

WHY IS ENGLISH A 'GLOBAL' LANGUAGE? WITH DAVID CRYSTAL

This exercise is based on **Why is English a 'global' language?**, a video from **Macmillan Education ELT**.

link to the video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WZI1EjxxXKw>

Pre-listening task: discussion

1. What do you understand by the term 'global language'?
2. How does a language become 'global'?
3. Why has English become the lingua franca of the modern world?

Listening task 1: listen to Professor Crystal's talk and put the following ideas in the order in which he discusses them.

- | | |
|------------------------|-------|
| A. economic power | _____ |
| B. power of science | _____ |
| C. power of the people | _____ |
| D. cultural power | _____ |
| E. political power | _____ |

Listening task 2: decide if the following sentences are True or False.

1. ___ A language becomes a global language because of its structure and grammar.
2. ___ Spelling would discourage many people from learning English.
3. ___ English first became international because of the military power.
4. ___ Science contributed to the popularity of English in the 14th century.
5. ___ English is the language of science.
6. ___ In the 19th century English, it was the economic power that made English popular.

Post-listening task: vocabulary practice

The following words are all used in the recording, match them with their meanings.

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 1. ___ appealing | A. element |
| 2. ___ put off | B. the greater part or number |
| 3. ___ empire | C. mean |
| 4. ___ factor | D. attractive |
| 5. ___ medium | E. a territory of greater extent than a kingdom |
| 6. ___ vast | F. discourage |
| 7. ___ majority | G. huge |

KEY

Listening task 1:

1. C
2. E
3. B
4. A
5. D

Listening task 2:

1. False
2. True
3. True
4. False
5. True
6. True

Vocabulary practice

1. D
2. F
3. E
4. A
5. C
6. G
7. B