

THE IMPORTANCE OF KNOWING ENGLISH AS THE SECOND LANGUAGE: HOW IT CAN OPEN DOORS TO OPPORTUNITIES

English has emerged as the global language of science, learning, business, and technology offering people countless opportunities to broaden their horizons. This is especially vital for people learning it as the second language as it provides a chance for career advancement, personal growth, and social connections allowing individuals to transform their lives in profound ways.

In recent years researchers have become increasingly interested in the importance of knowing English and the evidence for it. The importance of knowing the second language has been studied by O. Bereziuk, O. Oliynyk, H. Slichna, and John McWhorter. According to John McWhorter, English is on its way to becoming the predominant global language by the end of this century, thanks to its prevalence on the internet, and its use in the world of finance, diplomacy and air traffic control. And even though Mandarin is currently spoken by more people, far more Chinese speakers are learning English than the other way around [2]. H. Slichna considers that learning a second foreign language is not some unusual innovation, about 80% of Lviv schools already taught a second foreign language as a variable component or as an additional educational service [1]. However, a few investigations have focused on the importance of knowing English as the second language and opportunities which it opens for learners.

Perhaps the most significant advantage for people learning English is the opportunity to communicate with people from all over the world. English is an official language in 53 countries, it is spoken by 1.5 billion people. It is the second most widely spoken language after Mandarin [4]. Little do we know how many people are still in doubt about learning it, or will do it in the future. This means that you can replenish your mindset, social circle, and with it – a diversity of interests, perspectives, and opportunities. Moreover, it can facilitate travel to foreign countries since many countries use English as the second language, making it easier to communicate with locals and navigate your way around.

In addition, English is the language of international commerce and business. A perfect knowledge of English is not only appreciated but also necessary for work in international companies. That is why, knowing English will only be useful and increase your chances of getting a job [3]. If you are a business owner, English will help you enter the world market and expand your business development opportunities.

Furthermore, if you plan on studying abroad, it is essential to have proficiency in English as it is a vital requirement for admission to your preferred institution. Numerous educational establishments offer study programs in the native language of

the country and English. Additionally, it is worth mentioning that there is an abundance of resources available in English translation including textbooks, articles, and research materials making self-education and self-study more accessible and comprehensive [2].

Finally, having a command of English can provide personal advantages. It can widen your cultural perspective by introducing you to literature, films, and music from English-speaking nations [2]. You can read literature in the original, watch English films and listen to the original music.

In conclusion, this paper focuses on the importance of knowing English and proper use of it. Gaining proficiency in English as the second language can have a profound influence on both your personal and professional endeavors. It can give you a competitive advantage in the worldwide employment industry, open opportunities for education, and enable you to communicate with individuals from various parts of the globe. Whether you are a scholar, a working individual, or merely someone who desires to broaden their outlook acquiring proficiency in English, it can be a worthwhile investment in your forthcoming years.

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