

12. LANGUAGES AND LANGUAGE LEARNING

- English as a world language – advantages / disadvantages.
- The importance of learning foreign languages.

I guess we all know what would happen if nations spoke only their national language. International communication would not be possible. It is quite hard to imagine such a world. Therefore it is necessary to study foreign languages - to communicate with the world.

Unfortunately we do not have an universal language (except body language) that everybody would understand and speak. There were some trials e.g. Esperanto but so success was made. And even if people would accept Esperanto we would have to learn it as if it was a foreign language.

But anyway some selection must be made. When we decide to study any foreign languages we should consider the applicability of language. I guess it is quite inconvenient for an average American to begin learning Slovenian language.

I guess speaking foreign languages depends on the largeness of some nation, as well. Slovenes are obliged to speak at least English when we want to communicate to the world. But anyway it is better to know the foreign language and the native languages. Because if the whole world wanted to speak one language native languages would extinct and therefore the notion of nation would extinct, too.

But once we are studying foreign languages I think it is a waste of time when we go into details unless we want to know the language better than native speakers. Learning is useable until we can communicate in that language without any problems.

And what are the objective solutions? I guess there are not any easy way solutions. You have to put some effort into learning foreign languages and I think it is worth. Because it is always good to understand other people. And if we are too lazy to learn that, we still can use our universal body language.