



# WHY DO WE HAVE TO LEARN ENGLISH?

なぜ英語を学ばなければならないのですか。

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## Pre-Reading Activities

### STEP 1: PRE-READING QUESTIONS

Answer the following questions yourself and then ask them to your partner:

1-1: Do you have any opportunities to speak English in your daily life?

[ ] Yes. [ ] No.

1-2: Have you ever wondered why you have to learn English?

[ ] Yes. [ ] No.

1-3: Do you think you will need to use English in the future?

[ ] Yes. [ ] No.



## STEP 2: VOCABULARY PREVIEW

Connect each word and phrase with its synonym and Japanese translation.

[ ] 1: linguistic	•	• regularly	•	• 定期的に
[ ] 2: command	•	• basically	•	• (駆使) 能力
[ ] 3: phrase	•	• ability	•	• 言語的な
[ ] 4: a little bit	•	• have to	•	• 密接な
[ ] 5: on a regular basis	•	• be able to get	•	• 入手可能な
[ ] 6: be required to	•	• branch	•	• 知っている
[ ] 7: available	•	• closely related	•	• 支店
[ ] 8: aware	•	• merits	•	• 恩恵
[ ] 9: outlet	•	• join	•	• ~を言い表す
[ ] 10: operate	•	• express	•	• 運営する
[ ] 11: in essence	•	• do business	•	• 本質的に
[ ] 12: reasoning	•	• slightly	•	• ~しなければならない
[ ] 13: be involved in	•	• under control	•	• 少しだけ
[ ] 14: interact with	•	• knowing	•	• ~と接する
[ ] 15: at one's disposal	•	• thinking	•	• ~に入る
[ ] 16: open up one's mind to	•	• be acceptable to	•	• 考え
[ ] 17: interconnected	•	• communicate with	•	• ~に寛容になる
[ ] 18: benefits	•	• related to language	•	• 思いのままに

## Reading Activities

### 2 STEP 3: SYNCHRO-READING ALOUD

Listen and read aloud the following passage simultaneously three times.

どうして英語を  
学習するの？



QUESTION  
by Rinta

I'm always wondering why we have to learn English. I understand English is used as a common language for people with different **linguistic**<sup>1</sup> backgrounds to communicate with each other. But I'm not really sure I will need to use English in my career in the future. I see no problem with not having a good **command**<sup>2</sup> of English in Japan. Neither of my parents speak English and they have no problem in daily life.

## STEP 4: SYNCHRO-READING

Listen and read along silently with the passage.



**ANSWER**  
by Professor Clankie

3

That is the question you *should* ask, but I would **phrase**<sup>3</sup> it a **little bit**<sup>4</sup> differently to, “Why do we need English?” It is a question many students ask themselves **on a regular basis**.<sup>5</sup> But, isn't it the same question people ask of math, or of chemistry? I'm not going to become a chemist, so why do I need to study it?

Many of the subjects you **are required to**<sup>6</sup> study may seem disconnected to your life, but these subjects should be viewed as tools. The more tools you have, the better prepared you will be for your future career. But, there is an added advantage. The more different subjects you study, the more tools you have **available**<sup>7</sup> to you and the more choices you have in your future career.

Now, let's turn to English. As you are probably **aware**,<sup>8</sup> English is world's business language and it can be used in daily life in much of the world. Many of the world's largest media **outlets**<sup>9</sup> **operate**<sup>10</sup> in English, and many movies, and television programs and even much of popular music and the Internet content produced today is done in English. **In essence**,<sup>11</sup> English is the tool that opens the door to all of these areas. By this **reasoning**,<sup>12</sup> you might want to ask, “Why isn't everyone learning English?”

4

And, what about the students who plan to never leave Japan, and who think they will never use English in their career or lives? That may be true. But, it may not be true. Perhaps you will **be involved in**<sup>13</sup> a service industry or in sales where you have to **interact with**<sup>14</sup> customers. There is a good possibility that some of them will be visitors from overseas. You simply never know.

Having English **at your disposal**<sup>15</sup> may mean the difference between increased sales and the loss of those sales. If this still seems unlikely to you, then there is one final reason to study English, or any foreign language. That is the ability to **open up your mind to**<sup>16</sup> new ways of thinking and new ideas. As the world becomes more **interconnected**,<sup>17</sup> you are likely to have more and more contact with non-Japanese people. Having an understanding of English and of the cultures that use English, will make you a global citizen, instead of simply a local one. The **benefits**<sup>18</sup> of learning English are many.



