

While you listen

The *Britain is Great* series tells you about some of the things that make Britain so great. There's a lot of fun facts – and lots of good language, too. See if you can answer the questions while you watch the video.

Comprehension Task 1 - Put what happens in the video in the right order.

- a) Martin explains how technology can help learners of English.
- b) Richard asks about different types of English.
- c) Richard asks about English as a global language.
- d) Richard asks if technology changes language.
- e) Richard talks about the importance of English for work and study.
- f) Richard visits the British Council.
- g) Some people talk about their experiences of studying in Britain.

Comprehension Task 2 - Choose the best answer according to the video.

1. The British Council...
 - a) works to make cultural relationships with other countries.
 - b) gives help to people who want to learn English.
 - c) makes resources available for people who teach English.
 - d) all of the above are true.

2. Martin Peacock...
 - a) teaches English for the British Council.
 - b) thinks there are many global languages.
 - c) has a northern English accent.
 - d) all of the above are true.
3. Martin says that English is a global language because...
 - a) it's used in a lot of different contexts globally.
 - b) there are many different varieties of English.
 - c) it's spoken by large numbers of people.
 - d) all of the above are true.
4. Martin says that technology...
 - a) has speeded up the way that languages change.
 - b) lets people read more authentic English.
 - c) lets people translate languages.
 - d) all of the above are true.
5. Clare, Maximiliano, Alexander and Anthony...
 - a) are all studying English in Britain.
 - b) all agree that British people are nice.
 - c) all say that English will help them in their careers.
 - d) all of the above are true.

Language Task 1 - Put the words in the right spaces.

- | | |
|-----------|--------------|
| a) coined | e) resources |
| b) doors | f) scale |
| c) engage | g) turned |
| d) fields | h) widely |

1. The British Council provides _____ for people learning English.
2. There are other languages which are used very _____ and spoken by many people.
3. In the past, new words were _____ by people - it might have been in a speech or a newspaper article or in a book.
4. The Internet allows people to read and translate languages like English, on a massive _____.
5. Knowledge of the language is often important in _____ like medicine, business and computing.
6. English opens _____ to employment, education and mobility.
7. English helps teachers and learners _____ across the globe.
8. I just _____ twenty-four last February and I'm from Malaysia.

Language Task 2 - "English is used very widely". 'Widely' is an adverb. But not all adverbs end in 'ly'. Add 'ly' to the adverbs in these sentences - but only if necessary!

1. Portuguese is a wide_____ spoken language.

2. I thought the film was deep_____ moving.
3. I wanted to sleep late in the holidays, but I was always wide_____ awake at 6.30.
4. The thing I hate most_____ about my boss is her bad temper.
5. The pirates hid the treasure buried deep_____ beneath the sand.
6. I wouldn't say he's a friend - I hard_____ know the man.
7. Time goes really fast_____ when you're enjoying yourself.
8. I don't do much on Sunday evenings - just watch television most_____.
9. He played well, but he didn't come near_____ to winning the match.
10. He threw the ball so hard_____ that no-one could possibly catch it.
11. Stay close_____ to me at the concert if you don't want to get lost.
12. I ate near_____ a whole box of chocolates last night.
13. Don't get so upset - take it easy_____.
14. The actor left the nightclub, close_____ followed by a crowd of photographers.

Comprehension Task 1: f, c; b; d; a; e; g;

Comprehension Task 2: 1; d; 2; c; 3; a; 4; d; 5; a

Language Task 1: 1. e; 2. h; 3. a; 4. f; 5. d; 6. b; 7. c; 8. g;

Language Task 2: 1. widely; 2. deeply; 3. wide; 4. most; 5. deep; 6. hardly; 7. fast; 8. mostly; 9. near; 10. hard; 11. close; 12. nearly; 13. easy; 14. closely

www.britishcouncil.org/learnenglish