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English: a global language



Getting Started in TTO

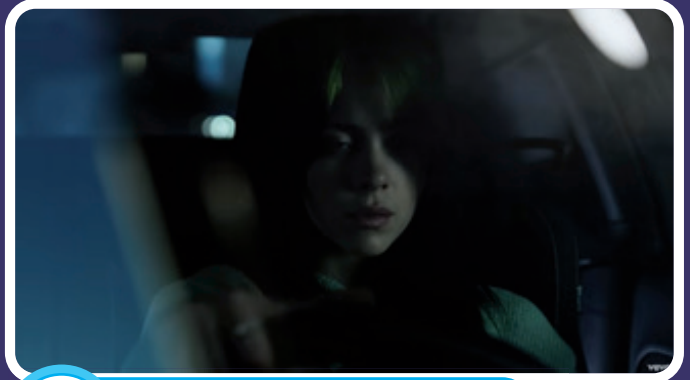


A

All of you know some English!

You have chosen TTO. Some of you have learned English at primary school (*basisonderwijs*), some of you have not, but of course *all* of you know some English! And *all* of you know at least one song by an English-speaking singer, don't you? Well... let's try!

Choose one of the songs.
Start the video and try to sing along.



Video 2.1: Billie Eilish – Everything I wanted



Video 2.2:
Duncan Laurence – Arcade



Video 2.3: Avici – Wake me up

In TTO it's all about communicating with other people. Your English doesn't have to be perfect. The more you practise, the easier it will get!



Video 2.4:
Michael Jackson – Billy Jean

Task

1

a Which of the following things have helped you learn some English?

- ☐ Playing FIFA
- ☐ Playing Fortnite
- ☐ Watching YouTube videos
- ☐ Listening to English songs
- ☐ Watching English speaking films or TV programmes
- ☐ Reading comics
- ☐ English lessons at primary school
- ☐ My parents use English, so English is my first language



b Can you mention other things that have helped you learn some English?

You may work together with a classmate.

I learned some English while

Task

2

You like to talk to other children you meet on holiday, don't you? Even if you don't know much English, you can still talk to them, using simple words. I bet you know more words than you think!



What do you say to someone on holiday when ...

- 1 ... he/she asks you how old you are?
 - A I have twaalf years.
 - B I am twelve years old.
 - C I am in years twelve.
- 2 ... you want to know if they play Fortnite?
 - A Do you play Fortnite?
 - B Play you Fortnite?
 - C Is it Fortnite?
- 3 ... you want to make friends with someone?
 - A Hi, we'll meet again!
 - B Hi, my name is ...
 - C Goodbye, see you soon!
- 4 ... you want to ask someone's name?
 - A What you called?
 - B What name do you have?
 - C What's your name?
- 5 ... you want to know what they like to eat?
 - A What is your favourite food?
 - B What you like?
 - C What you favourite food?

You see... it's not that difficult!

B

English is a global language

You have learned what a global citizen is: a citizen of the world. So, can you guess what a global language is? That's right, it's a language of the world: a language that is spoken by many people in many countries.

English is a global language. So if you want to learn about living in another place in the world, it helps you if you speak English well.



A sign in Chennai, India. Do you recognise the English words?

How did English become a global language?

CHALLENGE

All around the world, you will find people who are able to understand and/or speak English. How did English become a global language? Let's look at history to find the answer.

| Year | At that time... |
|---------------------------|--|
| 1500 | ...the English language was only spoken in Britain: England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales. |
| 1600 | ...British people started travelling abroad to far-off places. Ships were built better and the roads were better, so travelling was easier. The British took the English language with them. The first English migrants settled in America. |
| 1700 | ...the British colonies (<i>nederzettingen</i>) in America grew very quickly and English became the first language of Northern America. |
| 1820 – 1920 | ...British colonies also grew in other parts of the world and Britain became an Empire (that's a super power, <i>wereldrijk</i>). They ruled over one hundred countries and many millions of people. English became the second language in these countries. |
| 1950 | ...nearly half of the world population spoke English! |
| 1960 – present day | ...many of the countries that the British ruled now wanted to be independent (<i>onafhankelijk</i>) and wanted to rule (<i>regeren</i>) their countries themselves. The British Empire became smaller but English is still growing as a global language. |

The map below shows the British Empire when it was a super power in about 1900. All the pink countries were part of the British Empire! English was – and still is – the first or second language in these countries. This is why English is a global language.



