

Task 2 – Multi-text reading

In this section there are four short texts for you to read and some questions for you to answer.

Questions 16-20 (one mark per question)

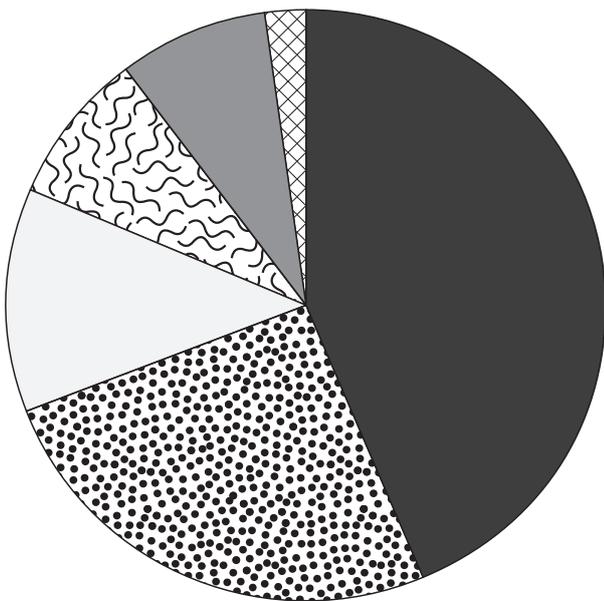
Read questions 16-20 first and then read texts A, B, C and D below the questions.

As you read each text, decide which text each question refers to. **Choose one letter – A, B, C or D – and write it on the lines below.** You can use any letter more than once.

Which text

- 16. explains that learning languages can help you learn other skills?
- 17. advises language learners to travel?
- 18. says that music helps us learn?
- 19. shows that more people choose to learn a language for pleasure than work?
- 20. suggests that people who learn more than one language do better at school?

Text A



Reasons people learn foreign languages

- personal interest, enjoyment
- degree requirement
- use in future career
- future travel or study abroad
- family background
- other

Text B

Scientists believe learning a second language increases brainpower. Researchers from University College London studied the brains of 105 people. 80 of these people were bilingual. They found learning other languages changed the part of the brain which processes information. They compared this change to the way in which exercise builds

muscles. Studies show that people who regularly speak more than one language are better at problem solving. In addition students who study foreign languages often score better in tests than students who only speak one language. This is particularly true in maths, music, reading and understanding vocabulary.

Text C

STUDENT NAME: Maria Coates
CLASS: 4A
LANGUAGE EXPERIMENT
Today our class conducted an experiment based on research about learning languages. Researchers at the University of Edinburgh’s Reid School of Music have discovered that learners’ memory skills are much better when learning language to music.
Our class decided to test whether music helped us learn languages. In our school experiment, we tried to remember phrases in Greek, and repeat them fifteen minutes later. It was of course important to choose a language no one knew. We were divided into three groups. Each group listened to the Greek phrases and repeated them but each group did this in a different way. The first group heard the phrases spoken, the second group heard phrases set to a rhythm, and the third group heard phrases in a song. The singing group was able to remember far more Greek than the other two groups. Our conclusion was that learning language in a song does help you remember language more easily.

Text D

What is the best way to learn a foreign language?

Iksung, South Korea: You should definitely go and live abroad. The best way to learn a language is to be with native speakers and not speak your own language.

Alexei, Russia: I use the internet all the time. It’s a really cheap and easy way to learn. You have to be careful though as not all websites are good.

Cara, Italy: I think watching films with English subtitles is very helpful. My friends listen to English music but I don’t think that’s a very good way to learn.

Questions 21-25 (one mark per question)

Choose the **five statements** from A-H below that are **TRUE** according to the information given in the texts above. Write the letters of the **TRUE** statements on the lines below (in any order).

- 21.
- 22.
- 23.
- 24.
- 25.

- A The most common reason for learning a language is to understand films and music.
 - B More people learn another language because of their studies rather than their family.
 - C People who speak more than one language are often better at subjects with numbers.
 - D Language learning boosts the brain when you speak the second language often.
 - E The University of Edinburgh tested different ways of learning music.
 - F It is easier to remember words when you sing them.
 - G Reading words on a screen can help you learn a language.
 - H Any website can be a good place for language learning.

Questions 26-30 (one mark per question)

The summary notes below contain information from the texts on pages 4 and 5. Find a word or phrase (maximum three words) from texts A-D to complete the missing information in gaps 26-30.

Write your answers on the lines below.

Summary notes**The benefits of studying a second language:**

- pleasure – something enjoyable and interesting to learn
- the language is required in order to study for a **(26.)**
- get a better job and progress in a career
- **(27.)** is increased by learning languages
- foreign language students often get higher marks in **(28.)**

Effective ways of learning:

- listen to a **(29.)** to help learn new language
- **(30.)** and practise with native speakers
- use technology, eg language learning websites
- television, eg practise reading and listening with subtitled films