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# **ОБРАЗОВАНИЕ И НАУКА В XXI ВЕКЕ**

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## ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

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**Abstract:** What does the term "second language" mean in three articles? Why is English considered a language? How is the English language divided into different types and fields? such questions were answered. In addition, information is given about the countries where English is accepted as a language.

**Keywords:** international language, native language culture, English as a Foreign Language (EFL), English as a Language (L), linguistic terminology, English Language Learners (ELL).

English as a second or foreign language is the use of English by speakers with different native languages. Instruction for English-language learners may be known as English as a second language (ESL), English as a foreign language (EFL), English as an additional language (EAL), or English for speakers of other languages (ESOL). Teaching English as a second language (TESL) refers to teaching English to students whose first language is not English, usually offered in a region where English is the dominant language and natural English language immersion situations are apt to be plentiful.

In contrast, teaching English as a foreign language (TEFL) refers to teaching English to students whose first language is not English, usually in a region where

English is not the dominant language and natural English language immersion situations are apt to be few.

English as a second language (ESL) is often used for non-native English speakers learning English in a country where English is commonly spoken. English as a foreign language (EFL) is used for non-native English speakers learning English in a country where English is not commonly spoken[1]. The term ESL has been misinterpreted by some to indicate that English would be of secondary importance. However, it simply refers to the order in which the language was learned, consistent with the linguistic terminology of second-language acquisition. The term ESL can be a misnomer for some students who have learned several languages before learning English. The terms English Language Learners (ELL), and more recently English Learners (EL), have been used instead, and the students' home language and cultures are considered important.

What does the term "second language" mean? A person's second language or L2, is a language that is not the native language of the speaker, but that is used in the local of that person. In contrast, a foreign language is a language that is learned in an area where that language is not generally spoken. Some languages, often called auxiliary languages, are used primarily as second languages or lingua francas. More informally, a second language can be said to be any language learned in addition to one's native language, especially in context of second language acquisition, (that is, learning a new foreign language)[2].

A person's first language is not necessarily their dominant language, the one they use most or are most comfortable with. For example, the Canadian census defines first language for its purposes as "the first language learned in childhood and still spoken", recognizing that for some, the earliest language may be lost, a process known as language attrition[3]. This can happen when young children move, with or without their family (because of immigration or international adoption), to a new language environment.

English is subdivided into many types as to its use in different purposes and spheres:

BE – Business English

EAL – English as an additional language

EAP – English for academic purposes

EFL – English as a foreign language

EIL – English as an international language

ELF – English as a lingua franca, a common language that is not the mother tongue of any of the participants in a discussion

ELL – English language learner

ELT – English language teaching

ESL – English as a second language

ESOL – English for speakers of other languages

ESP – English for specific purposes, or English for special purposes (e.g. technical English, scientific English, English for medical professionals, English for waiters)

EST – English for science and technology (e.g. technical English, scientific English)

TEFL – Teaching English as a foreign language. This link is to a page about a subset of TEFL, namely travel-teaching. More generally, see the discussion in Terminology and types.

TESL – Teaching English as a second language

TESOL – Teaching English to speakers of other languages, or Teaching English as a second or other language. Also the short name for TESOL International Association.

TYLE – Teaching Young Learners English. Note that "Young Learners" can mean under 18, or much younger.

### **Other abbreviations**

BULATS – Business Language Testing Services, a computer-based test of business English, produced by CambridgeEsol. The test also exists for French, German, and Spanish.

CELT – Certificate in English Language Teaching, certified by the National Qualifications Authority of Ireland (ACELS).

CELTA – Certificate in English Language Teaching to Adults

CELTYL – Certificate in English Language Teaching to Young Learners

Delta – Diploma in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages

ECPE – Examination for the Certificate of Proficiency in English

IELTS – International English Language Testing System

LTE – London Tests of English by Pearson Language Tests

OLTE- Online Language Teacher Education

TOEFL – Test of English as a Foreign Language

TOEIC – Test of English for International Communication

UCLES – University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate, an exam board

### **Countries where english is as a second language:**

*India:* About 232 million people in India speak it, or about 23%. This number is growing all the time, as schools are teaching English to more students, so they can get jobs in call centers, and other jobs that require and understanding of English. And of course, India was once a country in the English empire.

*Nigeria:* Apparently over half of all the people in Nigeria speak English, which is about 79 million people. You should be aware that many internet scams come out of Nigeria, and they aren't a country that PayPal will do business with.

*Philippines:* Over 55 million people speak the language in the the Philippines, which is about 55% of the population. The exchange rate is almost ten to one for US dollars, which makes it a great country to find workers in, although perhaps not so great if you want them to buy something.

*Germany:* There are around 46 million who speak English in Germany, and that's about 56% of the population. Germany is a great place to do business in, or to visit as a tourist.

*France:* Many people assume that the French are reluctant to learn or speak English as a second language, which is partly true, although 36% do speak it, or around 23 million Frenchmen.

*Pakistan:* Pakistan is a large country, with the largest amount of people who speak English in the Middle East. There are around 18 million who speak it there, or around 11% of the population.

*Italy:* In Italy, about 29% of the Italian people speak English, which is approximately 17 million people. English is the most widely used language in the world, and it is probable that these numbers will only continue to rise due to globalization.

*Japan:* Approximately 15 million Japanese people speak English, or about 12% of the population. It is important to know the international language of business.

*Netherlands:* The Netherlands is a small country, although you might say that English was almost a first language there, because 87% of the people speak it, which is around 14 million.

*South Africa* 29% of South Africans speak English, or about 14 million people. The main language was Dutch I think, or perhaps they still speak the native languages there as well.

Anyway, that's my list of the top ten countries that speak English as a second language, and of course you would know that England, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and America all speak it as their first, at least mostly[4].

Why ?

English is the main language of books, newspapers, airports and air-traffic control, international business and academic conferences, science, technology, diplomacy, sport, international competitions, pop music and advertising

- over two-thirds of the world's scientists read in English
- three quarters of the world's mail is written in English
- eighty per cent of the world's electronically stored information is in English

of the estimated 200 million users of the Internet, some thirty-six per cent communicate in English.

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