

... building blocks for the future.



STARTING FAST

2001-2002

LANGUAGES OF THE WORLD

ENGLISH

The spectacular advance of English across the face of the globe is a phenomenon without parallel in the history of language. Unofficially, English is the international language of the world community. However, it has been said that it be English or any other, is somewhat equivalent to living in an enormous mansion and speaking only one language, whether English or any other, is somewhat equivalent to living in only one room. How boring is that?

TIGRINYA

Spoken fluently, Tigrinya has a lovely rhythm. While not the national language of Ethiopia, Tigrinya is spoken by approximately two and a half million people in the northern provinces of Tigre and Eritrea. That is a whole lot of people!

Need translation
for June

"June" in Tigrinya

June 2001

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
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LANGUAGES OF THE WORLD

JAPANESE

Japanese, spoken by more than 100 million people in Japan, ranks among the top ten languages of the world. Japanese ideographs, known as kanji, number in the thousands. An educated person can read 10,000 of them and the government has published a list of 1,250 that it considers basic. Japanese is generally written vertically beginning on the right, but many texts today are written horizontally to permit the inclusion of English words.

HINDI

Hindi is the most widely spoken language of the Republic of India. Its 120 million speakers rank it as one of the leading languages of the world but it is, nevertheless, understood by only about one-third of India's population. When independence was achieved in 1947, Hindi was chosen as India's national language along with English. English words of Hindi origin include cot, loot, thug, chintz, bandanna, dungaree and tom-tom.



七月

"July" in Japanese

Need translation
for July

"July" in Hindi

July

2001

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

LANGUAGES OF THE WORLD



SPANISH

Spanish is the most widely spoken of the romance languages, both in terms of number of speakers and the number of countries in which it is the dominant language. Besides being spoken in Spain, it is the official language of all the South American republics except Brazil and Guyana, of the six republics of Central America, as well as of Mexico, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, and Puerto Rico.

NORWEGIAN

Norwegian is the national language of Norway, spoken by virtually all of the country's four million inhabitants. There are also about 600,000 speakers in North America. Norwegian is one of the Scandinavian languages, which form a branch of the Germanic languages, in turn a part of the Indo-European family. It is closely related to Danish and Swedish. Today, there are two distinct dialects of Norwegian. The evolution of Norway's equal status languages is very interesting indeed. Merging the two has thus far been unsuccessful, but most forward-looking Norwegians believe that it is only a matter of time before they are eventually merged.

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"August" in Norwegian

August

Agosto

"August" in Spanish

2001

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

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LANGUAGES OF THE WORLD

CHINESE

Chinese is spoken by more people than any other language in the world. Approximately 750 million in China, 15 million on Taiwan, 4 million in Hong Kong, 4 million in Thailand, 4 million in Malaysia, over 1 million in Singapore, one million in Vietnam, and more still in other countries including the United States and Canada. Thus, Chinese has more than twice the number of speakers of English.

POLISH

Polish, one of the Slavic languages, is spoken by almost all of the 33 million inhabitant of Poland, by about two and a half million people in the United States, and by smaller groups in the Soviet Union, Canada, Brazil and other countries. Polish is written in the Roman alphabet with *q*, *v* and *x* missing. There are a bewildering number of diacritical marks including acute accents, dots, hooks and bars. An interesting trait of the language is that the stress in Polish is always on the next to last syllable.



九月

"September" in Chinese

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"September" in Polish

September
2001

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

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GREEK

Greek, the first great language of Western civilization, is considered to many to be the most effective and admirable means of communication ever devised. Its lucidity of structure and concept, together with its seemingly infinite variety of modes of expression, render it equally suitable to the needs of the rigorous thinker and the inspired poet.

PUNJABI

Punjabi is spoken in the Punjab, the historic region now divided between India and Pakistan. The variety spoken in India is similar to Hindi, but dialects vary considerably as one moves westward. There are approximately 45 million speakers of Punjabi in Pakistan and about 15 million in India. The Punjabi language is closely associated with the Sikh religion. The Punjabi alphabet was invented by the second of the ten great founders of Sikhism in the 16th century.

ο Οκτώβριος

"October" in Greek

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"October" in Punjabi

October

2001

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

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LANGUAGES OF THE WORLD



PERSIAN

Persian is one of the world's oldest languages, a standard and well-recognized tongue as early as the 6th century B.C. It is one of the Iranian languages which form a branch of the Indo-European family. To native speakers Persian is known as Farsi. Since the 7th century, Persian has been written in the Arabic script with a number of additional characters to accommodate special sounds. Modern Persian is spoken by over 20 million people in Iran and another 5 million in Afghanistan. English words of Persian origin include shawl, pajama, taffeta, khaki, kiosk, bazaar and checkmate.

