

less during the test • studies only on the last night before the test • could do tests very well earlier but can't do them well now • likes writing compositions; never does unimportant things during the test

b) Report to the class.

LESSON 9.

English in my life

Communicative area: discussing the role of English in today's world in one's life

1. 🎧 a) Listen to the poem. What is it about?

Absent or Present

(by Bernard Young)

Dear teacher,
my body's arrived,
it sits at a table
a pen in its hand
as if it is able
to think and to act
perhaps write down the answer
to the question you've asked
but don't let that fool you.
My mind is elsewhere.
My thoughts far away.
So, apologies, teacher,
I'm not here today.



🎧 b) Listen to the poem again. Follow in the book. Do you ever feel like that in your English class?

c) When is it easier for you to understand English: while reading or while listening? Is it easier for you to speak English or write in English?

2. a) Work in pairs to do the quiz.

1. What is the world's most widely spoken language: a) Spanish; b) Mandarin Chinese; c) Russian; d) English?

2. How many people speak English in total: a) one out every 5 people on the planet; b) one out of every 10 people on the planet; c) one out of every 3 people on the planet?

3. What percentage Internet is in English: a) more than 50% ; b) more than 80% ; c) 100% ?

4. How many words does an average native speaker know: a) between 5000 and 8000; b) between 8000 and 12000; c) between 12000 and 20000?

5. How many words does an average native speaker use in everyday life: a) between 1200 and 2000; b) between 4000 and 6000; c) between 8000 and 10000?

6. How many words do you need to communicate in most situations: a) 500–1000; b) 1500–2000; c) 3000–5000?

 **b) Listen to the radio programme about English and check yourselves.**

c) Go back to your vocabulary. Count how many new words you have learnt this year. How many words have you learnt since you started learning English? Can you understand English well? Are you able to speak and write in English?

3. Read what people say about English. What do you agree with? Discuss with your partner. Share and compare with other pairs.

A. English is very difficult to learn. English grammar is terrible and English spelling is a problem for me.

B. Though English is not a very easy language, I like it a lot. It's like a challenge for me. I like the history of

the UK and I also like British music. I find the lyrics of songs in the Internet and then sing along with the music.

C. English is very useful in life. It's very helpful when you travel – it makes travelling more enjoyable. You can read local newspapers and menus at restaurants. If you learn English really well, you'll be able to understand books and films in English. You'll be able to read Harry Potter or Lord of the Rings in English!!!

D. English doubles your chances in life. If you learn it, your boss will send you to an English-speaking country on a business trip and you will get more money in your job.

E. It's important to know English very well. You can use the Internet then and chat with people from other countries.

F. If you learn English at school, you'll have good test results and be able to go to University.

G. English has always been my favourite subject at school. It's so enjoyable to be able to speak English with your classmates and your teacher, to listen to songs, recite poems, watch the news in English! I think, I'll learn French or German later.

4. Make an outline for a composition '*English in my life*'. Use your imagination and as many new words and ideas from this unit as you can.

Answer for ex. 2c, lesson 2. The librarian gave Matilda a book by Charles Dickens.