

# LEARNING A FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Some questions are personal. You don't have to answer them. You can say, "I'd rather not say."



## LEARNING A FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Sometimes, the biggest challenge to language learning is overcoming our fears, especially the fear of making a mistake, of saying the wrong thing, of embarrassing yourself, of not being able to find the right word, and so on. Anyone learning a language is going to make mistakes, and this is good! One of the key principles of language learning is all about making mistakes and then learning from them.

If you're not willing to make mistakes you won't learn to speak. You need to push yourself to get comfortable making mistakes.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What language is spoken the most in your home country? Is English important for an individual in your country?
2. Why are you studying English?
3. What languages are spoken the most throughout the world?
4. Would you like to raise multilingual children?
5. When you learn new words, is it generally easier for you to remember "silly and useless" words, or "common and useful" words?
6. What is the best way to learn a foreign language?
7. To speak its language well, how important is it to know something about the culture of a country?
8. What different techniques do you have for learning vocabulary?
9. How did your best language teacher help you?
10. Have you had any particularly poor language learning experiences?



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We have a spiritual part to every café. Why? Because we are spiritual humans. Jesus said, "No one can live only on food. People need every word that God has spoken." If you want to learn more about the spiritual part, ask your volunteer about Discovery Group Studies.



## WHAT'S MORE IMPORTANT THAN LEARNING A NEW LANGUAGE?

"I may speak in different languages of men or even angels. But if I do not have love, then I am only a noisy bell or a ringing cymbal. I may have the gift of prophecy; I may understand all the secret things of God and all knowledge; and I may have faith so great that I can move mountains.

But even with all these things, if I do not have love, then I am nothing. I may give everything I have to feed the poor. And I may even give my body as an offering to be burned. But I gain nothing by doing these things if I do not have love.

Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous, it does not brag, and it is not proud. Love is not rude, is not selfish, and does not become angry easily. Love does not remember wrongs done against it. Love takes no pleasure in evil, but rejoices over the truth. Love patiently accepts all things. It always trusts, always hopes, and always continues strong. Love never ends."

1 Corinthians 13:1-8 ICB

Speaking in different languages can be like making a lot of noise. What's more important than learning a foreign language?

Love is one of the most over used words in English. It can mean almost anything. What do you think of this definition of love?

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## IDIOMS

**Make someone look bad** - means to do something stupid or embarrassing which makes the people who are with you feel ashamed. "Sit down and behave yourself! You're making us look bad."

**Learn something the hard way** - means to learn something through personal experience, especially when it is difficult or painful. "Starting your own business is really tough. I had to learn that the hard way."

