



## What Is This Module About?

What language do you use most often to communicate with people? Do you know that different Filipinos might give many different answers if asked this question? Filipinos speak different languages and dialects. In fact, there are hundreds of languages and thousands of dialects spoken in the country.

Can you imagine how different Filipinos from different parts of the country communicate with each other even if they speak different languages and dialects? If you are from Cebu, how can you speak, make friends or transact business with someone from Bulacan? To make it easier, you would have to learn to speak a common language. This is what is called a *national language*.

A national language is very important for a country such as the Philippines. But what about the local dialect that you use to communicate with your family, neighbors and friends? Should you discard it in favor of Filipino, the Philippine national language? What about English, which we use in official functions and in business—should we learn to do away with it completely? We will discuss all these important concerns in this module, along with other important issues regarding the selection and use of our national language.

The module is composed of four lessons:

Lesson 1 – *What Is a National Language For?*

Lesson 2 – *Why Filipino?*

Lesson 3 – *Filipinos Speak Filipino*

Lesson 4 – *Filipinos Also Speak Other Languages and Dialects*



## What Will You Learn From This Module?

After studying this module, you should be able to:

- ◆ explain the importance of a national language for a country such as the Philippines;
- ◆ discuss the selection and development of Filipino as our national language; and
- ◆ explain the significance of English and of local dialects.



## Let's See What You Already Know

Before you begin with the module proper, take this test to find out how much you already know about our topic.

A. Write **T** in the blank before each sentence if the statement is true, and **F** if it is not.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Our national language is based on English and contains elements from different foreign and local dialects.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. At present, both Filipino and English are being used as the official mediums of instruction in Philippine schools.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Filipino is the same as Tagalog.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. The national language should replace the many local languages and dialects spoken in the Philippines.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Because we have a national language, Filipinos do not need to use English anymore.

B. Encircle the letter that corresponds to the correct answer.

- 1. Tagalog was adopted as the basis of our national language because
  - a. it is the language spoken in Manila, the capital city
  - b. it is better than English and Spanish, which are foreign languages
  - c. most of the judges in the assembly that decided on a national language were Tagalogs
  - d. it was the language spoken by President Quezon
- 2. It is better to
  - a. use Filipino as the sole medium of communication in the entire country
  - b. use Filipino or English as the need arises
  - c. use only English
  - d. use neither Filipino nor English
- 3. Who is considered the Father of our National Language?
  - a. Francisco Balagtas
  - b. Jose Rizal
  - c. Manuel Quezon
  - d. Jose Palma

4. Having a national language is important because it
- a. promotes learning through teacher-student interaction
  - b. allows effective exchange of ideas and information
  - c. enables people to interact with each other
  - d. all of the above
5. Your local dialect \_\_\_\_\_ English and Filipino.
- a. is less important than
  - b. is more important than
  - c. is just as important as
  - d. should be replaced by

Well, how was it? Do you think you fared well? Compare your answers with those in the *Answer Key* on page 51 to find out.

If all your answers are correct, very good! This shows that you already know much about the topics in this module. You may still study the module to review what you already know. Who knows? You might learn a few more new things as well.

If you got a low score, don't feel bad. This means that this module is for you. It will help you understand some important concepts that you can apply in your daily life. If you study this module carefully, you will learn the answers to all the items in the test and a lot more! Are you ready?

You may go now to the next page to begin Lesson 1.

## What Is a National Language For?

How important is a national language? For an archipelago such as the Philippines, with 7,107 islands in which many different languages and thousands of dialects are spoken, it is very important indeed!

In this lesson, we will discuss the different functions of a national language. After studying it, you should be able to easily identify the importance of a national language in a country's social, political, cultural and economic growth. You should thus be able to explain why every Filipino needs to learn to speak our national language.



### Let's Sing

Do you know this song? This was composed by Florante. Let's try to sing it.

#### *Ako'y Isang Pinoy*

*Ako'y isang Pinoy, sa puso't diwa,  
Pinoy na isinilang sa ating bansa.  
Ako'y hindi sanay sa wika ng mga banyaga.  
Ako'y Pinoy na mayroong sariling wika.  
  
Wikang pambansa ang tangi kong salita.  
Bayan kong sinilangan  
Hangad kong lagi ang kalayaan.  
  
Si Gat Jose Rizal noo'y nagwika.  
Siya ay nagpangaral sa ating bansa:  
Ang hindi marunong magmahal sa sariling wika  
Ay higit pa ang amoy sa mabahong isda.*

What did you feel after singing the song? Did you understand what it is trying to say? Write down what you think the song is about in the spaces provided below.

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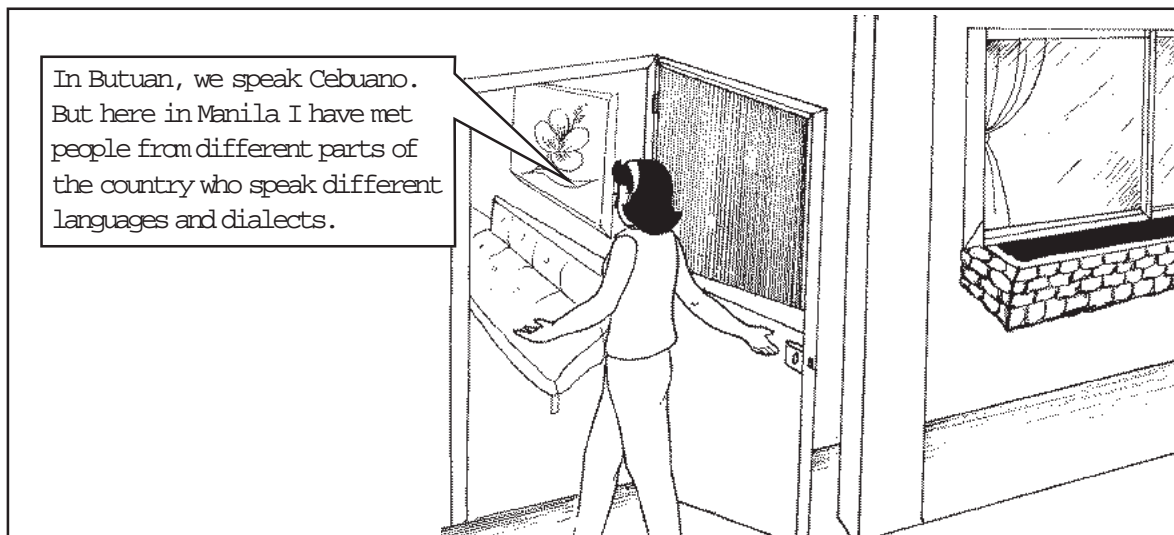
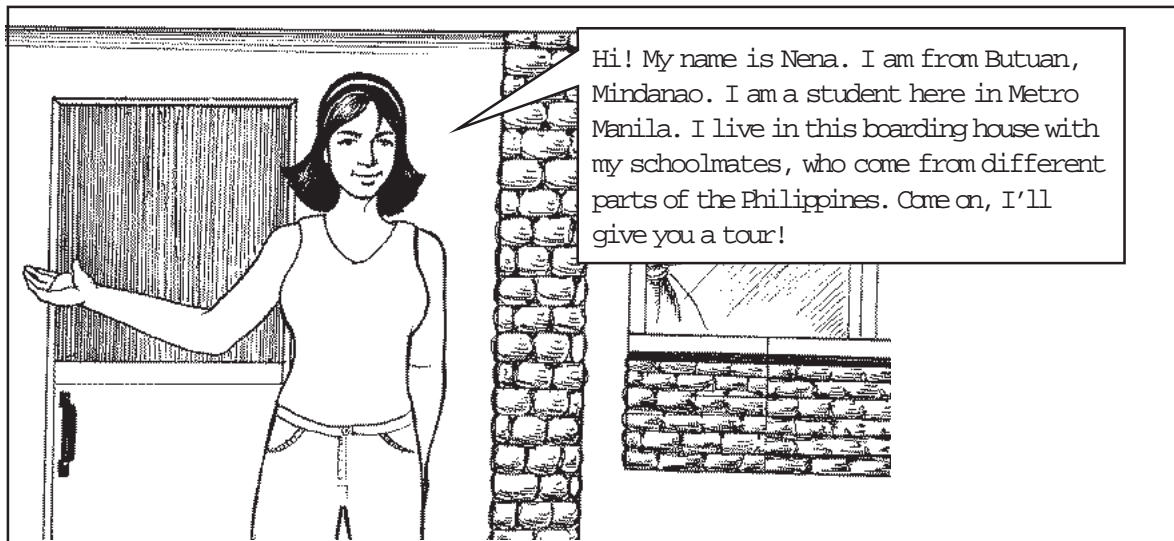
The song is written in Filipino, our national language. It tells us that using and being proud of our national language is a way of showing our love for our country.

Almost all countries have a national language. Do you want to know why? Read this module carefully to learn about the importance of a national language to a country and its people.



## Let's Read

Read the comic strip below carefully.



Any is from Ilocos Sur. She speaks Ilocano. She loves to cook *papaitan*, a special Ilocano dish. Her roommate Lila is from Bicol and speaks Bicolano. Lila likes to cook spicy dishes like *Bicol express* and *laing*. These two are the best of friends.



This is Room 4. The three girls who stay here speak different languages. Karina is from Marawi and speaks Maranao. Leslie is from Samar and speaks Waray. Ana, who is from Pampanga, speaks Pampango. These three love to tell ghost stories at night!



We are like one big family here in our boarding house. We like studying together and telling each other stories after meals. We tell each other our problems and also give each other advice.





## Let's Try This

Did you enjoy reading about Nena and her friends? Answer the questions below to see how much you understood.

