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**ENG1-2**

**Write an article about the importance and advantages of learning how to read and write in another language/s.**

Why we should learn a foreign language? And what are the advantages of learning how to read and write in another language/s? As soon as they start to learn a foreign language, grammar and vocabulary of their native language gain more importance and they learn to develop better understanding of their own language. Foreign language learners are able to get new insights into their native languages, improving their knowledge of it as well. In learning a new language, it is very common to do the basic actions – reading and listening. Most second language learners tend to memorize the lessons they have read or heard. However, these two methods only allow the learner to receive information. The learning materials are already available and all the learner needs to do is to commit them to memory. Of course, consuming large chunks of information is essential to learning. However, communication is a two-way thing. If you want to communicate in the new language, you need to have an output method. This means that you have to create information in the new language and have a way to put it out. The ultimate goal of a language learner is to be fluent in the second language in order to communicate. Therefore, it is important to develop another learning skill, called the output language-learning skill. If you cannot be fluent yet in the second language, you can improve the skill through writing. Writing’s primary advantage as an output language-learning method over speaking is the slowness of the process. Speaking and writing are closely related. Both prompt you to think on your own and use the words you know to create sentences you wish to write. Writing could be described as speaking in slow motion because you have more time to think about the words to use. You go through many written exercises while learning a language, so be diligent about this part of the learning process. It is also possible to look up the words you don’t know and check how to say things correctly. This is why it is great to practice writing. However, you may struggle with spelling of the more difficult words. Likewise, you would not have enough time to get used to voicing the sounds that are still foreign to you. When you are writing, you can quickly look up the words that you do not know from the dictionary. This method helps you to quickly learn the words that are more pertinent to you. You’ll find which words make you struggle and you can focus your learning on the areas where you are weaker.When you try to speak in a foreign language while you are still learning, you do not have much time to focus on the errors you make because it would otherwise stop the flow of conversation. You can practice speaking even without someone to talk to. But there would be no one to point out the mistakes that you make.

On the other hand, when you write the words or better yet, create sentences, you are able to correct the mistakes. You also have a document to show your teacher or someone who knows the language. They can look over what you have written and show you where you’ve made mistakes. Having someone check and correct what you have written eliminates the chances of you repeating the same errors. If you do not have a good friend who can look over your practice sheets all the time, join online language communities, where you can find people from everywhere who are willing to help. Many of them offer help free of charge because for them, sharing their knowledge is part of the learning process. Of course you have to help those who are learning your first language, so it is a fair exchange. Another thing good about writing down the sentences or words is because you can study it many times over. Likewise, you can write and rewrite the corrected texts until you get used to them and you’re able to commit them to memory.