

Diagnostic Assignment – Part 1

Why is it important to learn English?

There are many, many reasons why learning a new language is a good idea. It allows you to communicate with new people. It helps you to see things from a different perspective, to understand another culture. It helps you to become a better listener. In addition, studies have shown that people who speak two or more languages have more active minds later in life! Here are five big reasons that learning English can improve your life.

It's the Official Language of 53 Countries

400 million people around the world speak English as their first language. Not only that, but English is listed as one of the official languages in more than a quarter of the countries in the world. That's a lot of new people you can communicate with just by improving one language!

It's the Most Widely Spoken Language in the World

What's more, English is the rest of the world's "second language". While Chinese Mandarin and Spanish are the mother tongues of more people overall, most people in the world choose to learn some English after their native language. In fact, one in five people on the planet speak or understand at least a little bit of English. This makes English one of the most useful languages you can learn.

It Can Help You Get a Better Job

Companies are becoming more international, and English is listed as an essential skill for more and more jobs. There are some organizations that now conduct all their business in English, no matter where in the world they are based. If you want the best paid opportunities, learning English is a great idea.

It Makes It Easier to Travel

English is the world's second language. This means that learning English makes it much easier to travel anywhere you want. For example, aeroplane announcements, train timetables, emergency information and street signs are often translated into English, particularly in countries that use a different type of alphabet. Plus, even if you don't find other travellers or local people that speak your mother tongue, you are practically guaranteed to find someone who understands some English.

It's the Language of the Media

Most of the content on the internet is written in English. Many of the world's biggest TV, newspapers, magazines and radio, are produced in English. Some of your favourite films, TV shows and pop music are probably English-language. Go to any international film festival in the world and you will see that all films are either in English or have English subtitles.

1. Read the text and underline all the words you know in English. (Leer el texto y subrayar todas las palabras que vos conozcas en inglés).

2. Read and copy the explanation. (Leer y copiar la explicación en tu carpeta)

Los **cognados (=)** son palabras en distintos idiomas que tienen ortografía y significado similar. Ellos pueden ayudar a los alumnos de segundo idioma con la expansión del vocabulario y la lectura de tareas de comprensión.

Los **falsos cognados (≠)** son pares de palabras en dos idiomas que se perciben como similares, pero tienen distintos significados.

3. Re-read the text again and underline, at least, 10 examples of cognates. (releer el texto nuevamente y subrayar, por lo menos, 10 ejemplos de cognados).

4. Use a dictionary or translator and write (=) cognate or (≠) false cognate and its meaning. (Usar el diccionario o traductor y escribir (=) cognado o (≠) falso cognado junto a cada palabra y su significado).

biology (=) biología
 embarrassed (≠) avergonzado

1. company _____
2. activity _____
3. exit _____
4. modern _____
5. important _____
6. fabric _____
7. carpet _____
8. salad _____
9. effect _____
10. telephone _____

4. We are constantly surrounded by English. Look around and complete the chart. (Estamos constantemente rodeados del inglés. Mirar a tu alrededor y completar el cuadro con palabras o frases que veas en inglés en tu entorno diario).

	Palabra-Frase	¿Dónde la viste?
1	Animal Planet	Televisión
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		