1. The girls in the boarding house come from different places in the Philippines. Can you name the province each girl comes from and the language that she and her people speak?

NAME OF GIRL	PROVINCE	LANGUAGE
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		

2. Try to answer Nena's final question: how indeed do the girls in the boarding house communicate with each other and understand each other so well if they speak different languages? Write your ideas below.

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3. Imagine that the boarding house is the Philippines and the girls who live there are groups of people from different regions of the country. What can a national language do for the Filipinos?

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Now it's time to look in the *Answer Key* on page 52 and compare your answers with the ones given there.



## Let's Learn

Did you know that hundreds of different languages are spoken all over the Philippines? Of these, eight are considered “mother tongues” or major languages: *Ilocano, Pangasinan, Pampango, Tagalog, Bicol, Cebuano, Hiligaynon* and *Waray-Samarnon*. For each of these languages, there are hundreds of dialects spoken in different places all over the country.

Do you know how a language is different from a dialect? **A language** is a system of communication used by a very large number of people. For example, many people from the Visayas speak Cebuano. But because they belong to different groups who live in different regions there, some of them developed different ways of speaking Cebuano. Some words may have been changed a little, or the way it is spoken may be different. This difference in the way a language is spoken is called a **dialect**. A dialect is spoken by a smaller number of people. Most people who speak different dialects of the same language understand each other, but some do not.

Can you imagine how difficult it would be for Filipinos speaking different languages and dialects to understand each other if there were no common language? And what would happen if we could not communicate with each other? Would there be lots of fighting as a result of misunderstanding? What aspects of our daily lives would be affected if we were not able to communicate well with each other?

The following are aspects of our lives that are affected by communication:

1. **Personal communication** – What is the language that you use when you communicate with members of your family, your friends or relatives? Are you using a language that can be understood by all? Do you have a relative who lives in another province and speaks another language? How will you express your feelings and ideas to him/her if you don't speak the same language?



2. **Education** – How can a teacher or instructor successfully impart knowledge to the learners if they speak different languages? Can you imagine an Ilonggo-speaking teacher discussing lessons with an Ilocano-speaking learner? A national language effectively promotes learning. Student-teacher interaction and exchange of information is successfully performed through a national language.
3. **Exchange of information** – We communicate with other people to exchange information. What would happen if the information given to us was spoken or written in a language that we do not understand? Then, the exchange of information would not be done effectively.
4. **Planning and decision-making** – Whether you are in a family, group or community, planning and decision-making will be best achieved if there is understanding among the members. Understanding can be achieved if the people express themselves in a language common to them.
5. **Teamwork** – In building something, let's say a house, all the builders or carpenters must work together as a team to produce the best quality house. What will happen if one of them decides to place the kitchen where the other intends to place the bathroom? This will create a problem. Again, building a house, or anything for that matter, can be done if there is understanding among the members of a group or team. This can be done if they communicate well with each other.
6. **Community participation** – Each member in the community can share his/her opinion through the use of a national language. Because they are able to express their ideas and opinions, there will be understanding among the members and they will be united.
7. **Legal system** – It is important that rules, laws and guidelines be written in a single language that can be understood by all. In this manner, confusion will be avoided. How would you be able to follow a law if you do not understand it?

The function of language is to communicate ideas and emotions and give information. Without a national language, different ethnic groups (Cebuano, Ilocano, Kapampangan, etc.) in the Philippines would not understand each other and the exchange of ideas and feelings would not be possible. Without a national language, there would be an absence of communication and instruction, thus an absence of unity among the people.



## Let's Try This

Identify the aspect of people's daily lives affected by language as described in each of the statements below.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Lina tried to talk to her Ilocano grandfather, but she couldn't understand what he was saying.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Perla has just transferred to her new school in Cebu. She is confused as to what her teacher is saying because her teacher is using Cebuano in her instructions.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Mang Ramon, a businessman in Pangasinan, is in Bacolod to attend a seminar on new breeds of mangoes. Much to his surprise and confusion, the main speaker spoke in Ilonggo, a language that he does not understand.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. In a seminar that Fe attended, the participants were grouped and given a task to perform. When she found the group to which she belonged, she found out that she and her groupmates were from different regions in the Philippines and they all spoke different languages. Their problem was how they would work together.

Compare your answers with those in the *Answer Key* on page 52.

For a better illustration on how miscommunication due to differences in language spoken can affect one's daily life, read the comic strip in the next activity.



## Let's Read

One day, Marie received a phone call from her uncle who lives in Pampanga. He has been there since he was five years old. He now speaks Pampango. From his frantic voice over the phone, Marie sensed that there was something wrong. But she cannot understand Pampango because she grew up in Manila. Let's see what happened.



## Let's Think About This

What would you do if you were Marie? What would you say next?

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Let's see how Marie resolved the problem.

What did Marie say to her uncle who was clearly in distress?



Marie's grandmother was brought safely to the hospital. Can you imagine what would have happened if there were no common language Marie and her uncle could use to communicate?

The story shows how important a national language is, not only for our country, but in our daily lives as well.



## Let's Think About This

1. Can you tell how having a national language can benefit our country in terms of how our government runs it and how the people participate in its development?

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2. How can having a national language benefit our economy?

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3. How can having a national language affect the social and cultural development of our country?

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Now compare your answers with the ones below:

1. A national language can help us achieve political unity and strength.

If Filipinos don't understand each other, how can they express their ideas and opinions? But if we adopt a national language that everyone can understand, everyone can express his/her ideas and opinions and participate in the decision and policy-making processes of the government. This can be done through debates, surveys and discussions. People will also be able to follow laws and ordinances because these are written in a language that can be understood by all.

Furthermore, the essence of democracy lies in "freedom of speech" that the constitution grants to its citizens/people. The people can best enjoy this if they can express their ideas and concerns to the different government officials. And having one common language will guarantee that they will be understood by the officials.

2. A national language can help a lot in our country's economic development.

Imagine what would happen if Filipino traders and businessmen couldn't understand each other. How would they transact business? By this is meant transactions between Filipino entrepreneurs with smaller business from different parts of the Philippines who speak different languages. Big business transactions, especially involving foreign companies, are still conducted in English. What would happen to the country's economy if businessmen weren't able to transact business?

3. A national language can promote social and cultural development.

This is another significance of a national language. It promotes social and cultural development. When we say "social," we refer to our daily interactions with other people, whether individually or in a group. Through a language that will be understood by all, an individual will be able to successfully interact with his countrymen. On the other hand, when we say "cultural," this refers to practices, beliefs and traditions that are handed down to us by our ancestors and are passed on to the next generation. Native folklore, riddles, proverbs, dances, music, games and sports and even values from all the ethnic groups in our country can be preserved and passed on to many generations if translated in a common language. For example, the native Ilocano folktale, *Biag Ni Lam-ang*, can be read by the different ethnic groups—even those from Mindanao or Visayas. This can be done if it is translated into a common language. The various folklore, riddles, proverbs, dances, etc. of the different ethnic groups are enriched as they are propagated by the national language.

The most important purpose of a national language is to promote understanding and mutual appreciation among the people of a country. With a national language, people can live in harmony with each other in a politically and economically stable nation.

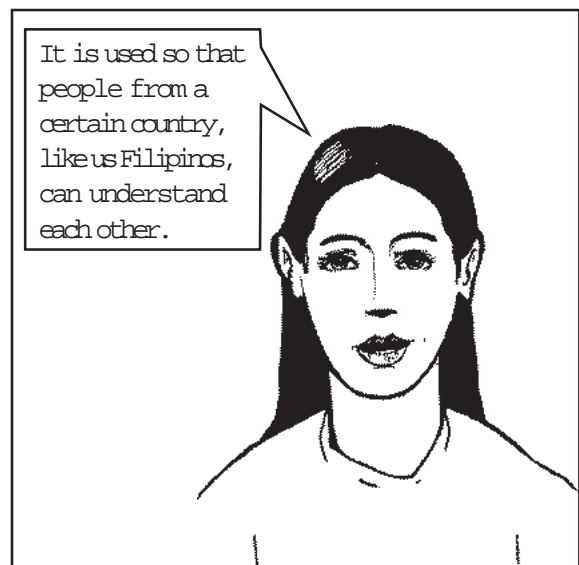
If all Filipinos speak a national language, everyone would be able to participate in the economic and political systems of the country. This way, we will not only help to improve our country, but our lives as well.

How can a national language promote a cultural identity? To find out, read on.



## Let's Read

In an apartment in San Diego, California, USA...







## Let's Think About This

Before you continue reading, try and answer Candy's question first. Why not just use English as our national language?

