



Lesson 68: World Languages

Exercise 01

Vocabulary

fascinating	(ADJ)	extremely interesting	History is so fascinating !
tribe	(N)	a group of people of the same race, language, and customs who usually live in a particular area and are often led by a chief	Members of the tribe are performing a traditional dance.
national identity	(N)	a sense of belonging to a country represented by your language, traditions and culture	His national identity is important to him.
about to	(Phrase)	if you are about to do something it means that you will do that very soon	It looks like it's about to rain.
die out	(Phrv)	to disappear, stop existing	Giant pandas are facing the threat of dying out .
population	(N)	the number of people who live in a certain city, country, etc.	China has the largest population in the world.
Sounds about right.	(Phrase)	used when you are pretty sure about something	You like American TV shows? // Sounds about right.
bound to	(Phrase)	likely to happen	Some languages are bound to be popular.



Exercise 02

Dialogue Practice

Read the dialogue aloud with your teacher.

Lauren and Zach talk about languages.



Lauren

Did you know that there are more than 1,000 languages in the world?



Zach

No, I thought there were only a few hundred languages. That is fascinating.



Lauren

It sure is. I think we usually think about popular languages, such as Chinese, Hindi, Spanish, and English, but many tribes have their own languages.



Zach

If everyone could speak English, it would be so easy to communicate.



Lauren

Well, maybe. But a person's language is a part of their national identity.



Zach

I heard that some languages are about to die out.



Lauren

I think that happens when a population becomes smaller and smaller or is destroyed by war.





Zach

Sounds about right. If there are no people to speak a language, then the language is bound to die.

Check your understanding:

- How many languages are there in the world?
- What is language considered to be a part of?
- How does a language die?

Exercise 03

Role Play

Role-play the following situation with your teacher.

Situation:

- You are a teacher.
- Talk to your student about languages, especially your mother tongue.

Exercise 04

Discussion

- 1) What languages do you speak?
- 2) Do you think it is useful to learn a language other than your native language? Why? Why not?
- 3) What would the advantages and disadvantages be if everyone spoke one language?
- 4) What languages would you want to learn?

