*Read carefully the following excerpt about learning a second language, and then write your response in NO LESS THAN 200 words, in which you should:*

1. *summarize the main message of the excerpt, and then*
2. *comment on whether we should learn a second language.*

*You can support yourself with information from the excerpt, but you need to use your own words. Direct copying from the excerpt results in grade deduction. Marks will be awarded for content relevance, content sufficiency, organization, and language quality. Failure to follow the above instructions may result in a loss of marks.*

Excerpt:

**Learning a second language**

Learning a second language is unproductive and a veritable waste of time. Allow me, if you will, to explain the rationale behind my about-face on the matter.

Probably 95 percent of the world’s 7500 million people speak only one language. They seem to get by being monolingual and are happy as larks speaking only Swahili, Bambara, Tagalog, Italian, Bubi and other languages. Many of these one-language humans are successful at their callings, lead happy lives, have families, travel, eat at their hearts’ content, all oblivious to the fact that others speak different tongues and express themselves in different ways. So if so many people can make it through life speaking only one language or dialect, why should we not be able to go it alone in a sea of diverse tongues?

Some people make the effort and invest valuable time acquiring a passing proficiency in a second language. They can actually reach out and hire interpreters. If we have interpreters and translators, why bother studying difficult foreign sounds?

Life is short and we should not waste a minute of it with the effort, time and money involved in language-learning. Learning a language takes years and years and the result is never satisfactory: native speakers will always mock our accent, mimic our ways and call us names. Sometimes they will even look down on us.

*Now, please summarize the excerpt, and then give your comments on the topic.*