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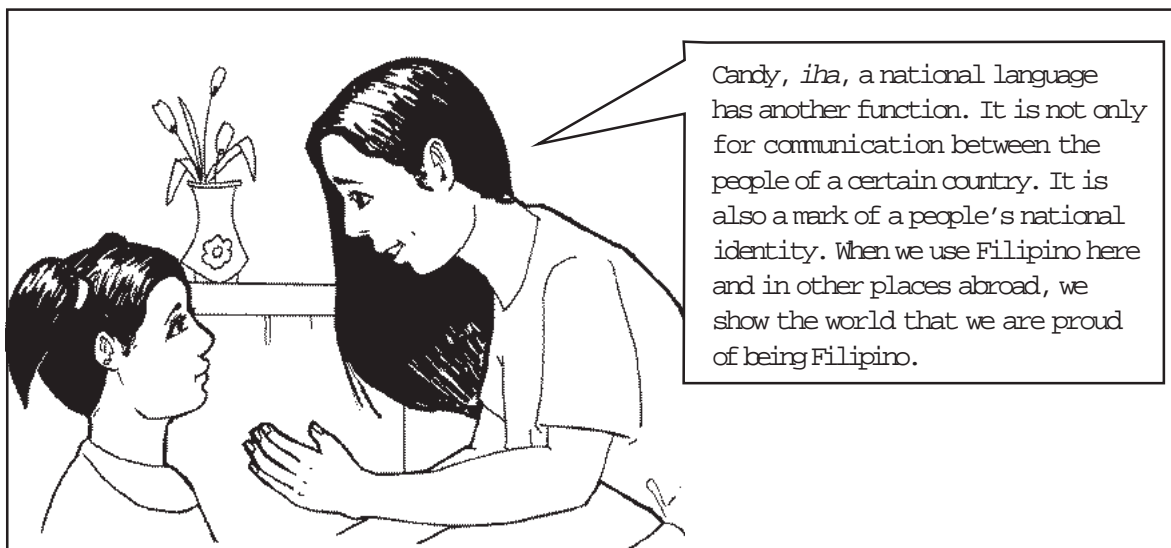
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Now compare your ideas with the answer of Candy's mother. Continue reading the story.



## Let's Read



What does the story teach you? It shows you how our national language can be a great bond that links Filipinos all over the country and the world. It is also a proud badge of identity for millions of Filipinos working and living abroad.

Every free country has its own national language. Why do you think this is so? A national language is a symbol of a people's freedom, independence and unity. It represents what we have gone through as a people (our history) and who we are at present.

This is why it is important that every Filipino learn to speak our national language.



## Let's See What You Have Learned

Fill in the blanks with the necessary word that will best complete the statements. Choose your answer from the list of words in the box below.

dialect	social	eight
identity	political	speak

1. A \_\_\_\_\_ is a regional variation of a language.
2. There are now \_\_\_\_\_ major languages being used in the Philippines.
3. Filipinos all over the world use the national language as a badge of \_\_\_\_\_.
4. A national language can help in our country's \_\_\_\_\_, cultural economic and \_\_\_\_\_ development.
5. Every Filipino should learn to \_\_\_\_\_ the national language.

Compare your answers with those in the *Answer Key* on page 52. Are most of your answers correct? Great! You may proceed to the next lesson.

If you got only 3 (or less than 3) of the 5 items right, that's okay. Just review the lesson, especially the parts you did not understand or remember.



## Let's Remember

- ◆ A language is a system of communication used by a great number of people. A dialect is a different version of a certain language spoken by a smaller group of people.
- ◆ There are eight major languages spoken in the Philippines: Ilocano, Pangasinan, Pampango, Tagalog, Bicol, Cebuano, Hiligaynon and Waray-Samarnon. There are hundreds of dialects for each of these languages.
- ◆ A national language can help us in the following ways:
  - It helps us communicate with each other more easily.
  - It gives us get a sense of our national identity.
- ◆ A national language can help in the social, economic and political growth of our country.
- ◆ It is important that every Filipino be able to learn and use the national language. Literacy in a national language is an important key to development.

## Why Filipino?

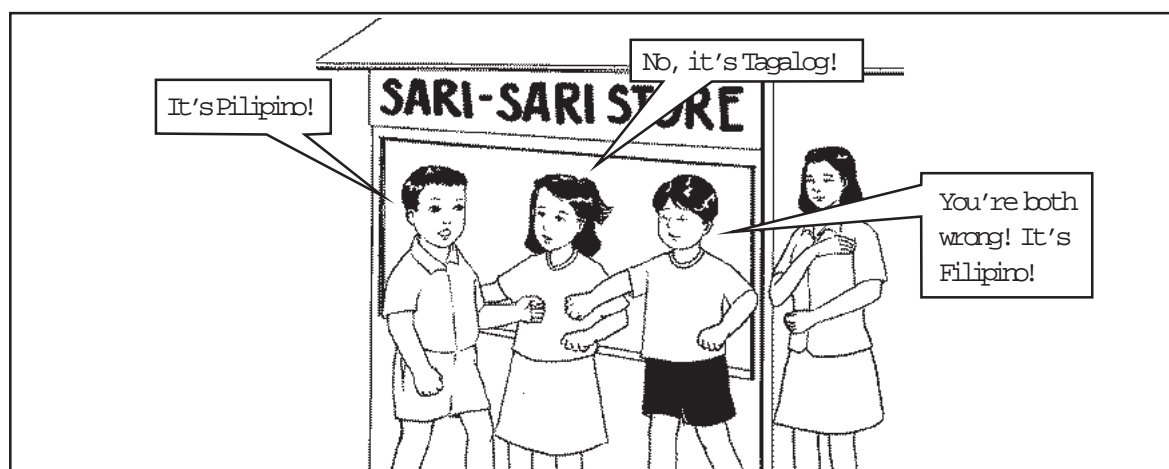
Of all the many languages spoken in our country, which one is our national language? Do you know how we came to have one? Are you familiar with how it was developed? Are you aware of the many issues surrounding its development and use?

Now that you know how important a national language is for a country and its people, it is time to discuss our very own national language. After studying this lesson, you should be able to confidently answer “yes” to the questions above. Ready? Okay, let’s begin.

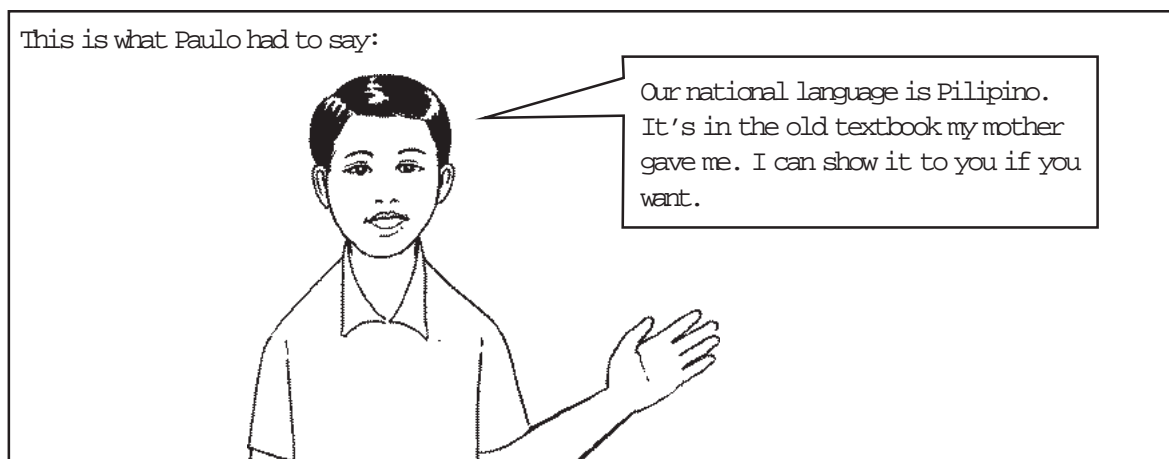


### Let’s Read

One day, I overheard three kids from my neighborhood—Paulo, Sheila and Dennis—arguing about the Philippine national language. This is how their discussion went:



This is what Paulo had to say:



Here is Sheila's argument:



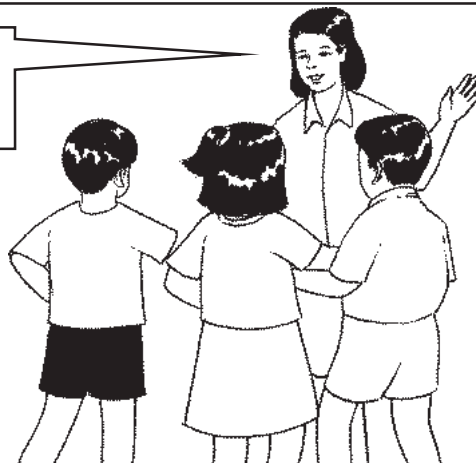
I'm sure our national language is Tagalog. My brother read from a book which he said is written in the national language. It sounds just like Tagalog!

But Dennis said:



Hay, naku, what fools! The national language of the Philippines is Filipino! Everyone knows that. It is totally different from either Pilipino or Tagalog.

Kids, kids, stop fighting! You are all right in a way, but in a way you're all wrong!



Huh?

What do you mean, miss?

Ek...





## Let's Try This

What about you? Do you know what our national language is? Check your answer below.

☐ Tagalog

☐ Pilipino

☐ Filipino

If you answered *Filipino*, you are correct!

But why did I tell the children that they are all correct but all wrong? Can you figure out the answer? Think carefully about what the children said, then write your ideas below.

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Now compare your answer with the one below:

All of the children are right in a way, but they are also all wrong in a way. Why? Well, let's review the statements made by each child.

Paulo said that the national language of the Philippines is Pilipino. He is right in a way—our national language was indeed originally called *Pilipino*. This was decades ago, however. *Pilipino* used to be the name of our national language. It is no longer true today. So he is also wrong.

Sheila said that the national language is *Tagalog*. Well, in a way she is right because our national language was originally derived from the Tagalog language. But it is different from Tagalog. So she is not entirely right.

Of all three children, Dennis gave the most accurate answer. The official name of the national language of the Philippines today is indeed *Filipino*. This is the term used in both the 1973 and 1987 Philippine Constitution to refer to the “national language” of the Philippines. However, Dennis was wrong when he said that Filipino is totally different from Pilipino and Tagalog. As we have discussed, our national language used to be called Pilipino, and it was derived from Tagalog.



## Let's Learn

Even before the Spaniards came to our country, our ancestors were already using different languages. They were divided into different groups who lived in different parts of the islands. There were dark and curly-haired people living in the mountains. They spoke a different language from the fishermen living by the sea. There were also farmers in the different islands who spoke different languages.

