

Universidade de Évora
Prova específica de Inglês
Acesso ao Ensino Superior dos Maiores de 23 anos
2ª Fase
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I

Read the following text and answer the questions:

The importance of learning English cannot be overstated in an increasingly interconnected and globalized world. For the millions of immigrants who travel the world from non-English-speaking countries every year, learning to communicate in English is important to enter and ultimately succeed in mainstream English speaking countries. Working knowledge of the English language can create many opportunities in international markets and regions.

English is the fourth most widely spoken native language in the world, and in terms of sheer number of speakers, it is the most spoken official language in the world. It is the primary language used in international affairs. The English language has official status even in nations where it is not the primary spoken language. English is indisputably the primary language of global trade and commerce. In many countries, most tourism authorities and other officials in contact with the public speak English to interact and engage with tourists and immigrants.

While progress has been made in language-translation software and allied technologies, the primary language of the ubiquitous and all-influential World Wide Web is English. English is typically the language of latest-version applications and programs and new freeware, shareware, peer-to-peer, social media networks and websites. Software manuals, hardware-installation guides and product fact sheets of popular consumer electronics and entertainment devices usually are available in English first before being made available in other languages.

In universities and colleges in Great Britain, the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and Singapore, which attract the most number of international students, the primary language of instruction is English. Most of the top business schools, medical centers and advanced-study institutes are located in North America and Great Britain, and English is the language used in every activity at these institutions of higher learning. Most peer-to-peer journals and technical periodicals that give international acclaim to scientists, engineers, technologists, and technocrats are printed in English.

The influence of the United States and Great Britain on political affairs and international relations for the past 100 years has ensured the proliferation and acceptance of English as the primary spoken language in many countries. The widespread acceptance of American pop culture also has contributed to the primacy of the English language. A working knowledge of English is important for diplomats and high-ranking officials in such major countries as Germany, Japan, France, South Korea, Brazil, Italy, and Russia so they can better understand the nuance and craft of global affairs and international diplomacy.

Knowing English opens job and employment opportunities in many countries and markets. Multilateral institutions and agencies in the four United Nation cities of New York, Vienna, The Hague and Geneva recruit professionals with multilingual skills but also expect the candidates to have good English-speaking skills. The Commonwealth of Nations, made up of 50-plus countries that were former British colonies or dependencies, also offers numerous employment opportunities to those who understand and communicate in English.

(In: <http://inlinguamalta.com/blog/the-importance-of-learning-english/>)

1. Say whether the following sentences are true (T) or false (F): (2.0 points)

- a. The importance of English as a global language should be minimized. ()
- b. When it comes to global affairs and international diplomacy English is the most spoken language in the world. ()
- c. In Universities in New Zealand and Singapore, English is the first language of instruction. ()
- d. You have better job opportunities around the globe if you speak English. ()

2. Answer the following questions in your own words: (6.0 points)

- a. According to the text, what are the reasons for the primacy of English language around the world?
- b. What benefits are mentioned in the text for those who speak English?
- c. Explain the following sentence: *While progress has been made in language-translation software and allied technologies, the primary language of the ubiquitous and all-influential World Wide Web is English.*

II

1. Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence: (4.0 pts)

- a. Multilateral institutions and agencies recruit professionals with multilingual skills.
Professionals with multilingual skills _____
- b. Where is the train station?
Could you _____?
- c. This car belongs to Helen.
This is _____
- d. The University of Évora is not as old as the University of Coimbra.
The University of Coimbra _____

2. Complete each sentence with a word formed from the word given in capitals:(4.0 pts)

- 1. What are the entry _____ at this university? REQUIRE
- 2. We _____ go to the pub before lunch on Sunday. VARY
- 3. I'm sorry that I will be _____ to attend the meeting tomorrow. ABLE
- 4. He saw an advertisement for the job and wrote out his _____ immediately. APPLY
- 5. Nowadays _____ numbers of people are taking up jogging. INCREASE
- 6. They suffered great _____ on the journey because of the intense heat. COMFORT
- 7. We measured the _____ of the room with a ruler. LONG
- 8. There was no _____ for the crash of the airliner. EXPLAIN

III

Write an essay of 120-140 words discussing the following topic: (4.0 points)

The importance of learning English in Portugal