

### 3 solutions

A(JP/English) B(DE/Japanese) C(FR/German) D(UK/German)

A(JP/German) B(DE/French) C(FR/English) D(UK/German)

A (JP/German) B(FR/German) C(UK/French) D(DE/English)

### Grok-4 solution

### Final Answer

- A: From Japan, speaks Japanese and German.
- B: From France, speaks French and German.
- C: From England, speaks English and French.
- D: From Germany, speaks German and English.

### Prompts

No coding, no tools—just direct deduction to solve the following problem.

Four travelers from England, France, Japan, and Germany meet. Each speaks their own language and one of the other three languages. We know the following:

- 1) B cannot speak English, but can translate for A and C when they talk.
- 2) A is Japanese, and D cannot speak Japanese, but they can communicate without difficulty.
- 3) Only one language can be spoken by three of them.
- 4) No one among the four can speak both Japanese and French.

Note: The order of A, B, C, and D, and the order of England, France, Japan, and Germany, may not correspond.

Question: Which country is each of the travelers A, B, C and D from, and which foreign language does each of them speak?

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the Grok AI chat interface. The browser's address bar displays the URL `grok.com/chat/8d0d2a84-5035-4e0c-b973...`. The chat interface includes a sidebar with various icons and a main chat area. The chat history shows a previous message from the user: "Thought for 4s". The current message from the AI is: "Yes, I am Grok 4, built by xAI. How can I help you today?". Below this, the user's prompt is displayed in a light blue box: "No coding, no tools—just direct deduction to solve the following problem. Four travelers from England, France, Japan, and Germany meet. Each speaks their own language and one of the other three languages. We know the following: 1) B cannot speak English, but can translate for A and C when they talk. 2) A is Japanese, and D cannot speak Japanese, but they can communicate without difficulty. 3) Only one language can be spoken by three of them. 4) No one among the four can speak both Japanese and French. Note: The order of A, B, C, and D, and the order of England, France, Japan, and Germany, may not correspond." The AI's response is partially visible at the bottom of the chat area, starting with "How can Grok help?". The browser's taskbar at the bottom shows the system clock as 1:32 PM on 8/14/2025, and the temperature as 72°F Sunny.

72°F Sunny Search [Taskbar icons: File Explorer, Edge, Word, etc.] ENG 1:32 PM 8/14/2025

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Each traveler speaks their native language (based on their country) and one foreign language from the other three countries.

- Possible native languages: E, F, J, G.
- Possible foreign languages for each traveler depend on their country. For example, if a traveler is from England, their native language is English, and their foreign language is one of {F, J, G}.
- Clue 4 states no one speaks both Japanese and French, meaning no traveler has both J and F in their language set (native or foreign).

**Step 2: Analyze Clue 2**

- A is Japanese:** A's native language is Japanese (J), and A's foreign language is one of {E, G} (since A cannot speak French due to Clue 4).
- D cannot speak Japanese:** D's native language is not Japanese (so D is from E, F, or G), and D's foreign language is not Japanese.
- A and D can communicate without difficulty:** For the travelers to communicate, they must share a

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must be D's native language, or D's foreign language must be A's native language (Japanese, but this is ruled out since D cannot speak Japanese). Therefore, A's foreign language must be D's native language.

Let's denote:

- A's native language: J.
- A's foreign language: X (where X is E or G, due to Clue 4).
- D's native language: Y (where Y is E, F, or G).
- D's foreign language: Z (where Z is not J, and Z is one of the other two languages based on Y).

Since A and D communicate, and D cannot speak Japanese, A's foreign language (X) must be D's native language (Y). Thus,  $X = Y$ , meaning A's foreign language is D's native language. So, if D is from England ( $Y = E$ ), A's foreign language is English ( $X = E$ ); if D is from Germany ( $Y = G$ ), A's foreign language is German ( $X = G$ ). (D cannot be from France because A cannot speak French due to Clue 4.)