When the Spaniards came, instead of establishing a national language, they even encouraged language differences among Filipinos so that they could have better control over them. However, they established one language—Spanish—as the official medium of communication to be used in formal schools, religious ceremonies and government transactions. Thus, Spanish words became part of many local languages and dialects.

When the Americans took over, they made sure that Filipinos learned how to speak English. They considered education in English a useful way to unify a people that spoke many different languages and dialects. So teachers taught English all over the country. This was the only language used for instruction. English became the first national language of the Philippines.

After some time, people in the government began seriously discussing the need for a national language. They argued that it was necessary for national solidarity and independence.



**Manuel L. Quezon**

President Manuel L. Quezon recognized the country's need for a national language. He said that it "constitutes one of the strongest ties that bind the people and foster the unity of national ideals, aspirations and sentiments."

This issue was brought up in the Constitutional Convention held at the time. As a result, the 1935 Constitution provided at last for the “development and adoption of a common national language based on one of the existing native dialects.” Accordingly, the National Language Institute was created to undertake the selection of the said native dialect. This was composed of eleven representatives from different communities around the country. After a survey and study of existing local languages, the Institute recommended Tagalog as the core or basis of the national language.

In 1937, President Quezon proclaimed Tagalog as the basis of the national language. He believed that having our own national language would help resolve differences among Filipinos who spoke different languages and dialects. He also wanted the Filipinos to speak a language not borrowed from the Spaniards or the Americans. He even declared August 13 to 19 of every year as the National Language Week or *Linggo ng Wika* in honor of the Philippine national language. For these reasons, Manuel L. Quezon is known to this day as the Father of the Filipino Language.



## Let's Think About This

The selection of Tagalog by the National Language Institute sparked a lot of controversy. “Why Tagalog?” many non-Tagalog speakers wanted to know. Why, indeed, did the Institute not choose Cebuano, Ilocano or Hiligaynon instead? There are many other dialects spoken in the country aside from Tagalog.

Do you agree with the National Language Institute’s conclusion that Tagalog should be used as the basis for the national language of the Philippines? Why or why not?

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Compare your answer with the one on the next page.



After serious deliberations on the studies that they conducted, the National Language Institute selected Tagalog as the basis of the national language. The reasons why Tagalog was chosen were the following:

1. Tagalog is widely spoken and is the most understood language in all the regions of the Philippines. It is spoken in Manila, central and south-central Luzon, the islands of Marinduque and Mindoro, and some parts of Mindanao.
2. It is not divided into dialects, like Visayan for example.
3. Tagalog literature is the richest. More books are written in Tagalog than in any other native language.
4. Tagalog has always been the language of Manila, the capital city, even before the Spaniards came.
5. Tagalog was the language of the Revolution and the Katipunan – two events in our history that we can truly be proud of.

The poet Francisco Baltazar Balagtas wrote the epic poem *Florante at Laura*, one of the greatest literary treasures of the Philippines, in Tagalog.

So yes, I would have to agree with the Institute's findings.

Nevertheless, I believe the national language should only be lightly based on Tagalog, and should contain many elements from the other languages spoken around the country.



## Let's Learn

The controversy about the Philippine national language continued. The use of Tagalog as the basis for the national language offended many Filipinos. They believed that their languages were not represented in the national language. They refused to accept the Tagalog-based national language.

To show that the national language was not really Tagalog, but just based on it, it was named **Pilipino** in 1959. Pilipino was gradually introduced as the medium of instruction all over the country. Filipino children were made to study both Pilipino and English and were taught all their lessons in these two languages. This was called the **bilingual education policy**. Bilingual means “two languages.”

But many Filipinos still would not accept Pilipino. Do you know why? Look at the following words:

*salumpuwit*  
*salimpapaw*  
*sipnayan*  
*salongsuso*

Do you know what these words mean? Write your answers in the blanks.

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Here are their meanings:

*Salumpuwit* means “chair.”

*Salimpapaw* means “airplane.”

*Sipnayan* means “mathematics.”

*Salongsuso* means “brassiere.”

Can you imagine using these words in your daily conversations? Have you ever heard somebody say in ordinary speech: “*Binigyan ako ng salumpuwit sa salimpapaw upang mag-aral ng sipnayan*”? Can you imagine a mother saying to her young daughter: “*Iha, kailangan mo nang magsuot ng salongsuso*.” Many people found these words funny and ridiculous.

Pilipino became very artificial because many new words were created to be included in it that nobody really wanted to use. Furthermore, many people protested that it was still very similar to Tagalog.

To solve the problem, a new language was proposed. This time it would still be based mainly on Tagalog, but it would include many elements from the different local and foreign languages spoken in the Philippines. The 1973 Constitution stated that the new language, to be called **Filipino**, should be developed and eventually adopted as the common national language of the Philippines. Meanwhile, Pilipino and English would remain the official languages of the country.

Finally, in 1987, it was declared in the Constitution that, “*the national language of the Philippines is Filipino. As it evolves, it shall be further developed and enriched on the basis of existing Philippine and other languages*.” Filipino was to be used in all official communications. It would also be the medium of instruction in schools. It would serve as an instrument of unity and peace for national progress.

Assigned to look after the development of Filipino is the Commission on the Filipino Language (*Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino*). The commission is mandated to undertake, coordinate and promote research for the development, propagation and preservation of Filipino and other Philippine languages.

On July 15, 1997, President Fidel V. Ramos declared August of every year as “National Language Month.” He chose August because President Manuel L. Quezon, considered the Father of the National Language, was born on August 19.



## Let's Think About This

Do you think that more Filipinos are using or are able to speak our *wikang pambansa* today? What is your basis for your answer? Write your answers below.

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Read the answer below. Compare it with yours.

A study was undertaken by Xavier University on which Philippine language was most widely used by Filipinos throughout the years. It clearly indicates that from 1960 to 1990, the number of those who were using Filipino as a language increased more than that of those using other Philippine languages. The study shows that Filipino is becoming effective as a national language; it is being patronized by the people.

In fact, a 1989 NSO survey revealed that 92 percent of Filipinos were at least able to speak the *wikang pambansa*, thus effectively establishing Filipino as the national language of the Philippines.



## Let's Try This

Do you think Filipino has really been accepted by the Filipino people as their national language? Find out for yourself. Conduct a survey in your community. Here are the questions you should ask your friends and neighbors:

1. Do you speak Filipino?
2. Do you accept Filipino as our national language?

Afterward, review the information you have gathered and write your conclusions on a piece of paper. Discuss your findings with your Instructional Manager or co-learners, friends and family members.

What do they think about your findings?



## Let's See What You Have Learned

Put a check mark (✓) in the box before the correct answer.

1. Even before the Spaniards came, our ancestors were already speaking a common language.  
☐ Correct  
☐ Incorrect
2. The first national language of the Philippines was  
☐ Tagalog  
☐ Pilipino  
☐ Filipino  
☐ none of the above
3. Pilipino was not accepted by many Filipinos because  
☐ it was still mostly Tagalog-based  
☐ it contained many artificial words that nobody wanted to use  
☐ both of the above (the first and second statements)  
☐ it was based on a foreign language
4. The \_\_\_\_\_ Constitution proclaimed *Filipino* the official national language of the Philippines.  
☐ 1935  
☐ 1973  
☐ 1987  
☐ 1945
5. *Filipino* was created in 1987 and is now a fully-developed language.  
☐ Correct  
☐ Incorrect

Finished? Look in the *Answer Key* on page 53 to check your answers. If you got at least 3 points, congratulations! You may now move on to the next lesson.

If you got 1 or 2 points, or none at all, don't be discouraged. This lesson contained many dates and facts that may be confusing. All you need to do is go back and study these again. It would be better if you take the above test again to see if you've understood this lesson well before proceeding to the next one. Good luck!



## Let's Remember

- ◆ The first national language of the Philippines was English.
- ◆ A new national language was developed in the 1930s. But because it was based on Tagalog, many non-Tagalog speakers did not accept it.
- ◆ President Manuel L. Quezon helped bring about the development of a new language that would be the official Philippine national language. For this reason, he is known to this day as the Father of the National Language.
- ◆ The national language was named Pilipino in 1959 in order to correct the misconception that it was really plain Tagalog. Many new words were coined for Pilipino, but these were too difficult and artificial, and many people did not accept them.
- ◆ A new national language was conceived, to be named Filipino. This was provided for in the 1973 Constitution. Meanwhile, English and Pilipino remained the official languages of the country.
- ◆ The new language, Filipino, was finally proclaimed as the official national language of the Philippines in the 1987 Constitution. According to the constitution, Filipino is to contain borrowings from the different local and foreign languages spoken in the country.
- ◆ Studies show that, so far, Filipino has been accepted, learned and spoken by more and more Filipinos every year.

## Filipinos Speak Filipino

We have talked a lot about how our present official national language developed. We have also learned about studies that show how Filipino is increasingly becoming accepted and spoken by more and more Filipinos every year. We have said that every Filipino must learn to speak Filipino in order for us to grow in strength and unity as a nation. But what exactly is Filipino? This is a very important question, and one that we will try to answer here.

After studying this lesson, you should know our national language fairly well. You should be able to tell the difference between it and other Philippine languages, particularly Tagalog. You should also be able to tell when and how it should be used.



### Let's Try This

Below is a paragraph in Tagalog. Read it carefully.

*Pumasok ang guro sa silid-aralan dala ang kanyang mga aklat. Sumulat siya sa pisara sa pamamagitan ng tisa, at inutusan niya ang mga mag-aaral na kunin ang kanilang mga takdang-aralin.*

Now try writing that again, this time in Filipino.

