

# The future of global English

## Level

Upper intermediate and above

## Tasks

Discussing how many languages students speak

Choosing the correct alternative to complete data about the future of the English language

Reading an article about the future of the English language

Matching words to create collocations taken from the article

Discussing issues arising from the article

## How to use the lesson

- 1 Write the subject of the lesson 'Global English' on the board. Hand out the worksheet and ask students to discuss question 1. Do a quick check to find out which student in the class speaks the most languages.
- 2 Ask students to read the sentences (a) – (c) and guess the correct alternative. You may need to check students know the word 'outnumber'. They then scan the article to check their answers.

### Answers

(a) China (b) 2010 (c) 3 to 1

- 3 Ask students to read the whole article. Find out students' reactions – is there anything they found surprising? Deal with any useful vocabulary such as: *dominant and dominance / speculation / cultural awareness / build rapport*.
- 4 Ask students to match a word in the first box to a word in the second box to form collocations from the article. Then ask them to try and create other collocations (not in the article) with the words.

### Answers

*competitive advantage*

*mobile workforce (also possible: communication / trends)*

*future trends*

*international communication (also possible: commerce / workforce)*

*global commerce (also possible: communication / workforce / trends)*

*economic strength (also possible: advantage)*

- 5 Ask students to discuss the questions in small groups. Ask a spokesperson for each group to report back on anything interesting arising from their group's discussion. Finally, provide any useful language feedback.

## Related websites

Send your students to these websites, or just take a look yourself.

<http://www.britishcouncil.org/learning-research-englishnext.htm?mtklink=learnng-research-english-next>

<http://www.askoxford.com/globalenglish/worldenglish/>

<http://esl.about.com/library/weekly/aa030299.htm>

<http://www.open2.net/society/education/globalenglish.html>