



World Languages

Conversation > Intermediate 6



Exercise 1 – Vocabulary

fascinating	Extremely interesting.
[adjective]	<i>Ex: History is so fascinating!</i>

tribe	A group of people of the same race, language, and customs who usually live in a particular area and are often led by a chief.
[noun]	<i>Ex: Members of the tribe are performing a traditional dance.</i>

national identity	A sense of belonging to a country represented by your language, traditions and culture.
[noun]	<i>Ex: His national identity is important to him.</i>

about to	Something that will be done or happen very soon.
[phrase]	<i>Ex: It looks like it's about to rain.</i>



die out	To disappear, stop existing.
[phrasal verb]	<i>Ex: Giant pandas are facing the threat of dying out.</i>

population	The number of people who live in a certain city, country, etc.
[noun]	<i>Ex: Global population is growing rapidly.</i>

bound to	Certain or extremely likely to happen.
[phrase]	<i>Ex: Some languages are bound to be popular.</i>



Exercise 2 – Dialogue

Choose one character and read the dialogue aloud with your tutor.

Mia: Did you know that there are more than 1,000 languages in the world?

Dave: No, I thought there were only a few hundred languages. That is fascinating.

Mia: I think we usually think about popular languages, but many tribes have their own languages.

Dave: If everyone could speak English, it would be so easy to communicate.

Mia: Well, maybe. But a person's language is a part of their national identity.



Dave: I heard that some languages are about to die out.

Mia: I think that happens when a population becomes smaller and smaller or is destroyed by war.

Dave: Sounds about right.

Mia: If there are no people to speak a language, then the language is bound to die.

Dave: That's such a shame, isn't it?



Exercise 3 – Fill in the Blanks

Choose the correct answers from the answer pool below and fill in the blanks.

Answer Pool

about to
die out
bound to
tribes
fascinating
population
national identity

1. Our language is our _____.
2. Our country's _____ has been going down for the last ten years.
3. The facts I learn are so _____.
4. This language may _____ in the very near future.
5. That's funny; I was just _____ say the exact same thing.
6. I'm _____ be successful! It's my prophecy.
7. In Amazon rainforests they still discover new _____.



Exercise 4 – Role Play

Take turns with your tutor and act out the scene described below.

Scene: You are a teacher, talk to your student about languages, especially your mother tongue. The teacher can be the student.



Exercise 5 – Discussion

Discuss the following questions with your tutor.

1. What languages do you speak?
2. Do you think it is useful to learn a language other than your native language? Why? Why not?
3. What would the advantages and disadvantages be if everyone spoke one language?
4. What languages would you want to learn?
5. What do you think about tribes? Please share your opinion.