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Compare your translation with the one below.

*Pumasok ang titser sa klasrum dala ang kanyang mga libro. Sumulat siya sa blakbord sa pamamagitan ng tsok, at inutusan niya ang mga estudyante na kunin ang kanilang mga asayment.*

How did you find the activity? Did you have any difficulty translating the paragraph into Filipino?



## Let's Think About This

1. Do you think Filipino is just Tagalog with a new name?

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2. If you answered *no* to the first question, how do you think Filipino is different from Tagalog? Use the translation in the previous activity to guide you.

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You will find out more about this issue in the discussion that follows.



## Let's Learn

If you will observe the translation on page 28, you will notice that Filipino is still very similar to Tagalog, but many words have been changed. Let us look at some of these:

<b>TAGALOG</b>	<b>FILIPINO</b>
guro	titser
silid-aralan	klasrum
aklat	libro
pisara	blakbord
tisa	tsok
mag-aaral	estudyante
takdang-aralin	asayment

Can you see how the words have been changed? More importantly, can you tell why they have been changed?



Look at the new Filipino words again. Do they sound familiar? They probably do. They are borrowings from other languages spoken in the Philippines, particularly English and Spanish. If you look at them closely, you will notice that:

*titser* is derived from the English word *teacher*;  
*klasrum* is derived from the English word *classroom*;  
*libro* is the exact same Spanish word for “book”;  
*blakbord* is derived from the English word *blackboard*;  
*tsok* is derived from the English word *chalk*;  
*estudyante* is derived from the Spanish word *estudiante*; and  
*asayment* is derived from the English word *assignment*.

So you can see that Filipino is different from Tagalog because it borrows more heavily from other languages. Words from other languages are respelled, adopted, affixed and borrowed. They are often written the way they are pronounced by Filipinos. This is done in order to acknowledge the fact that these languages are a big part of our culture. Most Filipinos often use these English and Spanish words instead of their Tagalog equivalents. They are commonly used in everyday conversations and even in television and radio programs and newspapers. At present, Filipino borrows most heavily from the English language. Here are some more Filipino terms borrowed or adapted from English:

ENGLISH	FILIPINO	ENGLISH	FILIPINO
accusation	<i>akusasyon</i>	faculty	<i>fakulti</i>
action	<i>aksyon</i>	graduate	<i>gradweyt</i>
appointed	<i>apoynted</i>	identity	<i>aydentiti</i>
artificial	<i>artipisyal</i>	individual	<i>indibidwal</i>
broadcast	<i>brodkast</i>	mass media	<i>mas midya</i>
business	<i>bisnis</i>	national	<i>nasyonal</i>
category	<i>kategori</i>	official	<i>opisyal</i>
chairman	<i>tserman</i>	physical	<i>pisikal</i>
commercial	<i>komersyal</i>	property	<i>properti</i>
committee	<i>komite</i>	qualification	<i>kwalipikasyon</i>
context	<i>konteksto</i>	sector	<i>sektor</i>
control	<i>kontrol</i>	sentence	<i>sentens</i>
conversation	<i>kumbersasyon</i>	situation	<i>sitwasyon</i>
crisis	<i>krisis</i>	spiritual	<i>ispiritwal</i>
declared	<i>idineklara</i>	stress	<i>istres</i>
deliberate	<i>delibereyt</i>	textbook	<i>teksbuk</i>
discussion	<i>diskasyon</i>	tricycle	<i>traysikol</i>
election	<i>eleksyon</i>	variety	<i>barayti</i>
elementary	<i>elementari</i>	version	<i>bersyon</i>

We have looked at the foreign borrowings in the Filipino language, but what about the borrowings from the local languages? Remember that in the 1987 Constitution, Filipino is supposed to be “further developed and enriched on the basis of **existing Philippine** and other languages.”

At present there are very few borrowings in the Filipino language from other local languages. This is understandable because Filipino is still in the process of development. Let us just hope that, in the future, the definition of Filipino as stated in our Constitution will be fulfilled. That is, Filipino will hopefully contain more borrowings from other Philippine languages.



## Let's Think About This

Based on what we have discussed so far, how would you describe the Filipino language?

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Compare your answer with the one below:

The Filipino language is meant to be a beautiful mixture of different words, concepts and tones from many languages used in the Philippines. Today, however, it is still in the process of development and contains very few borrowings from local languages. It is still based on Tagalog but it borrows heavily from many foreign languages, most especially English.



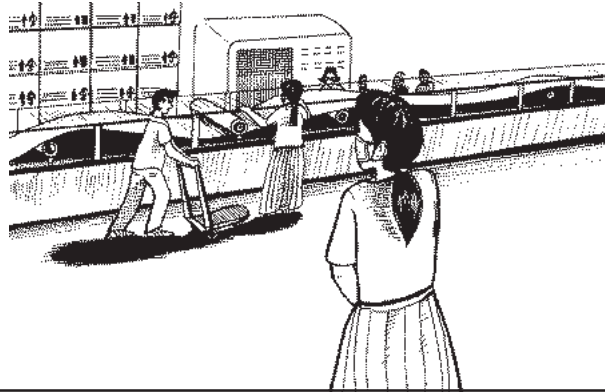
## Let's Try This

Read the situations below and answer the questions asked.

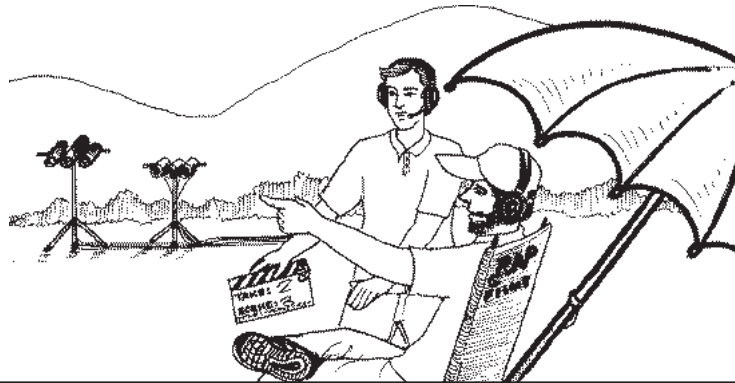
Pedro is a farmer from Quezon. He speaks Tagalog. He wants to sell the rice and corn that he harvests to buyers in Samar. Samareños speak Waray. How can Pedro communicate with them?



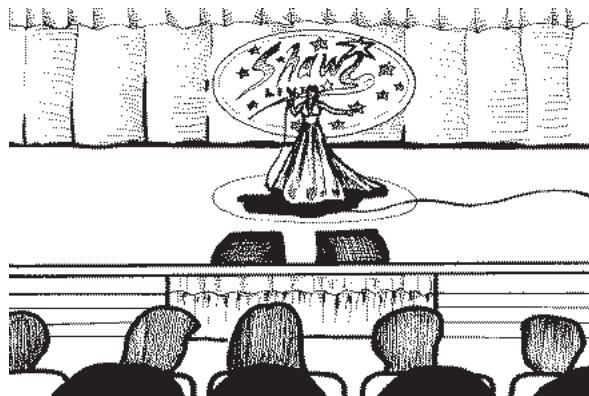
Julia is from Bohol. She recently moved to Manila to work in a factory. How can she make friends and work effectively with her co-workers?



Direk Polo is a movie director. He has just finished a movie about Dr. Jose Rizal, our national hero. He wants every Filipino to enjoy and learn from this movie. What should he do so that all Filipinos can understand the movie?



Vina is a singer. She is currently recording her next album. She wants a greater number of Filipinos to understand and appreciate her songs. As a singer, what should she do?



In the spaces below, write what you think each of the Filipinos above must do:

Pedro:

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Julia:

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Polo:

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Vina:

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Do all your answers involve the use of Filipino, our national language? If so, then you are right! Pedro must use Filipino in order to do business with the *Samareños*. Julia should speak in Filipino in order to make friends and to work well with her *Manileño* co-workers. Polo should make sure his film is in Filipino in order for all Filipinos to understand it. Finally, Vina should sing her songs in Filipino so that the entire country can understand and appreciate them. What does this tell you about the use of Filipino?

Before we answer that question, let's look at another situation.



## Let's Read



Loida is from Davao. She speaks Cebuano. She and her husband Dodong plant orchids. They live in a small house beside the road. People passing by can see the beautiful flowers that they grow. One day, Carmina, a flower shop owner from Manila, noticed the flowers.

Carmina wanted to buy orchids for her shop. But since she was from Manila she didn't know how to speak Cebuano. It was a good thing Loida and Carmina both knew how to speak Filipino. They were able to do business successfully. The two decided that Loida and her husband would provide flowers for Carmina's shop at a price that they would set monthly.

To celebrate their sale and good fortune, Loida decided to take her children out for a treat. They wanted to watch the new movie showing in town, starring a local action hero. They invited Carmina to watch with them. Everyone enjoyed the movie because it was written and performed in Filipino and they could all understand it very well.

After the nice movie, Carmina gave Loida and Dodong a book by F. Sionil Jose, written in Filipino, as a parting gift. She also gave their children a cassette tape of their favorite song—"Sana Maulit Muli," sung by Gary Valenciano. Eventually, Loida and Carmina developed a good business relationship as well as a lasting friendship. To this day, they often write each other letters, in Filipino of course!



## Let's Think About This

Based on the story, in what instances is Filipino useful as a medium of communication?

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Compare your answer with the one below:

In the story, the characters' knowledge of Filipino became useful when:

1. Carmina arranged for Loida to supply flowers to her flower shop in Manila;
2. Carmina, Loida and her children watched a movie;
3. Carmina gave Loida and Dodong a book;
4. Carmina gave the children a cassette tape of a Filipino song; and
5. Carmina and Loida developed a good friendship and frequently wrote letters to each other.

