



# GETTING INTERNATIONAL. Culture and People.


## The Importance of Speaking English.



Relax for a minute and think: Which is in your opinion the world most spoken language? Read the following text carefully and you will find out the answer.

Contrary to what most people think, English is not the first or second, but the third most spoken language by native speakers in the world. About 380 million speakers use English as their  mother tongue in countries like Britain and the United States, but do you know that languages like Mandarin and Spanish count on much more native speakers than English?

Though it is a fact that English is not the first most spoken language by native speakers in the world, there is no doubt that today, the English language occupies a primary place in international and business communities, and it is often compared to the importance of Latin in the past. That is why today it is often called a "World Language" or " Lingua Franca."

Today, English is considered the universal language for business, international communications, entertainment, tourism, trade and technology. English is also the universal language online, since most of the resources we find on the Internet are in English. Above all, learning English is important to exchange views and to make friends with people all over the world. So, what are you waiting for?  Get down to work and Speak English!

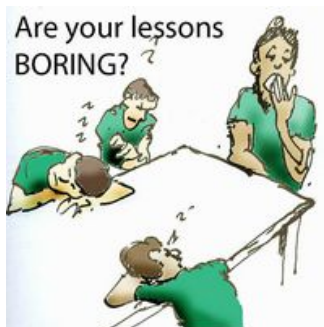


## A step ahead

If you want to learn a little bit more about English click on the link below.

 [To learn more about English.](#)

## 1.- Now you put it into practice.



### Autoevaluación

Let's check if you have understood what you read!

English is ...

- the first most spoken language in the world.
- the third most spoken language in the world.
- the third most spoken language by native speakers in the world.

Oops! Try again.

Sorry, Try again!

Well done, you rock!

### Solución

1. Incorrecto
2. Incorrecto
3. Opción correcta

English ...

- is as important as Latin today.
- is as important as Latin in the past.

- is not as important as Latin in the past.

Are you sure? Try again!

Correct! You are very smart!

Sorry, Try again!

## Solución

1. Incorrecto
2. Opción correcta
3. Incorrecto

### The term *Lingua Franca* means ...

- that English is the language of Communication.
- that English is the most important language in France.
- that English is the most important language in Europe.

Neat! Well done!

Are you sure? Don't worry, read the text again!

Not exactly, try again!

## Solución

1. Opción correcta
2. Incorrecto
3. Incorrecto

### You should learn English ...

- if you want to use the Internet.
- if you want to be very popular among your friends.
- if you want to find a good job since it is the language of Business.

Are you sure? Try again.

Sorry, Try again!

You are the best!!

## Solución

1. Incorrecto
2. Incorrecto
3. Opción correcta

**Come on guys, you are almost done with the first unit, just one more effort!**



## Autoevaluación

**Look for synonyms in the text for the following words.**

Opposite.  . Commerce.  . Start.   . Planet/Globe.  .

Enviar



## Autoevaluación

**Look for antonyms in the text for the following words.**

Ignore.  . Last.  .

Enviar

## 1.1.- Song.

As you read in the previous text, English is considered a world language. It is not only the language of technology and business, but also the language of entertainment, since those singers who want their songs to be listened to in other parts of the world must sing in English. This is the case of James Blunt. Surf the internet for the following information.



### Think about it

- 1.- What is his real name?
- 2.- Where was he born? When?
- 3.- Before singing, what was his job?
- 4.- Why did he choose to serve in the British Army?
- 5.- What is his relation to the 🇪🇺 NGO Médecins Sans Frontières ("Doctors without Borders")?
- 6.- What does he usually do in some of his concerts to help the previous NGO?
- 7.- Where does he live nowadays?



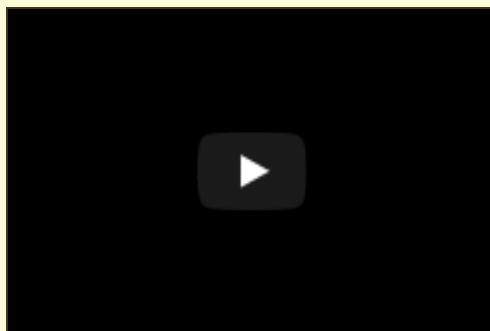
Mostrar retroalimentación

- 1.- James Hillier Blount.
- 2.- James Blunt was born at an army hospital in Tidworth, Wiltshire, England on February 22nd, 1974.
- 3.- Blunt was an officer in the Life Guards, a Cavalry regiment of the British Army.
- 4.- Because his father 🇪🇺 pushed him for it, so that Blunt could obtain a secure work placement and income.
- 5.- When he was posted in Kosovo under NATO in 1999, Blunt was introduced to the work of this NGO and he has tried to cooperate with them since that time.
- 6.- He usually holds some auctions during his concerts.
- 7.- He lives in the Spanish Island of Ibiza.



### A step ahead

Now listen to James Blunt's most famous song "You're beautiful" and answer the questions below.



[Text summary](#)



## Think about it

What is the song about?

In the song, Blunt talks about a woman, what information does he mention about her?

Mostrar retroalimentación

The song is about a beautiful woman he sees in the underground. He only sees her for a few seconds, but that time is enough for him to fall in love with her. From that moment onwards, he is not able to sleep because he doesn't know what he can do to see her again. He says it was just a moment but "that moment will last till the end."

Although Blunt dedicates this song to her, he doesn't give many details. He just says that she looks like an angel. She smiled at him in the subway. She was travelling with another man and that she's beautiful with a beautiful smile.

## Appendix.- Licences of resources.

### Licences of resources used in section "Culture and People".

Resource (1)	Resource information (1)	Resource (2)	Resource information (2)
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