



## KS2 Unit 6 Lesson 1 Forming a Language

### Worksheet

1. Who invented the language *Lingua Ignota*?
2. Ludwig Zamenhof created which language?
3. What languages went into creating **Esperanto**? Why these languages?
4. Would someone whose native language is Mandarin Chinese find Esperanto as easy to learn as someone whose native language is French, or Russian? Why or why not?
5. Could a universal language help achieve world peace as Zamenhof hoped?
6. There are about 1000 native speakers of Esperanto. Does that mean it is now a natural, as opposed to created language?
7. Ba, ba, safo! Cu vi havas lanon?  
Jes, tri sakojn: prenu en la manon!  
Unu por la mastro, unu por mastrin,  
Kaj unu por la eta knabo ce la strata fin

What famous nursery rhyme is this?

Which words in the rhyme can you link to English or other languages you know?

8. **Klingon**: What sounds are harsh in the Klingon language? Why did Okrand create a harsh-sounding language as Klingon?
9. **Elvish**: What sounds are soft and gentle in Elvish? Why did he choose these sounds?
10. Why do you think Tolkien created his own alphabet and writing system? How important are languages to Tolkien's books and films?



11. **Gnommish** from Artemis Fowl. Here is the Gnommish alphabet.



How likely is it that other languages will have the same alphabet as ours in terms of the number of letters and the sounds they represent?

The Gnomish Alphabet has lots of detailed symbols. Why might this be?

12. **Parseltongue** from Harry Potter

Parseltongue sounds snakey. What kinds of sounds are used to do this?

Why, even though Rowling did not have the language in her books, did the film producers create one?

13. Think about your own language and the sounds you want to include. People have always made-up languages, words and writing. Now it is your turn!

Create an imaginary planet or island.

Draw its shape, and its geography.

Make sure you have:

- Rivers
- Harbours and bays
- A volcano
- Mountains
- Forests
- Towns

Adapted with thanks from the Queen Mary Invented Languages Scheme materials, protected under CC-BY-NC.

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