

HS101 LAB 2

1)

The given lines are a famous quote by Shashi Tharoor and this quote seems quite relatable to today's scenario – be it political, social, global or otherwise.

A spectacular picture of a beautiful rainbow is what hits my mind each time I think of India as a whole . Well, that might sound quite irrelevant, but that's exactly what India seems to me – a country full of diversity; every nook and corner of which has it's own culture. India is very rich in the number and variety of cultures that have been successfully co-existing here from time immemorial, be this variety be in terms of language, clothing style, food habits, social and philosophical beliefs or some other spheres of life. what is even more astonishing is the fact that despite this significant diversity which prevails here, India stands as a strongly united nation even today. The way Indians have preserved their respective cultures while respectfully accepting all other cultures is what makes the country unique. Each of the many religions in india are further subdivided into a number of smaller communities and very often the beliefs or lifestyle patterns of these communities – both within as well as across the various religions , are completely different. Even after centuries of civilization in the country, these cultures have not mixed up into some one common culture. Changes in the way people perceive their cultural philosophy has been prevalent but even then the rich diversity of the country is not affected to a great extent and people proudly take forward their culture while also respecting all other cultures.

Such a variety of distinct cultures has been quite uncommon in western countries like America where the strong wave of civilization and modernization has mixed up the different cultures which existed there many decades ago. Today, America seems as a country where almost the entire population follows the same lifestyle, belief system , food habits and cultures as a whole.

While that might not be something bad or wrong for sure, but it's one of the remarkable differences which exist between the western countries like America and the eastern ones like India in today's world.

2)

India is one of the most linguistically diverse countries. According to the Ethnologue Language Catalogue of the world, India ranks **4th in terms** of the number of languages spoken. India already has over 100 languages and apart from them, the people in the country also speak in other languages, predominantly English.

In today's Indian society, English is considered as a language of prestige by majority of the Indian population without any doubt. English is not just a language here, but very often it is thought of as a medium for estimating the so-called standard or status of people. The thought of not being able to understand or speak in English deteriorates the confidence of many Indians from all the age groups and professions - be it a student, an adult or an elderly person. Since English is used as a medium of communication in most of the premier educational and research institutes and also at work places in India, the people who are unable to communicate fluently in English face major issues and often fail to achieve what they were otherwise capable of. This way, India's talent is not completely utilized owing to the various barriers that the English language is creating.

While English is becoming an obstacle for many Indians, it is also providing an opportunity at the same time. Since major global companies and tech-giants are originally based in the western countries, being able to communicate in English opens up an ocean of opportunities for the Indians. Since India is linguistically very diverse, English often serves as a medium to communicate for people coming from different regions of the country.

Every coin has two sides, so thinking of the English language as something which is killing our culture and thereby boycotting it might not be the right approach. It is surely our duty to preserve and take forward our own culture and hence the better solution could be learning English for communicating with the people who do not understand our regional language, and speaking in our regional language whenever possible. At the end, all of them are mediums of communicating and no one language can be greater than the others.

THANK YOU