This tells us that Filipino is useful in business transactions, in film, in literature, in music and in personal communications between Filipinos from different provinces or areas. In all of these cases it helps our people understand each other better and live in harmony and peace.



## Let's Learn

There are no clear rules about the proper situations in which Filipino should be spoken. You should use your common sense regarding this matter. But the instances in which Filipino may be spoken and in which it can, in fact, be very useful include:

### 1. **Business transactions**

If everyone speaks a national language, business transactions between Filipino entrepreneurs and small businessmen from different parts of the Philippines would be possible.

### 2. **Education**

It is important that Filipino be taught in schools, so that children will be able to learn the national language. Aside from this, other subjects may also be taught in Filipino. The DECS Bilingual Education Policy provides for the use of Filipino and English in schools. This will be discussed more in the next lesson.

### 3. **Services**

Filipino will be very useful in many important services involving health, transportation, calamity relief and others. A Cebuano doctor needs to understand what is ailing his Pampango patient, for example. Without the use of a common language like Filipino, how can they understand each other?

### 4. **Literature and entertainment**

Movies, television shows, books and other forms of entertainment would be better understood by all Filipinos if they are delivered or written in a language common to all. In fact, the use of Filipino in literature and entertainment is one of the best ways to teach the people how to speak Filipino. It is also a good way to show the beauty of the language.

### 5. **Information**

Important news events and other significant pieces of information, if broadcast or delivered in Filipino, may be easily understood by people from all over the country.

### 6. **Personal communication**

Perhaps the most important function of our national language is to bring us Filipinos closer together. If you use Filipino when conversing, writing letters or emails or in any other form of personal communication, you can gain many more new friends from all over the country.



## Let's See What You Have Learned

A. Answer the following questions.

1. What is the main difference between Tagalog and Filipino? (4 points)

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2. How would you describe the Filipino language? (4 points)

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B. Enumerate the instances that we have discussed in which the Filipino language may be spoken and may in fact be very useful. Cite an example for each. (2 points each)

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5. 

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6. 

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Compare your answers with those in the *Answer Key* on pages 53–54. Are all or most of your answers correct? The perfect score for this test is 20. If you got 11 and above, very good! You have passed the test and may go to the last lesson.

If you got 10 points and below, that's okay. Review this lesson first before proceeding to the next one.



## Let's Remember

- ◆ Filipino is different from Tagalog because it contains heavy borrowings from English and other languages. It is meant to be a mixture of different languages used in the Philippines. Today, however, it is still in the process of development and contains very few borrowings from local languages. It is still based on Tagalog but it borrows heavily from many foreign languages, most especially English and Spanish.
- ◆ Filipino is very useful in many aspects of life, including business, education, services, literature, entertainment, information and personal communications.

## Filipinos Also Speak Other Languages and Dialects

Before you end this module, there is one final lesson you need to study. It is true that the Philippines must have a national language. We must all work together to achieve this goal. But we must not do so at the expense of forgetting or taking for granted other languages or dialects spoken in the country. The national language must not be used as an instrument with which to shut off other cultures or other people.

It is important for you to understand that although it is very important that you learn to speak our national language, this does not mean it is the only language you should speak. Speaking in English or in your own dialect does not mean you are not nationalistic or that you honor our national language less. You can learn to speak the national language, value your local dialect and be fluent in English at the same time!

In this lesson we will discuss the importance and the functions of the different Filipino dialects and languages as well as our secondary language, English, in our lives as Filipinos.



### Let's Try This

Look at the picture below. Take note of the signs that you see.



Does this street look familiar? It is just like any street you would see anywhere in the Philippines. How many signs were you able to spot? Write them down below.

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What do these signs have in common? They are all written in English! These are familiar signs you see all over the country.

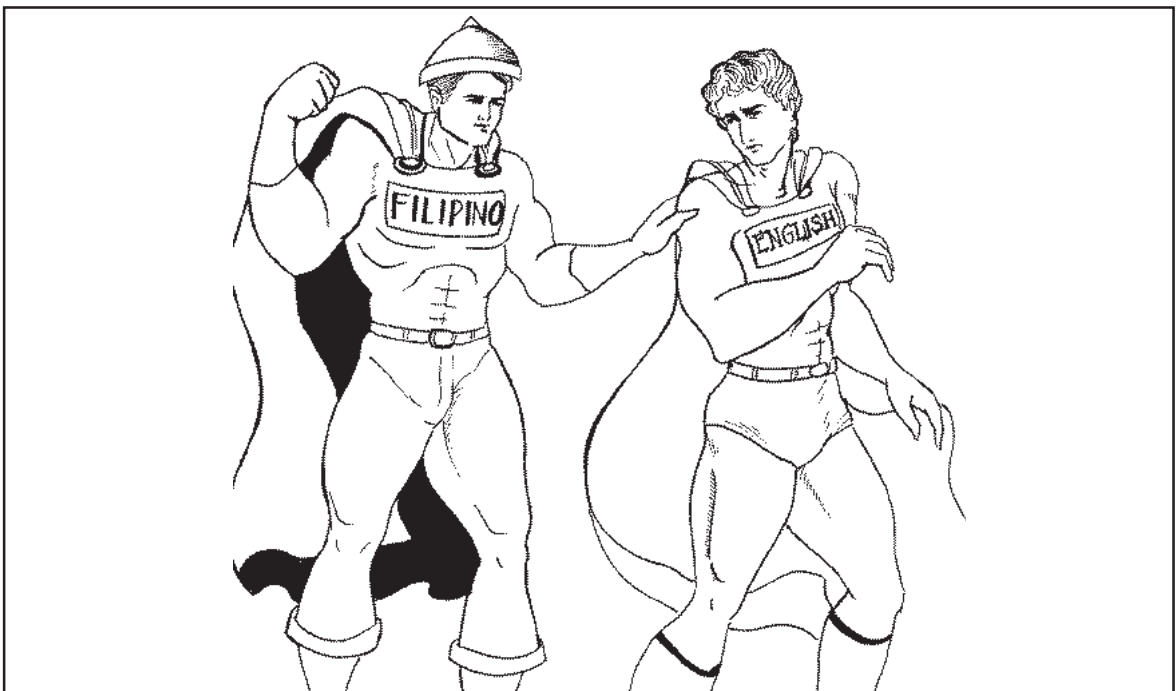
Try to look around your neighborhood. Count how many signs, posters and advertisements are written in English.

How many were you able to count?



## Let's Try This

Study the picture below.





## Let's Think About This

1. What is the picture trying to show?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Do you believe that what is portrayed in the picture is really happening in our country today? How?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Is the situation being portrayed in the picture good or bad for us and for our country? Why?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Now compare your answers with the ones below:

1. The Filipino superhero represents the Filipino language. The superhero with the word *English* on its chest represents the English language.

The picture shows how Filipino is taking the center stage. It is pushing the English language out of the scene. This illustrates how the Filipino language is becoming the sole medium of communication in the Philippines.

2. Although English is still widely used in the country today, Filipino is becoming the most favored medium of communication. Although Filipino remains the language of the masses, even those in the middle class are now using Filipino to communicate with each other. Filipino is now the language in school corridors and canteens, in homes and neighborhoods, restaurants, supermarkets, newspaper, news broadcasts, TV programs, etc. On the other hand, Filipino has not replaced English as the written and read language of higher education, in government correspondences and communication, and in professional licensure exams.
3. The issue on the use of Filipino as the sole medium of instruction over English seems to be a never-ending debate. So-called patriotic citizens and nationalists call for unity and national pride through the use of Filipino as the sole medium of communication in the whole country. They argue that countries like Japan, North Korea, China and others were able to achieve economic progress without the aid of the English language.

On the other hand, these countries are now eager to learn the English language. They see English as a tool in today's **age of information**. Advances in technology and science are written in English. Therefore, if you want your country to be globally competitive, English is the language to learn. Aside from this, it is the English language skills of our Philippine labor force that attracts foreign investors. Even our Overseas Foreign Workers (OFWs) have a competitive edge over those from other countries because of their English speaking skills.



## Let's Read

The Bilingual Education Policy of the Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS) was first implemented in 1974. It was again promulgated in compliance with the 1987 Constitution.

The bilingual policy involves the use of both English and Filipino as mediums of instruction in schools all over the country.



## Let's Think About This

How do you think the DECS Bilingual Education Policy will affect the status of the English language in the Philippines? Write your ideas in the spaces provided below.

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The bilingual policy implies that English is still recognized as a useful and important medium of communication in the country.



## Let's Learn

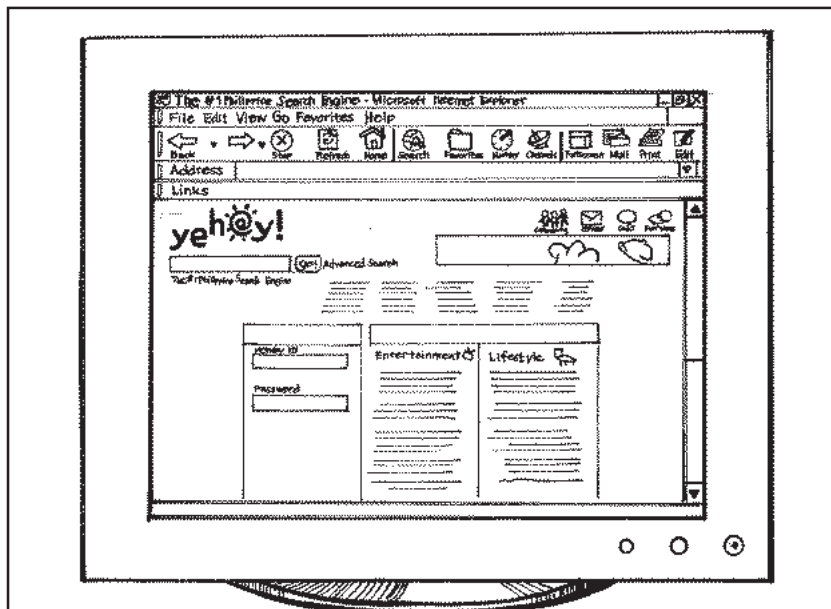
Despite the existence of Filipino, the official national language, English is still widely used in the country today. Do you know why?