MANDARIN

Chinese is spoken by more people than any other language in the world. Though the language has many dialects, Mandarin, based on the pronunciation of Peking, is considered the standard and is spoken by about two-thirds of the population. English words of Chinese origin include: tea, typhoon, kumquat and shanghai.

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"November" in Persian

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"November" in Mandarin

November
2001

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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LANGUAGES OF THE WORLD

ITALIAN

Italian is considered by many to be the most beautiful of the world's languages. As the transmitter of the greatest culture of the Renaissance, its influence on the other languages of Western Europe has been profound. Besides being spoken in Italy, it is one of the four official languages of Switzerland, and is also widely spoken in the United States, Canada, Argentina, and Brazil. All told there are about 60 million speakers of Italian.

ARABIC

Arabic is one of the world's major languages, spoken in a broad belt extending from the Arabian Peninsula across the Fertile Crescent and on to the Atlantic Ocean. It is the official language of Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Southern Yemen, Oman, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, Iraq, Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt, Sudan, Libya, Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco... whee!... making it the mother tongue of about 115 million people. In 1974 Arabic was made the sixth official language of the United Nations. Arabic has contributed many words to the English language, including, elixir, giraffe, cotton, sofa, syrup, sherbet and magazine.



Dicembre

"December" in Italian

December

2001

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"December" in Arabic

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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23/30	24/31	25	26	27	28	29

LANGUAGES OF THE WORLD



UKRAINIAN

Ukrainian is, after Russian, the most widely spoken language in the Soviet Union. Its 35 million speakers live mainly in the Ukrainian S.S.R., with its capital at Kieve. There are also about 500,000 Ukrainians in the United States and Canada. Like Russian, to which it is closely related, Ukrainian is written in the Cyrillic alphabet.

RUSSIAN

Russian is the most important of the Slavic languages and now one of the major languages of the world. The emergence of the Soviet Union in the postwar period as a major world power, coupled with impressive achievement in science and technology, has significantly increased the interest in and the study of Russian in recent years. Written in the Cyrillic alphabet, Russian appears formidable to one who has never studied it - however the alphabet itself is not difficult to learn.

січень

"January" in Ukrainian

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"January" in Russian

January
2002

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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AMHARIC

Amharic is the national language of Ethiopia. It is spoken in the vicinity of the capital, Addis Ababa, and the area just to the north. Its speakers number 9 million, about one-third of Ethiopia's population. Amharic is one of the Semitic languages. Together with a number of the lesser languages of Ethiopia it constitutes the Ethiopic branch of this family. All the Ethiopic languages are descended from Geez, the ancient literary and ecclesiastic language of Ethiopia.

HEBREW

Hebrew is one of the world's oldest languages, spoken and written today in much the same way as it was more than two thousand years ago. After ceasing to exist as a spoken language about 250 B.C., it was reborn as a modern language in the 19th century, and today it is the principal language of the State of Israel. Books, newspapers, and magazines published in Israel today are written in a Hebrew that is much the same as the language of the Bible. An interesting trait of the Hebrew alphabet is that all twenty-two letters of it are consonants and the language that it creates it is written from right to left without the use of any vowels. Today about three million people speak Hebrew either as their maternal, adopted, or religious tongue.

Need translation
for February

Need translation
for February

February 2002

"February" in Amharic

"February" in Hebrew

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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LANGUAGES OF THE WORLD

GERMAN

German is one of the main cultural languages of the western world, spoken by approximately 100 million people. It is the national language of both Germany and Austria, and is one of the four official languages of Switzerland. English is actually a Germanic language, so it is not surprising to find a high degree of similarity in the vocabulary of the two languages. The words: finger, hand, butter, ring, name, warm and blind are all German words meaning exactly what they do in English.

SWAHILI

Swahili, more correctly called Kiswahili, is the most important language of East Africa. It is the official language of both Tanzania and Kenya, and is also spoken in Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, and Zaire. Swahili is the mother tongue of perhaps only a million people, but at least 10 million more speak it fluently as a second language, and many millions more at least understand it to some degree. While English grammatical inflections occur at the end of the word, in Swahili everything is done at the beginning. "Kitabu" is the Swahili word for "book" but the word for "books" is "vitabu". There... you just learned something new!

