

Worksheet | English is **GREAT**

Task 1

- What is the common link between all these words?



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Look at this poster.

- Why does the poster mention, “Home to the language and business of technology?”



- English is one of the world's global languages. What do people use English for?
- Have a look at this link to find the answer:

<http://www.britishcouncil.org/learning-faq-the-english-language.htm>

www.teachingenglish.org.uk

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Task 2 - Speaking

1. **Take it in turns with your partner to speak for one minute about how you use English.**

Give yourself two minutes to prepare your answer.

You should talk about:

- what you use English for now.
- what you like and dislike about the English language.
- what you would like to be able to do better in English in the future.
- other languages that you speak and what you use them for.

2. **Discuss this statement with your partner:**

Half the world's 6000 plus languages will die out by the end of the century and there's no valuable reason to do anything about it.

Endangered languages

- Do you speak an endangered language?
- Are there any endangered languages near where you live?
- Is it important to keep all the world's languages alive? Why?/Why not?
- What can be done to keep endangered languages alive?

To see a map of the world's endangered languages, go to:

<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/> > endangered languages > Interactive map of the world's languages in danger

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Task 3 - Vocabulary

Idioms using 'time' – the most commonly used noun in the English language.

1. Match the idioms using the word 'time' to the definitions.

| Idiom | Definition |
|--|--|
| 1. to run out of time | A. over and over again, repeatedly |
| 2. time after time | B. time to relax |
| 3. in the nick of time | C. to have an amazing, enjoyable time. |
| 4. killing time | D. free time, when not working |
| 5. time for a change | E. to enjoy yourself and not notice that time has passed |
| 6. Only time will tell, | F. making the time pass quickly |
| 7. have a whale of a time | G. you need to wait before you can find out |
| 8. spare time | H. to leave work unfinished |
| 9. Time flies when you are having fun! | I. the right moment to do something completely different |
| 10. time off | J. just at the right moment – any later and it would be too late |

Worksheet | English is **GREAT****2. Use the idioms you have just learned to fill in the gaps.**

1. The police arrived and caught the thief trying to escape through the window.
2. I couldn't believe Jane and I had been talking for 3 hours!
3. I'm by having a coffee as I wait to catch my train home.
4. I didn't finish the exam as I ran
5. if my broken arm heals well. I have to wait at least six weeks before I will know.
6. I've been studying so hard this week. I need a bit of
7. I always when I meet up with my friends. They make me laugh so much.
8. 'I've told you to tidy your bedroom! I am not going to do it for you!' said Mum to George.
9. I've been doing the same job for twenty years. I'm so bored with it now that I've decided it's
10. In her, Catherine likes to go to the cinema with her friends.

3. Use the British National Corpus to find more examples of these idioms in use.

<http://www.natcorp.ox.ac.uk/>

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Task 4

What's the question?

the What's
English your
word language
favourite in

Question: Your answer:

- Write the question and your answer in the gaps above. Be prepared to give a good reason for your answer.
- As a whole group, make a class word cloud to represent your ideas.
- You can make a beautiful word cloud here: <http://www.wordle.net/create>
- Make sure you display your word cloud on a wall so everyone can see.
- Make more group word clouds with all your favourite words in other languages. Make sure you display these word clouds too.

Task 5 - Bingo

- Play bingo with words from a video about the world's endangered languages, called 'Languages Matter!' Your teacher will give you a bingo grid.
- Watch the video or listen to your teacher call out words from the video.
- Cross off the names as you hear or see them. When you have crossed off a complete line of words, shout, 'BINGO!' Continue watching the video until someone crosses off all their words and shouts 'BINGO!' again.
- You can watch the video here:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q-XozG0RSCo&feature=player_embedded#!

Worksheet | English is GREAT**Extension activities****1. World Languages Reading Game**

What interesting facts do you know about the languages of the world?

- In your pair or team, use the internet to search for interesting facts about the languages of the world.
- Write the facts you collect in the grid below. You should use complete sentences.
- Useful websites

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/guide/languages.shtml>

<http://www.funtrivia.com/en/World/Languages-50.html>

The team with the longest list of interesting facts is the winner. Get searching!

| Fact Number | Fact |
|-------------|------|
| 1 | |
| 2 | |
| 3 | |
| 4 | |
| 5 | |
| 6 | |
| 7 | |
| 8 | |
| 9 | |
| 10 | |
| 11 | |
| 12 | |
| 13 | |
| 14 | |
| 15 | |

Worksheet | English is GREAT**2. Prepare a talk**

Prepare a five-minute talk for your next class about one of the world's endangered languages.

Talk about:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Name of the language | |
| Where it is spoken | |
| Statistics about the language | |
| Any more information | |

Useful websites include: <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/> (search under 'endangered languages')