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THE IMPORTANCE OF LEARNING FOREIGN LANGUAGES

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Abstract

It is regarded in this article as one of the primary components of many forms of communication intended to acquire a foreign language, which is becoming more and more common these days. Compared to obtaining a degree in your preferred language, studying a foreign language has numerous benefits. A combination of these techniques, adapted to the learner's objectives, preferences, and learning style, is frequently necessary for effective language acquisition. Long-term language competency can be improved and the language learning experience can be improved by experimenting with various methods and determining what works best for particular learners. Beyond simply translating words, learning a foreign language has several advantages. The value of learning a foreign language extends beyond its practical applications to include societal advancement, cultural appreciation, and personal enrichment. Adopting multilingualism and linguistic diversity improves people's lives, increases global understanding, and makes the world more inclusive and interdependent.

Keywords: primary components, foreign language, combination of techniques, learning style, long-term language, various methods, practical applications, societal advancement, cultural appreciation, personal enrichment, multilingualism and linguistic diversity.



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Introduction

The world is referred to as a "global village" nowadays. Making friends, learning, and conducting business has never been simpler. The globe is our playground, not just our nation. Opportunities are greater than they have ever been. Building strong relationships and communicating effectively are key components of success in today globalized world. Language is one of the most important components of effective communication. A culture and its society are reflected in its language. By gaining a greater grasp of our home tongue, learning a foreign language enables us to comprehend a culture, its people, and its society. Different degrees of second language competency are necessary for conducting business, working or studying overseas, and participating in a global community. Speaking a second language enables you to interact with individuals from various nations and have a thorough understanding of and exposure to their cultures.

Literature review:

Numerous academics and researchers have studied the value of learning a second language. Among the prominent individuals and research in this area are: Stephen Krashen: Well-known for his contributions to the theory of second language acquisition, Krashen's input hypothesis postulates that exposure to relevant information facilitates language acquisition. His studies highlight the value of genuine interaction and meaningful language use in language acquisition.[1;8] Ellen Bialystok: Well-known for her studies on bilingualism and cognitive development, Bialystok's research emphasizes the advantages of bilingualism for the brain, such as improved executive function and cognitive flexibility. His studies highlight the value of genuine interaction and meaningful language use in language acquisition.[1;8] Ellen Bialystok: Well-known for her studies on bilingualism and cognitive development, Bialystok's research emphasizes the advantages of bilingualism for the brain, such as improved executive function and cognitive flexibility. Her studies highlight how learning a foreign language



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improves cognitive capacities.[3;12] Richard Schmidt: Schmidt's work focuses on how language acquisition involves both explicit and implicit learning. Language teaching approaches have been impacted by his studies on the attention hypothesis and the significance of consciousness in language acquisition.[4;12] James Cummins: Well-known for his studies on language development and bilingual education, Cummins has investigated the connection between academic success and linguistic ability. His research highlights how crucial it is to help kids become more proficient in their mother tongue. According to Virginia P. Collier and Wayne P. Thomas' research on the "hypothesis," kids must be at least somewhat proficient in both their home tongue and a second language in order to succeed academically. Language education policies and initiatives for English language learners have been impacted by their work. Lera Boroditsky: Boroditsky's studies concentrate on how language affects perception and cognitive functions. His work focuses on how language affects cognition, especially how it affects memory, attention, and decision-making. The idea that there is a biologically regulated window of opportunity for language acquisition is explored by Paula Menek and Anne Oller's study on the critical period hypothesis. Despite being contentious, their research has advanced our knowledge of the variables affecting language acquisition in all age groups. Claude Goldenberg: With a focus on successful teaching methods for students from language minority backgrounds, Goldenberg's research focuses on language development in bilingual and multilingual learners. His research looks at how crucial it is to promote language development in a range of educational contexts. His findings demonstrate how important it is to assist children in improving their mother tongue proficiency. According to research on the "hypothesis" by Virginia P. Collier and Wayne P. Thomas, children cannot flourish academically unless they are at least somewhat skilled in both their native tongue and a second language Their work has influenced language education policies and programs for English language learners. Lera Boroditsky: Boroditsky's research focuses on