English was, after all, our first national language. Filipinos have used it for many, many years and it has taken root in our culture and consciousness. It is used in media, like television, newspapers and radio. It is used in entertainment. It is used in official proceedings and functions—in courtrooms, in the Senate, in government offices and in business transactions. It is also the language of science, mathematics and technology.

English is considered the international language and we cannot deny its importance. We cannot use Tagalog, Filipino or any of our dialects to communicate with people from different parts of the world. But English is used and understood in many countries all over the world, and people all over the world understand each other through it. The countries that use the English language cover almost half of the total land area of the world.

Also, more and more Filipinos are going abroad to work. They are called Overseas Filipino Workers or OFWs. They go to work in other countries as laborers, household servants, entertainers and even as professional workers. They help generate income for our country. How can they survive in foreign countries if they do not know how to speak English?

There are many other instances where knowledge of the English language is important. Another example is when you are using a computer to get information from the Internet.



Did you know that 80% of all computer websites on the Internet are in English? The Internet is fast becoming a major force in world business and relations. It is now the greatest source of information that people all over the world can access. What a great loss to Filipinos if they cannot make use of this information source because they cannot understand English!

Also, we will not be able to keep in touch with the latest advances in science and technology if we have a poor command of English. Most researches and journals on these matters are, after all, written in English.

Now that we have a national language, should we let go of English completely?

If you take the English language away, our culture would suffer a terrible loss. It would be like pulling a leg off of our national identity. English is a part of our past, our culture and our identity as Filipinos. It is, furthermore, the international language. It is the key that can open doors for us in international relations and political growth. Why should we throw it away?

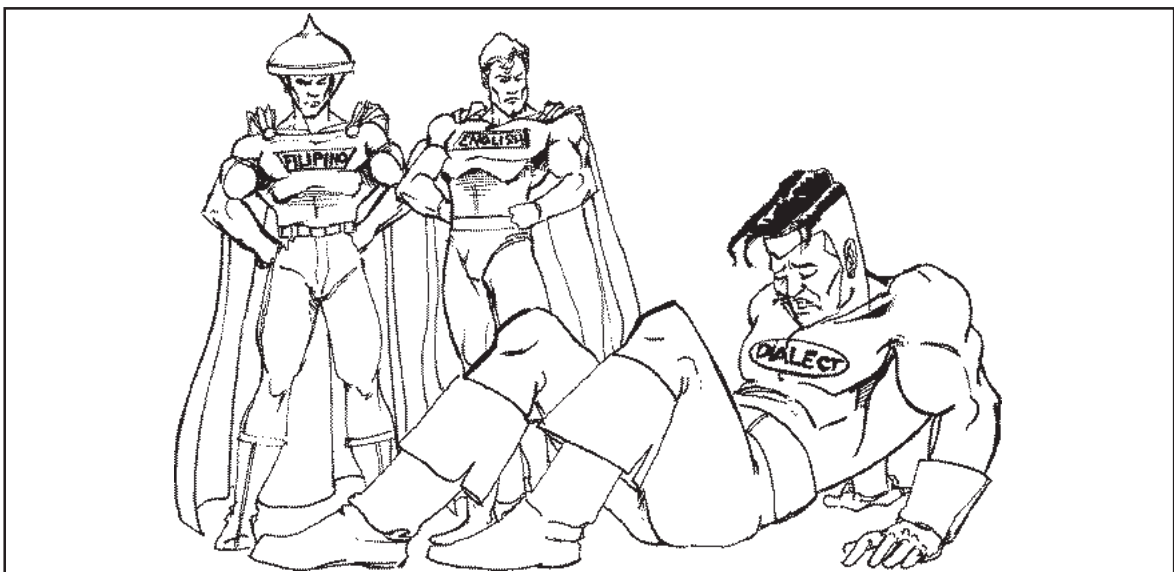
Nevertheless, you must keep in mind that Filipino is still our national language. English and Filipino are both important to us. We must learn to speak and appreciate them both.

As of today, English is still a very powerful language in the country. You must learn to speak it if you want to improve your career and your life. When applying for a job, for instance, it would be an extra point for you if you can speak English fluently.



### Let's Try This

Look at the following picture.



### Let's Think About This

1. What does the picture portray?  

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2. Do you think what is shown in the picture is good for us and for our country? Why or why not?  

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Now compare your answers with the ones below:

1. The picture shows the English language and Filipino, the national language, shoving aside a superhero with “dialect” written on his chest. He represents the many local dialects spoken in different parts of the Philippines. This means that because of the great importance we place on English and Filipino, we are setting aside or rejecting our local dialects.
2. What is shown in the picture is not good for us and for our country. Our dialects are as important as English and Filipino. They have their own functions and roles. They should be given as much importance as the other two.

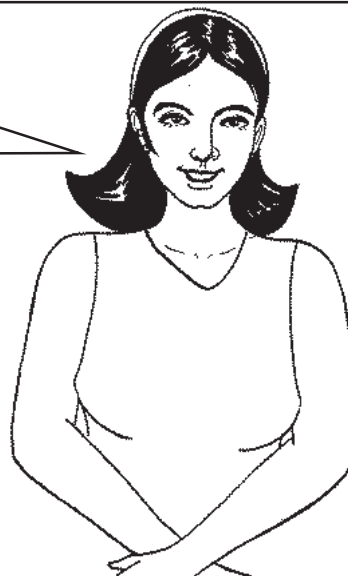


## Let's Read

Do you remember Nena? You met her in Lesson 1. She is the girl who lives in a boarding house with different girls from all over the Philippines.

In my boarding house, I live with girls from all over the Philippines. We speak Filipino when we are gathered together. But we also love speaking our dialects when we meet people from our hometowns and when we go home to our families during school breaks.

Our dialects make us feel special. They are part of our personalities and our heritage! They tell you about the places we come from and the culture of our people.







## Let's Try This

Look at the pictures below. These people are saying “I love you” in the different languages and dialects spoken in our country.



**Ilocano**



**Pangasinan**



**Cebuano**



**Pampango**



**Hiligaynon**



**Maranao**



**Tausog**



**Maguindanao**



**Tagalog**

Just as there are many different ways to express love, so there are many beautiful ways Filipinos can express themselves through their local dialects. Were you able to find your dialect in the examples shown above and on the previous page? Using your dialect shows that you are proud of your people and proud of your Filipino heritage.



## Let's Learn

The Philippines is made up of many different groups of people with many beautiful but different cultures. Our dialects are representations of these diverse cultures. If we give up our dialects, it is just like turning our backs on our cultural identities and heritage.

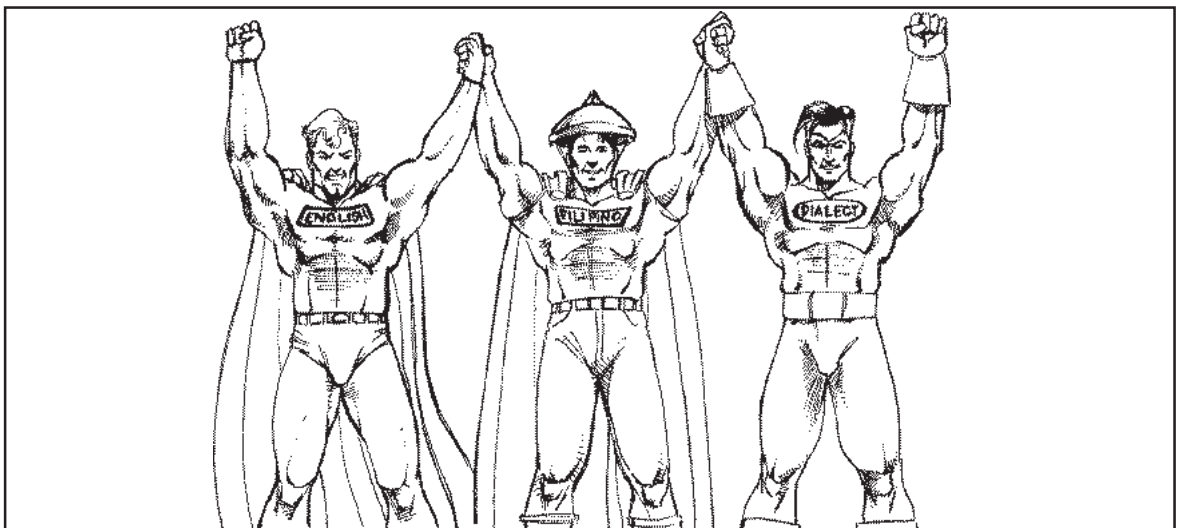
Learning how to speak Filipino and English may be the key to national development, but preserving the different dialects is the key to preserving our heritage. This includes native songs and dances, folktales, beliefs, traditions and others. All efforts must be made to preserve our heritage by translating them in Filipino and propagating them through the different parts of the country.