## Post-Reading Activities

### 5 STEP 5: LISTENING COMPREHENSION CHECK

Please listen and write down each question in the blank and then choose the best answer.

5-1: ( \_\_\_\_\_ )

- (A) His father does, but his mother does not.
- (B) Yes, both speak English.
- (C) No, neither of them speak English.

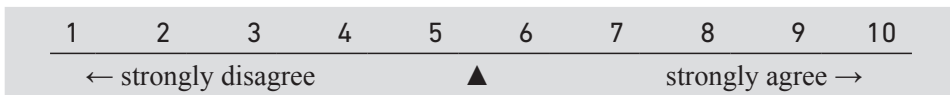
5-2: ( \_\_\_\_\_ )

- (A) A global citizen.
- (B) A local citizen.
- (C) A peaceful citizen.

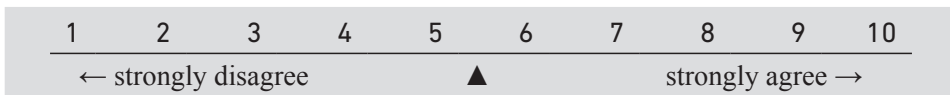
### STEP 6: AGREE OR DISAGREE?

Choose the number on the scale for each statement and then ask your partner.

6-1: I find the advice is helpful.



6-2: This is Japan and I don't care if I can't speak English.



### STEP 7: GRAMMAR & VOCABULARY IN FOCUS

Find one wrong part in each sentence and correct it.

7-1: I just belonged to the tea ceremony club yesterday.

- (A) (B) (C) (D)

7-2: I became to like baseball when I was a high school student.

- (A) (B) (C) (D)

7-3: I would like to travel around the world when I become a second-grade student.

- (A) (B) (C) (D)

## STEP 8: PATTERN PRACTICE

### 8-1: REPETITION

Read aloud the following sentence until you memorize it completely.

Why do we have to learn English?

### 8-2: SUBSTITUTION

Substitute the underlined part with other words.

Why do we have to learn \_\_\_\_\_?

⇒ French

⇒ German

⇒ Spanish

### 8-3: EXPANSION

Add each word and say the whole sentence.

- 1: Why do we have to learn English?
- 2: Why do we have to learn English at school?
- 3: Why do we have to learn English at school for many years?
- 4: Why do we have to learn English at school for many years in Japan?

## STEP 9: Q & A

In pairs, ask each other the following questions.

9-1: Do you think if you can speak English you are more likely to succeed in the future?

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9-2: Do you think it is necessary for primary school children to learn English in Japan?

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## 6 STEP 10: DICTATION & READING ALOUD

Listen and fill in the blanks. Then read aloud the following sentences after the narrations or simultaneously.

1	Why do we have to (_____) English?	なぜ英語を学ばなければならないのですか。
2	I'm always (_____) why we have to learn English.	なぜ我々は英語を学ばなければならないのかと私は常に思っています。
3	I'm not really sure I need to use English in my (_____) in the future.	将来私の経歴上英語が必要であるかは不確かです。
4	I see no problem with not having a good (_____) of English in Japan.	日本では英語を駆使できなくても生活に支障はありません。
5	(_____) of my parents speak English at all and they have no problem in daily life.	両親は二人とも英語を話せませんが、生活には支障はないです。
6	Many of the subjects you are (_____) to study may seem disconnected to your life, but these subjects should be (_____) as tools.	授業の中に生活に関連のないものも多くても、それらはツールとして認識されるべきです。
7	The more tools you have, the better (_____) you will be for your future career.	ツールが多ければ多いほど将来の経歴に備えてより良い準備ができます。
8	The more different subjects you study, the more tools you have (_____) to you and the more (_____) you have in your future career.	異なる科目を勉強すればするほど、ツールが増え、将来の経歴上の選択肢が増えます。
9	English is world's business language and it can be used in daily life in (_____) of the world.	英語はビジネス界の共通語であり、世界中で日々使われています。
10	Having English at your (_____) may mean the difference between increased sales and the loss of those sales.	英語を駆使できるかどうかで、売上げにも影響が出るかも知れません。
11	As the world becomes more (_____), we are likely to have more and more contact with non-Japanese people.	世界が密接に繋がるにつれて、諸外国の人と接する機会も増えると思われます。
12	(_____) an understanding of English and of the cultures that use English, will make you a (_____) citizen, instead of simply a local one.	英語および英語使用域に関する理解があれば、今いるところから飛び出してグローバルな人材となり得ます。
13	The (_____) of learning English are many.	英語学習の恩恵は多大です。