**Step 3: Analyze Clue 1**

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• **B can translate for A and C when they talk:** For A and C to need a translator, they must not share a common language. A speaks Japanese (native) and X (foreign, where X is E or G). C's native language is W (E, F, J, or G), and C's foreign language is V (one of the other three). For A and C to communicate via B, B must speak a language A speaks (J or X) and a language C speaks (W or V), acting as a bridge.

Since B cannot speak English, B's native language is F, J, or G, and B's foreign language is one of the other two (not E). Let's denote:

- B's native language: P (F, J, or G).
- B's foreign language: Q (not E, and one of the other two based on P).

For B to translate:

- A speaks {J, X}, C speaks {W, V}, and B speaks {P, Q}.
- B must speak one of A's languages (J or X) and one of C's languages (W or V).
- Possible translation paths: A speaks J to B, B speaks W to C (so B speaks J and W); or A speaks X to B, B speaks V to C (so B speaks X and V).

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**Step 4: Analyze Clue 3**

- **Only one language is spoken by three of them:** Across all travelers, each language (E, F, J, G) is spoken by some number of people (as native or foreign). Exactly one language is spoken by three travelers, meaning the distribution of languages is 3-1-1-1 (one language spoken by three, the others by one each) or possibly 3-2-1-0, etc., but we'll test distributions later.

**Step 5: Analyze Clue 4**

- **No one speaks both Japanese and French:** No traveler has both J and F in their language set. Since each traveler speaks their native language and one foreign language:
- If native is J, foreign cannot be F (already satisfied for A).
- If native is F, foreign cannot be J.
- If native is E or G, foreign can be J or F, but not both (only one foreign language is spoken).

**Step 6: Assign countries and languages**

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• D's native language is X, and D's foreign language Z is not J.

Case 1: A's foreign language is English ( $X = E$ )

- A: Native J, foreign E (speaks J, E).
- D: Native E (since  $X = E$ ), foreign Z (one of {F, G}, since  $Z \neq J$ ).
- A and D communicate because A speaks English (foreign), and D speaks English (native).

Now assign B:

- B cannot speak English, so B's native language is F, J, or G, and foreign is not E.
- Possible B assignments:
  - Native F, foreign J or G.
  - Native J, foreign F or G (but native J is taken by A, so not possible).
  - Native G, foreign F or J.

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Since A is Japanese, let's try B from France or Germany.

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- B cannot speak English, which holds (B speaks F, G).
- Countries assigned: A (Japan), D (England), B (France). C must be from Germany.
- C: Native G, foreign one of {E, F, J} (but not J due to Clue 4, since C's native is G). So, C's foreign is E or F.
- Let's try C: Native G, foreign E (speaks G, E).
- Current assignments:
  - A: Japan, speaks J, E.
  - B: France, speaks F, G.
  - C: Germany, speaks G, E.
  - D: England, speaks E, Z ( $Z = F$  or G).

D's foreign language:

- D: Native E, foreign F or G.
- Try D: Native E, foreign F (speaks E, F).

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English: A (foreign), C (foreign), D (native) → 3 speakers.  
 French: B (native), D (foreign) → 2 speakers.  
 Japanese: A (native) → 1 speaker.  
 German: B (foreign), C (native) → 2 speakers.

Clue 3: Only one language has three speakers. Here, English has 3, but French and German have 2 each, violating the 3-1-1-1 or similar distribution.

Try D: Native E, foreign G (speaks E, G).

Languages:

- English: A (foreign), C (foreign), D (native) → 3 speakers.
- French: B (native) → 1 speaker.
- Japanese: A (native) → 1 speaker.
- German: B (foreign), C (native), D (foreign) → 3 speakers.

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D: Native E, foreign F or G.  
 Try D: Native E, foreign F (speaks E, F).

Languages:

- English: A (foreign), D (native) → 2 speakers.
- French: B (native), C (foreign), D (foreign) → 3 speakers.
- Japanese: A (native) → 1 speaker.
- German: B (foreign), C (native) → 2 speakers.

