

THE IMPORTANCE OF LEARNING FOREIGN LANGUAGES AND THEIR ROLE IN SOCIETY

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Abstract: This article discusses why learning foreign languages is essential in our lives and society, the current role of foreign languages, and the benefits of language learning.

Keywords: Foreign languages, language, means, opportunity, worldview, foreign languages, income.

Since the creation of humanity, people have communicated with each other through language. Language is not only a tool for individuals but also a means that connects nations. At the same time, it is a unique tool that distinguishes nations and cultures from each other. In today's globalizing world, it is impossible to imagine life without learning foreign languages. We can confidently say that learning foreign languages opens the door to opportunities. When asked why we need to learn foreign languages, the answer is clear: to travel abroad, to study at prestigious foreign universities, to communicate with foreigners, and to teach the next generation. Knowing a foreign language significantly enhances our worldview and expands our thinking. As the world continues to develop, fluency in two or more foreign languages has become a global and contemporary demand. Knowing an additional foreign language is not only important for professionals in the field but also for those working in other industries. For example, businesspeople who want their products to spread internationally and increase sales find it beneficial to communicate in foreign languages, as this leads to additional income.

Below are some reasons why learning foreign languages is necessary:

1. *Learning foreign languages enhances brain development.*

Studies have shown that learning another language has cognitive benefits, regardless of age. Research indicates that bilingual individuals have more active brains, better memory, creative thinking, and problem-solving abilities. These advantages make not only learning more languages easier but also make learning other skills easier. The ability to switch tasks quickly is especially important for today's busy multitaskers. Individuals who speak two languages can switch tasks more quickly and handle multiple tasks simultaneously better than their monolingual colleagues.

2. *Traveling becomes cheaper and easier when you know a foreign language.*

Many people enjoy traveling abroad. Knowing the local language can be incredibly helpful when visiting a foreign country. You can easily order the food you want or ask for directions from locals without difficulties. Without knowledge of foreign languages, you would need to hire a guide, which could be costly.

3. *Learning foreign languages improves job prospects.*

It is no secret that learning a foreign language can improve employment opportunities. More companies than ever are conducting business in multiple countries, and they cannot do so without hiring individuals who understand at least one foreign language. Even in small local companies, the ability to speak a second language can set you apart from other job candidates.

4. *Learning a foreign language opens up opportunities to make new friends.*

Meeting new and interesting people and establishing lifelong friendships are certainly goals worth pursuing. Language helps us express our emotions, desires, and connect with others, forming meaningful relationships.

5. *Learning a foreign language encourages open-mindedness.*

Immersing yourself in a new culture and worldview through foreign language learning is one of the most reliable ways to become a more open-minded, understanding, and tolerant person. This is truly invaluable. Seeing the world from another perspective and understanding where you and others come from can be a life-changing and eye-opening experience.

6. *Learning foreign languages helps you better understand your own language and culture.*

Learning a foreign language can reverse psychology, helping you better understand and compare your native language and culture. This is one of the most unexpected advantages of knowing a foreign language. We become more aware of not only cultural customs but also the grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation of our native language.

In conclusion, knowing a language is a key to opportunities for everyone. The more languages you know; the more doors will open for you. Language knowledge is a way to understand the world. The benefits of learning a foreign language greatly assist in achieving success in all areas of life.

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