

Reasons to Study a Foreign Language



To Travel Abroad

Speaking the foreign language of the country you are visiting enables you to participate more effectively in day-to-day life.

To Enhance Job Prospects

Foreign language ability looks attractive to prospective employers. International job applicants who are proficient in at least two languages will be at a distinct advantage in the global market.

To Better Understand Other Cultures

Knowledge of another language gives insight into another culture and enables you to experience life from a different point of view.

To Experience Foreign Literature, Movies and Music

You can enjoy the works of Dante, Fellini and Puccini by learning Italian. Or you can read Tolstoy in his native language if you choose to learn Russian.

To Better Understand Your Own Culture

Exposure to another language and culture gives you the ability to observe your own culture. Value systems and norms that you previously thought of as universal look very different when viewed more objectively.

To Improve Cognitive Ability

Foreign language study increases problem-solving skills, memory and self-discipline. Also, children who study a second language often score higher in subjects such as math and reading.

To Make Learning Another Foreign Language Easier

Studying a foreign language helps you develop metalinguistic awareness—a knowledge of how languages work.

To Study Abroad

It's much easier to study abroad when you can already speak a little of the country's language. Not only does it reduce culture shock, but it lets you concentrate on your course of study, rather than learning the language.

To Increase Ability in Your Own Language

Through a process of compare and contrast, you will develop a better understanding of and ability in your own language.