Clue 3 holds: French has 3 speakers, others have 1 or 2.

Check Clue 1: B translates for A and C.

- A speaks J, E; C speaks G, F; B speaks F, G.
- A and C share no common language (I. F vs. G, F).
- B can translate: C speaks F to B (B speaks F), but B doesn't speak J, so fails.

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Subcase 1.2: B native G, foreign F (speaks G, F)

- A: Japan, speaks J, E.
- D: England, speaks E, F or G.
- B: Germany, speaks G, F.
- C: France, speaks F, E or J (not J due to Clue 4, so F, E).
- Try C: Native F, foreign E (speaks F, E).
- Try D: Native E, foreign F (speaks E, F).
- Languages:
  - English: A (foreign), C (foreign), D (native) → 3 speakers.
  - French: B (foreign), C (native), D (foreign) → 3 speakers.
  - Japanese: A (native) → 1 speaker.
  - German: B (native) → 1 speaker.

Clue 3 fails: English and French both have 3 speakers

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Languages:

- English: A (foreign), C (foreign), D (native) → 3 speakers.
- French: B (foreign), C (native) → 2 speakers.
- Japanese: A (native) → 1 speaker.
- German: B (native), D (foreign) → 2 speakers.

Clue 3 fails: English has 3, but others don't fit 3-1-1-1.

Case 2: A's foreign language is German (X = G)

- A: Native J, foreign G (speaks J, G).
- D: Native G (since X = G), foreign Z (one of {E, F}, since Z ≠ J).
- A and D communicate because A speaks German (foreign), and D speaks German (native).

B's assignment:

- B: Native F, J, or G (not E), foreign not E.

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• B: Native F, foreign G (speaks F, G).  
 • C: England, speaks E, foreign F or J (not J due to Clue 4, so E, F).  
 • C: Native E, foreign F (speaks E, F).  
 • D: Native G, foreign E or F.

**Try D: Native G, foreign E (speaks G, E):**

• Assignments:  
 • A: Japan, J, G.  
 • B: France, F, G.  
 • C: England, E, F.  
 • D: Germany, G, E.

• Languages:  
 • English: C (native), D (foreign) → 2 speakers

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• Japanese: A (native) → 1 speaker.  
 • German: A (foreign), B (foreign), D (native) → 3 speakers.

• Clue 3 holds: German has 3 speakers, others have 1 or 2.

• Clue 1: B translates for A and C.  
 • A: J, G; C: E, F; B: F, G.  
 • A and C share no language (J, G vs. E, F).  
 • B translates: A speaks G to B (B's foreign), B speaks F to C (C's foreign). This works.

• Clue 2: A and D communicate (A's G matches D's native G). This works.

• Clue 4: Check no one speaks J and F:  
 • A: J, G (no F).  
 • B: F, G (no J).  
 • C: E, F (no J).

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• Languages:

- English: C (native) → 1 speaker.
- French: B (native), C (foreign), D (foreign) → 3 speakers.
- Japanese: A (native) → 1 speaker.
- German: A (foreign), B (foreign), D (native) → 3 speakers.
- Clue 3 fails: French and German both have 3 speakers.

**Step 7: Verify the solution**

• Final assignment:

- A: Japan, speaks Japanese, German.
- B: France, speaks French, German.
- C: England, speaks English, French

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- Clue 1: B (F, G) translates for A (J, G) and C (E, F) via German and French.
- Clue 2: A (J, G) and D (G, E) communicate via German.
- Clue 3: German (3), English (2), French (2), Japanese (1).
- Clue 4: No one speaks both J and F.

