

EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES

http://www.eslHolidayLessons.com/09/european_day_of_languages.html

CONTENTS:

The Reading / Tapescript	2
Phrase Match	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
Listening / Reading Gap Fill	5
Choose the Correct Word	6
Multiple Choice	7
Spelling	8
Put the Text Back Together	9
Scrambled Sentences	10
Discussion	11
Student Survey	12
Writing	13
Homework	14

ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

September the 26th is the European Day of Languages. The Council of Europe and the European Union (EU) created the day on the 6th of December 2001. Its main aim is to encourage language learning across Europe. Other objectives are to alert the public to the wide range of languages to increase multilingualism and intercultural understanding, and to promote the rich linguistic and cultural diversity of Europe. All Europeans are encouraged to take up a new language. The founders of this day also hope those responsible for providing access to language learning are encouraged to make it easier for people to learn languages. There is an emphasis on learning a language other than English.

There are about 225 languages native to Europe. This is about three per cent of the world's total. With an increase in immigration to Europe, the continent has become more multilingual. The EU says over 300 languages are spoken in London. According to an EU survey 56% of EU citizens speak a second language. However, 44% only know their mother tongue. English is the most widely spoken second language, with 38% of Europeans speaking it. This is much higher than that for French or German. Around 14% of Europeans say they have mastered one of these languages. The EU spends more than thirty million euros a year promoting language learning and linguistic diversity.

PHRASE MATCH

Match the following phrases from the article.

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Its main aim is to encourage | <i>a.</i> on learning |
| 2. alert | <i>b.</i> of this day |
| 3. cultural | <i>c.</i> than English |
| 4. The founders | <i>d.</i> language learning |
| 5. an emphasis | <i>e.</i> diversity |
| 6. a language other | <i>f.</i> the public |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. 225 languages | <i>a.</i> the world's total |
| 2. three per cent of | <i>b.</i> tongue |
| 3. an increase in immigration | <i>c.</i> of these languages |
| 4. mother | <i>d.</i> diversity |
| 5. they have mastered one | <i>e.</i> native to Europe |
| 6. linguistic | <i>f.</i> to Europe |

LISTENING GAP FILL

September the 26th is the European Day of Languages. The Council of Europe and the European Union (EU) created _____ 6th of December 2001. _____ encourage language learning across Europe. Other objectives are to alert the public _____ of languages to increase multilingualism and intercultural understanding, _____ rich linguistic and cultural diversity of Europe. All Europeans are encouraged _____ language. The founders of this day also hope those responsible for providing access to language learning are encouraged to _____ people to learn languages. There is an emphasis on learning a language other than English.

There are about 225 languages _____. This is about three per cent of the world's total. With an increase in immigration to Europe, the continent _____ multilingual. The EU says over 300 languages are spoken in London. _____ EU survey 56% of EU citizens speak a second language. However, 44% only know _____. English is the most widely spoken second language, with 38% of Europeans speaking it. This is _____ for French or German. Around 14% of Europeans say they have mastered one of these languages. The EU spends more than thirty million euros a year _____ learning and linguistic diversity.

WHILE READING / LISTENING GAP FILL

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

September the 26th is the European Day of Languages. The Council of Europe and the European Union (EU) _____ the day on the 6th of December 2001. Its main _____ is to encourage language learning across Europe. Other objectives are to _____ the public to the wide range of languages to increase multilingualism and intercultural understanding, and to _____ the rich linguistic and cultural _____ of Europe. All Europeans are encouraged to take up a new language. The _____ of this day also hope those responsible for providing _____ to language learning are encouraged to make it easier for people to learn languages. There is an _____ on learning a language other than English.

alert
founders
created
access
promote
emphasis
aim
diversity

There are about 225 languages _____ to Europe. This is about three per cent of the world's _____. With an increase in immigration to Europe, the continent has become more multilingual. The EU says over 300 languages are _____ in London. According to an EU survey 56% of EU citizens _____ a second language. However, 44% only know their mother _____. English is the most widely spoken second language, with 38% of Europeans speaking it. This is much _____ than that for French or German. Around 14% of Europeans say they have _____ one of these languages. The EU spends more than thirty million euros a year _____ language learning and linguistic diversity.

speak
higher
native
tongue
promoting
mastered
total
spoken

CHOOSE THE CORRECT WORD

Delete the wrong word in each of the pairs of *italics*.

September the 26th is the European Day of Languages. The Council of Europe and the European Union (EU) *creative / created* the day on the 6th of December 2001. Its main aim is to encourage language learning *cross / across* Europe. Other objectives are to *alert / alarm* the public to the wide *range / ranging* of languages to increase multilingualism and intercultural understanding, and to *promotion / promote* the rich linguistic and cultural diversity of Europe. All Europeans are encouraged to take *up / down* a new language. The founders of this day also hope those responsible for providing access to language learning are *encouraging / encouraged* to make it easier for people to learn languages. There is an emphasis *on / in* learning a language other than English.

