

Don't Insist on English

Patricia Ryan

TED Lectures Note-taking Activity

Directions: First listen to the lecture and take notes. Then using your notes, you will answer the following questions.

1. How many languages are currently spoken on Earth?
2. How many are predicted to be in use in 2100?
3. How often do we lose a language?
4. What's the world's global language?
5. Where are the best universities in the world?
6. In what two ways does the speaker think standardized English tests are unfair?
7. Who does she use an example of someone who would not have fulfilled his destiny if he had had to pass an English test?
8. When was the TOEFL test introduced?
9. What is the problem with the fees for the test?
10. What is inferred by the speaker about the focus on English meaning success?
11. "Language Thought Knowledge" What point does she illustrate with the story of the English geneticists and the German geneticist?