

## **THE ROLE OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES IN THE PRESENT DAY LIFE**

«I'm always impressed by people who can speak another language, two people talking what sounds like utter gibberish, yet making complete sense to each other never fails to entertain» – Tom Reynolds.

«He who does not know foreign languages does not know anything about his own» – Johann Wolfgang von Goethe.

The Role of Foreign Languages in the Present Day Life: Foreign language proficiency plays far from the least role in our lives today. 51 % of people suppose that ability to speak foreign languages, particularly English, can help them to be promoted. So, foreign languages are an excellent career. 23 % learns English or another foreign language to go for a study or some training courses abroad. It's not bad, is it? Also some people try to make their English better to go for business or for pleasure trips. If you know foreign language, you have an ability to go abroad for official journey or just for travelling. Fluent English is a key for young scientists and researchers to take part in international conferences. It goes without saying, The English language is an efficient means of self-education and self-development.

The importance of learning foreign languages: If you don't know any foreign language, even English, you lose lots of great abilities which can make your life brighter. And I've already mentioned these abilities in the previous paragraph. Let's recall them: making career, promotion, ability to study and work abroad, foreign training courses, taking part in conferences and travelling.

24 languages are used in the European Union. So, even one of these languages proficiency gives us lots of advantages. As for me, it's quite enough just to know English as an international language. But, if you can speak another European Union's language, you can be successful in life.

Statistics data of learning foreign languages in EU. The company called «Education first» has made the research about dependence and interconnection between foreign languages proficiency level and the economic state of a country. The more people can speak foreign languages well, the better economic situation in a country is. I can explain this statistics in such a way: knowing foreign languages is a key to interact with foreign companies and investors.

The most popular languages in the World. The most popular and widespread languages in the world are English, German, Spanish, Portuguese, French and some other languages. The popularity of these languages comes from the history, when England and Spain were very influential colonists-countries, and, of course, the today's powerful status of these states also makes their official languages very popular throughout the world nowadays.

The prevalence of the most popular languages in the world. I've already told about the most widespread languages in the world. But every of these languages is influential only in a certain territory. For example, Spanish is

spoken in Spain, Portugal and South-America countries. German is popular in Germany, Austria and Lichtenstein. So, the choice of foreign language depends on what country you plan to visit or what nation is your business partner. Only English is spread all over the world. The well-known saying, «English came out from nowhere to win the world» seems to be absolutely up-to-date and true-to-life. As an international language, English has become de-nationalised. It is no longer the property of the native English-speaking nations; it has got into the hands of foreigners. They own it now [3].

Information and statistics data about using foreign languages.

Using foreign languages in different areas of life:

1) in business – As I have admitted in the first part of my speech, English is a great possibility for business. English proficiency makes you capable to study and work abroad, to be a participant of different international programs and training courses.

2) in everyday life – If you know foreign language, you can have some benefits from it in your everyday life. I think that the advantage is communication. You can have a pen pal from other country or even a live friend – native speaker. It's very interesting and useful, isn't it? The other benefits are watching movies, listening songs, reading books and magazines in the original. If you appreciate arts, this is a great motivation for you.

3) in education and science – it's quite similar for a business area. Foreign language proficiency gives you an ability to study abroad or take part in training courses. «Most of the knowledge related to computer or health, for example, is in English. Being able to use English in your researches – especially on the Web – will give you unlimited access to knowledge!» [6]

Students who are English language learners (ELL) participate in appropriate programs of language assistance, such as English as a Second Language, High Intensity Language Training, and bilingual education. The percentage of public school students in the United States who were English language learners was higher in school year 2011–12 (9.1 percent, or an estimated 4.4 million students) than in 2002–03 (8.7 percent, or an estimated 4.1 million students). In contrast, during the latter part of this period, between 2009–10 and 2011–12, the overall percentage of ELL students remained about the same (9.1 percent or an estimated 4.4 million students) [4].

4) in self-education – I've already mentioned before about reading books in the original. Of course, some translations are really excellent, but to my mind, nothing can substitute the original. Do you agree with me?

5) in travelling – travelling is a strong motivation to learn, or at least to touch, foreign languages because it's very interesting to visit other countries, to learn their culture and customs. Or just to relax. But in any way, you should know the few words in a language of the country you're going to.

6) in partnerships – this point gives not only advantages for us, but also for the economy of our country. Interaction with foreign partners and investors develops our national economy. As far as you remember, I told about

the research by the company «Education First». Can you remember the interconnection?

7) in communication – everyday life, etc.

Benefits of mastering foreign languages for specialists in different professions are hard to overestimate.

**Conclusions.** Foreign languages play a great role nowadays. The influence of foreign languages penetrates almost into all spheres of our lives: business, education, self-education, communication, travelling, communication etc. So, it is very important today to speak foreign languages fluently, particularly English.

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