Regional languages and provincial dialects are important because they remain the lingua franca (common language) outside of Metro Manila. If you live in the province, it is the language you use at home. It is the language you are most familiar with and find easiest and most comfortable to speak every day. Because of this, most probably you express yourself best in this language.

Be proud of your dialect. It is the embodiment of your cultural and traditional roots. Do not be ashamed to speak it in public. But neither should you brag about it, judging other dialect-speaking groups as inferior. We live in a culturally diverse country. Each and every different dialect and culture is precious and beautiful, however different each may be.



## Let's Try This



This is how Filipino, English and the local dialects should be. One should not be considered better than the other. All are equally important. If they are allowed to work together, they can help us improve our lives and our country.



## Let's See What You Have Learned

Fill in the blanks with the necessary words or phrases to complete the following statements.

1. The DECS Bilingual Education Policy involves \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
2. In the Philippines, English is used in \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
3. English is important for Filipino OFWs because \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
4. My local dialect is important because \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
5. Filipino, English and our local dialects are \_\_\_\_\_.  
All three together can help us attain a prosperous, peaceful and stable nation.

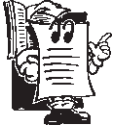
Compare your answers with those in the *Answer Key* on page 54. If you got three or more correct, congratulations! You have successfully finished the last lesson of this module. You may now take the post-test. Good luck!

If you got 1, 2 or no points at all, just go back to the parts of the lesson you did not understand before taking the post-test.



## Let's Remember

It is important for you to keep in mind that although you must learn, speak and appreciate our national language, you should also do the same for English and the other languages and dialects spoken in the country. They are equally important and serve useful functions that can help us improve our lives and our country.



## Let's Sum Up

- ◆ A national language is important for any free country. It promotes cross-cultural understanding and mutual appreciation between people in a nation. It also strengthens national unity and identity. It is a vital element that is necessary for the political, economic and social growth of a country.
- ◆ Filipino is the national language of the Philippines. It is the cultural thread that keeps Filipinos all over the world in touch with their roots.
- ◆ Wide access to the Filipino language is essential. All Filipinos should learn to speak it.
- ◆ English and the other languages and dialects spoken all over the country are just as important as the national language. They should also be learned, preserved and appreciated.



## What Have You Learned?

- A. Based on what we have discussed in the module, how can you describe the Filipino language?

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- B. Enumerate five benefits of a national language for a country and its people.

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- C. Write **T** on the line if the statement is true. If it is false, change the underlined word/s to make the statement true.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. At present, English is still one of the official languages of our country.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. The Bilingual Education Policy of the DECS involves the use of English and one's local dialect as the mediums of instruction.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Filipino is based on Tagalog because this is the dialect spoken in Manila, the capital city of the country.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Filipino should be spoken by all Filipinos at all times.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. A national language promotes economic, political, social and cultural development.



## Answer Key

### A. Let's See What You Already Know (*pages 2–3*)

- A. 1. **F** — Filipino is mostly based on Tagalog.
2. **T**
3. **F** — Filipino is based on Tagalog, but is also different from Tagalog because it has borrowed many elements from foreign and local languages, especially English.
4. **F** — The national language is important, but our local dialects are also important. They represent our cultural heritage and diversity.
5. **F** — English is just as important as the national language. It is the international language and the second official language of our country.
- B. 1. **(a)**. One of the reasons why Tagalog was adopted as the basis of our national language is because it is the language spoken in Manila, the capital city. **(c)** is wrong because the judges in the Assembly that decided on a national language were from different regions in the Philippines. **(b)** is wrong because Tagalog, English and Spanish are all equally important languages. **(d)** is wrong because although President Quezon did speak Tagalog, the decision to choose Tagalog did not come from him, but from the judges.
2. **(b)**. It is better to use Filipino or English as the need arises. Using only Filipino **(a)** will put us at a disadvantage when competing globally. Using only English **(c)** will not promote our cultural identity. Using neither Filipino nor English **(d)** will not work, either. Filipino and English are known to more people than any other Philippine language.
3. **(c)**. For his determination in having a national language, Manuel L. Quezon is considered as the Father of our National Language.
4. **(d)**. Having a national language is important because it promotes learning through teacher-student interaction, allows effective exchange of ideas and information, and enables people to interact with each other.
5. **(c)**. Your local dialect is just as important as English and Filipino.

## B. Lesson 1

*Let's Try This (pages 7–8)*

1.

NAME OF GIRL	PROVINCE	LANGUAGE
1. Nena	Butuan	Cebuano
2. Minda	Batangas	Tagalog
3. Amy	Ilocos Sur	Ilocano
4. Lila	Bicol	Bicolano
5. Karina	Marawi	Maranao
6. Leslie	Samar	Waray
7. Ana	Pampanga	Pampango

2. The girls in the boarding house understand each other well and are in fact very good friends because they all know how to speak the national language, Filipino.
3. Like the girls in the boarding house, all Filipinos from different regions with different cultures can live together in harmony and peace if they can understand each other through a national language.

*Let's Try This (page 10)*

1. Personal communication
2. Education
3. Exchange of information
4. Teamwork

*Let's See What You Have Learned (page 17)*

1. dialect
2. eight
3. identity
4. social, political
5. speak



### C. Lesson 2

*Let's See What You Have Learned (page 26)*

1. **Incorrect.** The statement should be: Even before the Spaniards came, our ancestors were already speaking *different languages*.
2. **none of the above.** The first national language of the Philippines was English.
3. **both of the above** (the first and second statements)
4. **1987**
5. **Incorrect.** Filipino was made the official language of the Philippines in 1987. It was not created then. As it is, it is still in the process of development up to the present.

### D. Lesson 3

*Let's See What You Have Learned (page 36)*

A. (4 points each)

1. Tagalog is a local language spoken in Manila and in central and south-central Luzon, the islands of Marinduque and Mindoro, and some parts of Mindanao. Filipino is the Philippine national language. It is based on Tagalog but contains heavy borrowings from other languages, particularly English.
2. The Filipino language is meant to be a beautiful mixture of different words, concepts and tones from many languages used in the Philippines. Today, however, it is still in the process of development and contains very few borrowings from local languages. It is still based on Tagalog but it borrows heavily from many foreign languages, most especially English.

B. (2 points each)

1. business transactions  
*Ex.* When a Cebuano fruit dealer wants to do business with a fruit vendor in Manila, they should speak a common language.
2. education  
*Ex.* Filipino is taught in schools all over the country and many subjects are taught in this language.

3. services

*Ex.* A Pampango plumber and his Cebuano customer need to understand each other in order for the plumber to know exactly what needs to be done.

4. literature and entertainment

*Ex.* Many good Filipino movies, such as *Muro-ami* and *Jose Rizal*, are in Filipino.

5. information

*Ex.* Many television networks, newspapers and radio stations deliver news in Filipino.

6. personal communications

*Ex.* Filipinos from different language groups can communicate and become friends through a common language.

## **E. Lesson 4**

*Let's See What You Have Learned (page 48)*

Answer to questions 3 and 4 are sample answers only. Your answers may be slightly different. You can show them to your Instructional Manager for additional feedback.

1. the use of both English and Filipino as mediums of instruction in schools all over the country
2. media; entertainment; official proceedings and functions; in courtrooms; in the Senate; in government offices; in business transactions; in math, science and technology; in dealings with foreigners; on the Internet; and in many other areas of Philippine life
3. through it, they are able to work abroad, be understood by and live in harmony with people from different parts of the world
4. it represents my cultural heritage and it is a reflection of the cultural diversity that makes the Philippines a beautiful country
5. equally important

## F. What Have You Learned? (page 50)

Answers to questions A and B are sample answers only. Your answers may be different. You can show them to your Instructional Manager for additional feedback.

- A. The Filipino language is meant to be a beautiful mixture of different words, concepts and tones from many languages used in the Philippines. Today, however, it is still in the process of development and contains very few borrowings from local languages. It is still based on Tagalog but it borrows heavily from many foreign languages, most especially English.
- B. A national language can help:
1. a country achieve political strength and stability;
  2. in the economic growth of a nation;
  3. promote understanding and mutual appreciation among the people of a country;
  4. link the people of a nation wherever they are in the world, as a badge of national identity; and
  5. establish friendships and communication among people from different language groups in a country.
- C.
1. **True.** At present, English is still one of the official languages of our country. Our constitution states that Filipino and English shall be used as mediums of instruction in our country.
  2. **False.** The Bilingual Education Policy of DECS involves the use of English *and Filipino* as mediums of instruction.
  3. **True.** One of the reasons why Tagalog was chosen as the basis for a national language is because it is the language spoken in Manila, which is the capital city of the Philippines.
  4. **False.** Filipino should be spoken by all Filipinos *along with English and their native dialects*.
  5. **True.** A national language promotes economic, political, social and cultural development.



## Glossary

**Bilingual** Using or speaking two languages

**Cultural Heritage** Includes folktales, songs, dances, games and sports, tradition, beliefs and ways of life that were passed from one generation to the other

**DECS Bilingual Policy** The use of both English and Filipino as mediums of instruction in schools

**Dialect** A different way of speaking a language

**Filipino** The official national language of the Philippines as mandated in the 1987 Constitution

**Language** A system of communication used by a very large number of people

**Lingua Franca** A common language among different languages or dialects

**Medium of Communication** Language used in exchanging ideas, emotions and information

**Medium of Instruction** Language used in giving directions or procedures

**National Identity** Collective sense of belonging to a certain group of people or nation

**Pilipino** The original name of our national language

**Politics** The art and science of governing

**Propagate** To spread; circulate

**Tagalog** The language spoken in Manila, central and south-central Luzon, the islands of Marinduque and Mindoro, and some parts of Mindanao



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