be _____ <sup>7</sup> for learners. Actually, I'm lucky that a lot of English vocabulary comes from French, so the language doesn't sound completely _____ <sup>8</sup> to me. |

**Dialogue 1**

A: How \_\_\_\_\_<sup>1</sup> *hello* in French?

B: *Bonjour*

**Dialogue 2**

A: I can hardly \_\_\_\_\_<sup>2</sup> in Spanish.

B: Can you say *hello, goodbye* or *thank you*?

**Dialogue 3**

A: My English has come \_\_\_\_\_<sup>3</sup> in the last year.

B: That's great! What level are you at now?

**Dialogue 4**

A: My Italian is okay. I can \_\_\_\_\_<sup>4</sup> in most everyday situations.

B: That's cool. Can you teach me a few common phrases?

**Dialogue 5**

A: What's \_\_\_\_\_<sup>5</sup> of *organised*?

B: *Disorganised*

**Dialogue 6**

A: What's \_\_\_\_\_<sup>6</sup> saying *hard*?

B: *Difficult* or *complicated*.

**Dialogue 7**

A: How do you say *move* in \_\_\_\_\_<sup>7</sup>?

B: *Pardon*

**Dialogue 8**

A: What \_\_\_\_\_<sup>8</sup> *someone who is not polite*?

B: *Rude*

When learning a language, it is important to understand grammatical terms for different types of words. Complete the table below with the following parts of speech and then answer the questions.

adjective / adverb / conjunction / interjection / noun / preposition / pronoun / verb

Part of speech	Function	Example
1	action or state	go, come, be, drive, can, do
2	person, place, thing or idea	Matt, England, car, love
3	describes a noun	English, small, some, exciting
4	describes a verb or adjective	well, badly, very, often, really, away
5	replaces a noun	I, you, they, he, her, they, ours
6	links a word to a noun	to, on, at, in, over
7	joins sentences or clauses	and, but, or, however, if, when
8	short exclamation	Oh!, well, hi!, stop!

**Answer these questions:**

1. What adjectives would you use to describe yourself?
2. What's another way of saying a boy? What part of speech is that word?
3. What's the opposite of below? What part of speech are these words?
4. What conjunction do you use when there is a choice between two things?
5. What do you call the two types of nouns, for example cats and knowledge?
6. What's another way of saying that someone does something often? What part of speech are these words?

Quand les poules auront des dents
Vendre la mère
Prendre quelqu'un la main dans le sac
Avoir le trac
La cerise sur le gâteau
Tous les 36 du mois
Tenir comme à la prune de mes yeux
Travailler d'arrache-pied
Ne pas être en odeur de sainteté
Être une grosse tête

*Reliez les expressions françaises avec leurs traductions en anglais :*

1. Un gagne-pain	Easily
2. Sans crier gare	To hurt someone
3. Passer l'arme à gauche	To be capable of doing something
4. Il est vachement gonflé	To be a chatter box
5. Acheter en gros	To be poorly
6. Pas folle la guêpe	To be very successful
7. C'est de bonne guerre	It's the same thing
8. De longue haleine	To rule someone with a rod of iron
9. La fin des haricots	Not to mince words
10. A la bonne heure!	To be crazy
11. Ça baigne (dans l'huile)	Literally
12. Je me suis fait incendier	To start up
13. Ça me fait une belle jambe	It's as plain as the nose on your face
14. Rire jaune	To be homesick
15. Le jeu n'en vaut pas la chandelle	A job that pays the bills
16. Etre vieux jeu	Long term
17. Kif-kif bourricot	To be old-fashioned
18. Avoir une langue bien pendue	To die
19. Au pied de la lettre	To give a forced laugh
20. Ne pas mâcher ses mots	I was caught and told off
21. Haut la main	He has got a cheek
22. C'est gros comme une maison	It's not worth it
23. Avoir le mal du pays	To buy wholesale
24. Etre mal au point	The last straw
25. Faire mal à quelqu'un	That won't get me very far
26. Faire un malheur	Not born yesterday
27. Mettre en marche	Well done!
28. Faire marcher à la baguette	Fair's fair