Task 3

CHALLENGE

a In the text the words *first language* and *second language* were used. Can you guess what they mean?

1 A first language is:

- A Your native language, the language you learn from you parents
- B The first language you hear outside of your country
- C The first language that was ever spoken on Earth
- D The language that is spoken by most people on Earth

2 A second language is:

- A The language you were born with
- B A language you learn which is not your native language (*moedertaal*)
- C A language in which signs are used (sign language, *gebarentaal*)
- D The language that is spoken very fast (so: as many words as possible per second)

b Perhaps you have been to countries that once were part of the British Empire. Look at the pink-coloured countries in the map below. Write down the names of the countries you have visited.



D

First language and second language

In countries such as the USA and England, English is a *first language*. A first language is the language you learn to speak first, from your parents. It is your native language (*moedertaal*).

In many other countries, English is a *second language*. This is not the native language of most people that live there, but another language they have learned to speak fluently (*vloeiend*).

English can sound very different around the world. Listen to how English is spoken in different places in the video clips on the right:



Video 2.5: CNN – USA



Video 2.6: India Today news channel – India

When it comes to native speakers, English is not the most spoken language in the world; that is Chinese! Take a look at the top ten below.

- 1 Chinese — 1.3 Billion Native Speakers
 - 2 Spanish — 460 Million Native Speakers
 - 3 English — 379 Million Native Speakers
 - 4 Hindi — 341 Million Native Speakers
 - 5 Arabic — 315 Million Native Speakers
 - 6 Bengali — 228 Million Native Speakers
 - 7 Portuguese — 220 Million Native Speakers
 - 8 Russian — 153 Million Native Speakers
 - 9 Japanese — 128 Million Native Speakers
 - 10 Lahnda (Western Punjabi) — 118 Million Native Speakers
- Wouldn't it be a better idea to learn Chinese instead of English?



Video 2.7: BBC – England



Video 2.8: ABC News Australia – Australia

Task 4

CHALLENGE

Look at the map.



Can you guess in which countries English is a first language and in which countries English is a second language?

- | | | |
|----|---------------|---|
| 1 | India | <i>first language / second language</i> |
| 2 | Kenya | <i>first language / second language</i> |
| 3 | Britain | <i>first language / second language</i> |
| 4 | South Africa | <i>first language / second language</i> |
| 5 | Burma/Myanmar | <i>first language / second language</i> |
| 6 | Australia | <i>first language / second language</i> |
| 7 | Gold Coast | <i>first language / second language</i> |
| 8 | Canada | <i>first language / second language</i> |
| 9 | Bahamas | <i>first language / second language</i> |
| 10 | Sudan | <i>first language / second language</i> |

E

Learning English: it's all about understanding each other!

GLOBAL
3000



Video 2.9:
Global Teen: Kathmandou

In most places in the world you will be able to communicate with others if you can speak and understand English.

In TTO you will learn to communicate with different people around the world. You will notice that not everyone masters (*beheerst*) English perfectly. However, you will also notice that you can still understand information that you hear. You will find out by listening to the youngsters (*jongeren*) in the videos. We can assure you: you will be able to communicate in English (almost) fluently, after two or three years of TTO!

DW



Video 2.10: Global Teen:
Football-crazy in Jordan

Task

5

a Why is it useful to speak English well? Pick out four sentences that you think are good reasons for learning to speak English well.

- ☐ To find out more about other people
- ☐ To tell others about your travels (*reizen*)
- ☐ To find out what others think about certain things
- ☐ To write a blog or make a vlog about yourself
- ☐ To communicate with people from different countries
- ☐ To talk about what you have learned
- ☐ To solve (*oplossen*) problems
- ☐ To work in a team
- ☐ To be able to tell people from other countries about yourself

b Can you think of some reasons yourself? Write them down below!
You may work together with a classmate.