There are about 225 languages native *at / to* Europe. This is about three per cent of the world's total. With an increase in *emigrated / immigration* to Europe, the continent has become more multilingual. The EU says over 300 languages are *speaking / spoken* in London. According to an EU survey 56% of EU citizens speak a second language. However, 44% only *know / known* their mother tongue. English is the most *widely / deeply* spoken second language, with 38% of Europeans speaking it. This is *many / much* higher than that for French or German. Around 14% of Europeans say they have *masters / mastered* one of these languages. The EU spends more than thirty million euros a year *promotion / promoting* language learning and linguistic diversity.

MULTIPLE CHOICE

September the 26th is the European Day of Languages. The Council of Europe and the European Union (EU) (1) _____ the day on the 6th of December 2001. Its main (2) _____ is to encourage language learning across Europe. Other objectives are to alert the (3) _____ to the wide range of languages to increase multilingualism and intercultural understanding, and to promote the rich linguistic and (4) _____ diversity of Europe. All Europeans are encouraged to take up a new language. The founders of this day also (5) _____ those responsible for providing access to language learning are encouraged to make it easier for people to learn languages. There is an emphasis (6) _____ learning a language other than English.

There are about 225 languages (7) _____ to Europe. This is about three per cent of the world's total. With an increase in (8) _____ to Europe, the continent has become more multilingual. The EU says over 300 languages are (9) _____ in London. According to an EU survey 56% of EU citizens speak a second language. However, 44% only know their mother (10) _____. English is the most widely spoken second language, with 38% of Europeans speaking it. This is (11) _____ higher than that for French or German. Around 14% of Europeans say they have mastered one of these languages. The EU spends more than thirty million euros a year (12) _____ language learning and linguistic diversity.

Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|-----------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1. | (a) creation | (b) creative | (c) creates | (d) created |
| 2. | (a) aim | (b) aiming | (c) aims | (d) aimed |
| 3. | (a) private | (b) publicly | (c) public | (d) privately |
| 4. | (a) culturally | (b) cultural | (c) cultured | (d) culture |
| 5. | (a) hopes | (b) hoping | (c) hopeful | (d) hope |
| 6. | (a) at | (b) by | (c) on | (d) to |
| 7. | (a) native | (b) natives | (c) nativity | (d) natively |
| 8. | (a) immigration | (b) immigrant | (c) emigrant | (d) emigrate |
| 9. | (a) speaking | (b) spoke | (c) speaks | (d) spoken |
| 10. | (a) mouth | (b) lips | (c) tongue | (d) teeth |
| 11. | (a) many | (b) much | (c) most | (d) more |
| 12. | (a) promotion | (b) promoting | (c) promote | (d) promoted |

SPELLING

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. aruoccegn language learning
2. the wide gaenr of languages
3. alrctuul diversity
4. The usrfoend of this day
5. providing secacs to language learning
6. an ipshaesm on learning a language

Paragraph 2

7. languages eitanv to Europe
8. an sceraine in immigration to Europe
9. According to an EU ursyev
10. mother ogtneu
11. the most yldewi spoken second language
12. they have damstere one of these languages

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () emphasis on learning a language other than English.
- () spoken second language, with 38% of Europeans speaking it. This is much higher than that for French or
- () multilingual. The EU says over 300 languages are spoken in London. According to an EU survey 56%
- () day on the 6th of December 2001. Its main aim is to encourage language learning across Europe. Other objectives are to
- () to promote the rich linguistic and cultural diversity of Europe. All Europeans are encouraged to take up a new
- () alert the public to the wide range of languages to increase multilingualism and intercultural understanding, and
- () of EU citizens speak a second language. However, 44% only know their mother tongue. English is the most widely
- (**1**) September the 26th is the European Day of Languages. The Council of Europe and the European Union (EU) created the
- () more than thirty million euros a year promoting language learning and linguistic diversity.
- () to language learning are encouraged to make it easier for people to learn languages. There is an
- () There are about 225 languages native to Europe. This is about three per cent
- () of the world's total. With an increase in immigration to Europe, the continent has become more
- () German. Around 14% of Europeans say they have mastered one of these languages. The EU spends
- () language. The founders of this day also hope those responsible for providing access

SCRAMBLED SENTENCES

With a partner, put the words back into the correct order.

1. language aim learning is to Its encourage main.

2. objectives Other public the alert to are.

3. linguistic Europe and cultural The diversity rich of.

4. to it learn easier languages for people Make.

5. a other English Learning language than.

6. 225 languages There native are to about Europe.

7. About the three world's per total cent of.

8. languages 300 Over London in spoken are.

9. second the language most widely English spoken is.

10. mastered have They languages these of one.

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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THE EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES SURVEY

Write five questions about European Day of Languages in the table. Do this in pairs/groups. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.

Without your partner, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

Return to your original partner(s) and share and talk about what you found out. Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

HOMEWORK

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find more information about European Day of Languages. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about European Day of Languages. Write about what happens around the world. Include two imaginary interviews with people who did something on this day.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

4. POSTER: Make your own poster about European Day of Languages. Write about will happen on this day around the world.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.