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how language influences cognitive processes and perception. His research focuses on how language influences cognition, particularly memory, attention, and decision-making. Paula Menuk and Anne Oller's work on the critical period hypothesis investigates the notion that there is a biologically regulated window of opportunity for language acquisition. Their research has improved our understanding of the factors influencing language learning across all age groups, while being controversial. Claude Goldenberg: Goldenberg's research focuses on language development in bilingual and multilingual learners, with an emphasis on effective teaching strategies for students from language minority backgrounds. His study examines the importance of fostering language development in various educational settings.

Results and discussion:

We acquire a language for practical purposes. The objective is to become proficient in the language. Learning a foreign language opens up many chances, whether it is done voluntarily or out of need. Fluency in a second language is a significant advantage in the employment market given the increasing diversity of the United States. Spanish is becoming a requirement for many employment due to the United States' close proximity to Mexico. In the legal and medical domains, intercultural communication is essential. If the client is not fully understood, equality and justice cannot be achieved. Immigrants have traditionally sought to settle in the United States. These individuals require assistance in their mother tongues as well. In today's world, learning a foreign language has evolved from being a prerequisite for academic success to a vital skill. Due to the difficulty of memorizing vocabulary and verb conjugations, people frequently do not make an effort to learn a language. Here, the emphasis is on using the language to accomplish other goals rather than on the language itself. Traditional instruction frequently fails to demonstrate to students how the language is used in everyday situations. In the future, language acquisition continues even when classroom



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instruction has ceased. At this point, a person has mastered enough fundamental language skills to start working on their own. At this point, kids understand that language can replace them and that language is necessary to get there. Learning a foreign language must move from academic to real world. A degree in the language of your choice is not the goal of learning a foreign language. In reality, it is about the experiences you have along the way. This methodology aims to elucidate the many theories and instruments utilized in order to fully comprehend a foreign language. This idea is very broad and encompasses a nation's history, customs, way of thinking, several dialects, and lifestyles. One gains a great deal of knowledge and insight from this. As a result, it is crucial to treat learning a foreign language seriously. As previously stated, the ability to comprehend and analyze information in a language other than one's own is true learning. This can be quite challenging, and achieving it calls for a methodical approach. Communicating with people from other cultures is made possible by learning a foreign language. This is crucial in today's globalized world, particularly with the aid of telecommunications and the internet. Speaking a foreign language is a valuable ability for job seekers in the current economic climate. A foreign language is necessary for many jobs. A person's intellectual growth and comprehension of other cultures worldwide are also improved by learning a foreign language. People's relationships are strengthened, and their perspectives are enhanced. Learning a foreign language makes it easier to communicate effectively and fosters deep connections with others who speak different languages. Language proficiency enables people to transcend linguistic and cultural boundaries and promote collaboration and mutual understanding in a world growing more interconnected by the day.

When Naiman, Frohlich, Stern, and Todesco (1978) contrasted the learning processes of Canadian students learning English and French, an empirical investigation revealed that this is what they did. The French language learners focused more on memorization, repetition, and proper word usage. These kids



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were all employing a highly conscious system, and it is likely that they were performing tasks that were just a little bit difficult for them. They were able to watch what they were doing and compare it to the proper form. These are all signs of competence.

Finally, you can impart your language skills to others. This could entail either teaching the language directly or utilizing it to support learning in other domains. For instance, a certified instructor who speaks French well could assist international students in getting into institutions in English-speaking nations.

It can be a source of lifelong happiness to read foreign literature or converse with individuals in their native tongue. Gaining proficiency in a second language can be highly fulfilling. It is an incredible feeling of success. You are frequently overcome with feelings of inadequacy and the belief that you will never succeed when learning a language. Then all of a sudden, you realize you can comprehend. This boosts your confidence in other areas and is a highly encouraging experience. Learning a foreign language encourages people to step beyond of their comfort zones, develop personally, and become robust and adaptive. It fosters self-assurance, tenacity, and an openness to new experiences, all of which support lifelong learning and personal development.