Need translation
for March

Need translation
for March

"March" in German

"March" in Swahili

March
2002

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30

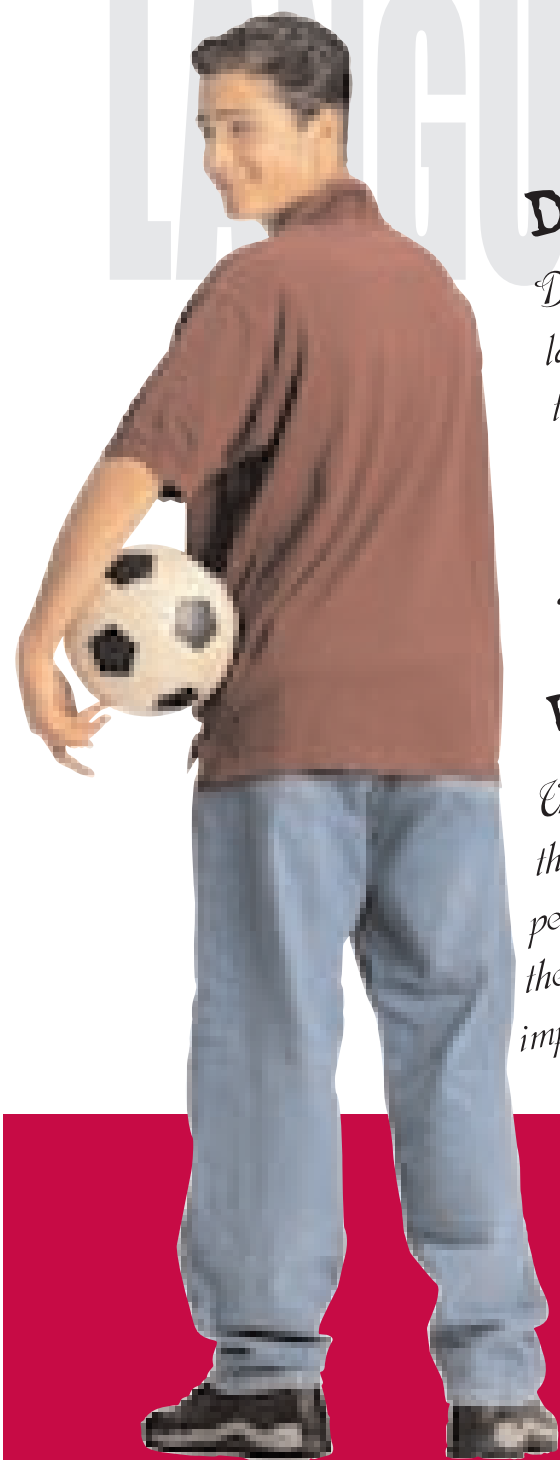
LANGUAGES OF THE WORLD

DUTCH

Dutch is spoken by the 13 million inhabitants of the Netherlands, and is also the official language of Surinam (Dutch Guiana), in South America, and of the Netherlands Antilles in the Caribbean Sea. Dutch, like English, is one of the Germanic languages, and thus part of the Indo-European family. It stands about midway between English and German is the closest to English of any of the major languages. English words of Dutch origin include: deck, yacht, easel, freight, brandy, cookie, waffle and Santa Claus.

URDU

Urdu is the official language of Pakistan and is also widely spoken in India. In Pakistan it is the mother tongue of about five million people and is spoken fluently as a second language by perhaps 40 million more. In India, where it is spoken by some 30 million Moslems, it is one of the official languages recognized by the constitution. Urdu is very similar to Hindi, the most important difference between them being that the former is written in the Perso-Arabic script, while the latter is written in the Sanskrit characters. Urdu also contains many words from Arabic and Persian, while Hindi makes a conscious effort to preserve the older Indian words.



Need translation
for April

"April" in Dutch

Need translation
for April

"April" in Urdu

April

2002

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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LANGUAGES OF THE WORLD

PILIPINO

Tagalog, with the stress on the second syllable, is the national language of the Philippines. In 1962 it was made the country's official language and given the new name of Pilipino. Tagalog is the mother tongue of about 10 million people, most of whom live in southern Luzon in an area that includes Manila. Its study has been strongly encouraged by the government and it is estimated that over 75 percent of the population at least understands the language.

VIETNAMESE

Vietnamese is spoken in both North and South Vietnam by about 35 million people. Its linguistic affiliation is uncertain, and though it is sometimes thought to be distantly related to Chinese, this remains to be proven. Like Chinese, Vietnamese is a tonal language and it has borrowed nearly half of its vocabulary from the Chinese.



Need translation
for May

Need translation
for May

"May" in Pilipino

"May" in Vietnamese

May 2002

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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