The immediate advantage is useful: proficiency in one or more foreign languages can be a significant advantage in the workplace. Foreign language speakers frequently have the chance to live and work abroad. English speakers who are also fluent in Spanish, French, or German may find that their job requires them to go to one of the several nations on every continent. This creates a plethora of employment prospects across numerous industries.

What makes learning a foreign language crucial? It can be challenging to see the benefits of learning. It requires effort and time to learn a foreign language. You can persuade yourself to follow that course if you need persuasion. Beyond simply being able to speak another language, learning a foreign language has

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several advantages. The following are some of the primary justifications for the significance of learning a foreign language:

Cultural awareness: Acquiring knowledge of a foreign language gives you a better understanding of the customs, culture, and viewpoints of its speakers. In a globalized environment, empathy and cross-cultural understanding are essential. This fosters empathy and intercultural understanding, both of which are vital in our globalized society.

Improved cognitive abilities: Research indicates that learning a second language can enhance cognitive abilities like multitasking, critical thinking, and problem solving. Additionally, it can postpone the start of age-related cognitive deterioration.

Enhance communication skills: Active listening, fluency, and the capacity to adjust to various linguistic circumstances are all enhanced by learning a foreign language. In both personal and professional contexts, this ability is priceless.

Boost employability: Employers place a high priority on foreign language proficiency in an increasingly globalized environment. Opportunities for foreign career pathways and positions requiring interaction with a variety of communities are made possible by this.

Increased network: You can establish connections with individuals from all cultures and backgrounds by learning a foreign language. It broadens your social circle and enables you to establish deep connections with others worldwide.

Travel and Discovery: By enabling a closer bond with the local people and culture, speaking the native language improves travel experiences. It facilitates richer destination discovery, improves genuine relationships, and makes navigating simpler.

Personal Development: Learning a foreign language is a demanding but worthwhile undertaking that promotes resilience and personal development. It increases self-assurance, tenacity, and a feeling of achievement when conquering language difficulties.



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Intellectual Stimulation: Learning a foreign language requires ongoing exposure to new vocabulary, grammatical rules, and cultural quirks. This keeps the mind active and offers constant intellectual stimulation.

Language & Heritage Preservation: Acquiring knowledge of less commonly spoken languages helps to preserve and revitalize them. It preserves cultural heritage and honors linguistic diversity.

Global Citizenship: By encouraging intercultural communication, tolerance, and collaboration, learning a foreign language promotes global citizenship. It inspires people to take an active role in global concerns and help create a society that is more inclusive.

Conclusion:

Scholars who have significantly advanced our knowledge of the value of learning a foreign language and the advantages it offers in terms of cognition, social interaction, and academic performance. The theoretical underpinnings of second language learning, instructional strategies, and language education policy are all influenced by their research. Overall, learning a second language is a life-changing experience that enhances social, professional, and personal facets. It helps us comprehend the diversity of languages and cultures around the world on a deeper level, broadens perspectives, and breaks down barriers. It is evident that the interaction between philological and non-philological language instruction is a complicated matter, and language instructors must deal with competing demands and real-world difficulties. However, it is undeniable that both forms of language have a place in the curriculum and that educated people ought to be conversant in them. Furthermore, there is no chance of learning just one foreign language, and philological language knowledge can be a useful tool for estimating the meaning and pronunciation of unknown foreign languages. Finally, we may all concur with Chomsky that "linguistics is a branch of psychology" and that general and specialty psychology teachers may find it useful



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to understand both foreign and L1 linguistics. Therefore, we should make an effort to give an integrated approach and close the gap between these two types of language. Generally speaking, the benefits of learning a foreign language extend beyond practical advantages and include social, educational, and personal advantages. Accepting linguistic diversity contributes to the development of intercultural understanding, respect for one another, and a more welcoming and peaceful world community.

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