**Step 8: Check for other solutions**

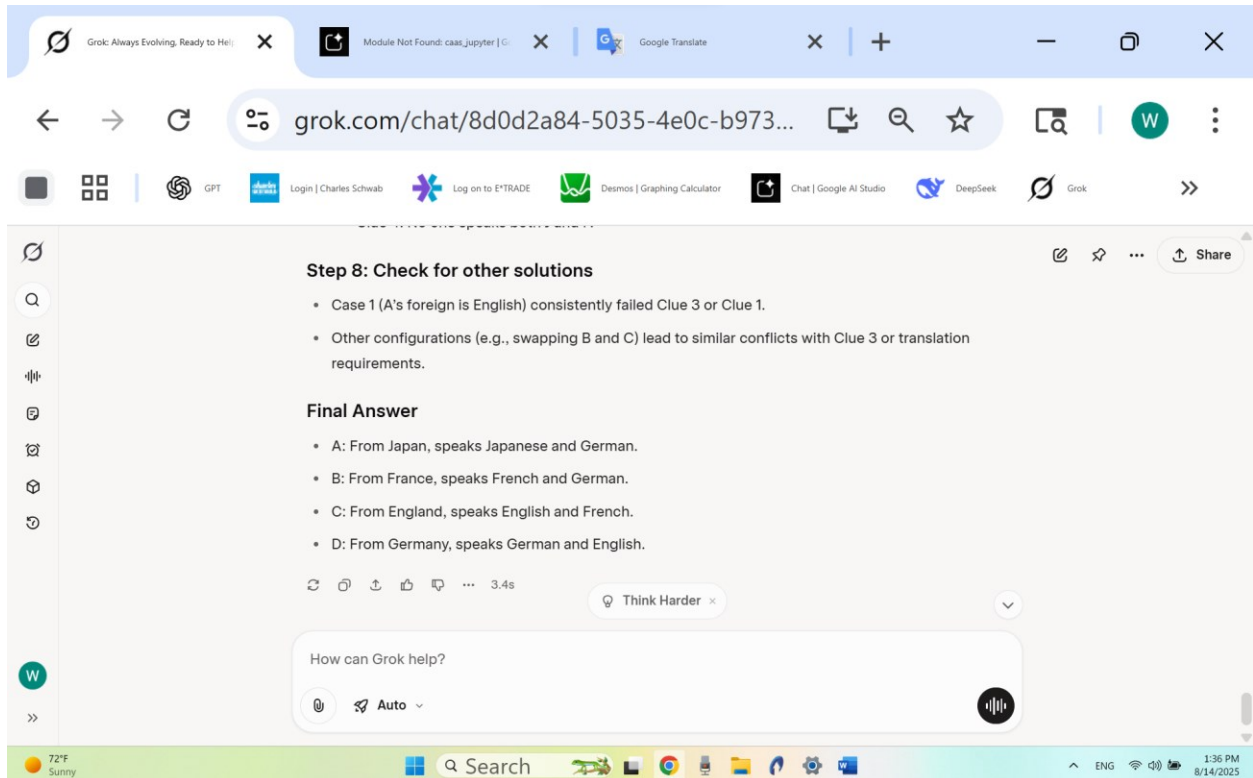
- Case 1 (A's foreign is English) consistently failed Clue 3 or Clue 1.
- Other configurations (e.g., swapping B and C) lead to similar conflicts with Clue 3 or translation requirements.

**Final Answer**

- A: From Japan, speaks Japanese and German.
- B: From France, speaks French and German

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To solve the problem, we need to determine the country of origin for each traveler (A, B, C, D) and the foreign language each speaks, given the constraints. Each traveler is from one of four countries (England, France, Japan, Germany), speaks their native language, and one additional language from the other three. The clues are:

1. B cannot speak English but can translate for A and C when they talk.
2. A is Japanese, and D cannot speak Japanese, but they can communicate without difficulty.
3. Only one language is spoken by three of them.
4. No one can speak both Japanese and French.

Let's deduce step by step.

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#### ### Step 1: Understand the setup

- There are four travelers: A, B, C, D.
- Countries: England (E), France (F), Japan (J), Germany (G).
- Each traveler speaks their native language (based on their country) and one foreign language from the other three countries.
- Possible native languages: E, F, J, G.
- Possible foreign languages for each traveler depend on their country. For example, if a traveler is from England, their native language is English, and their foreign language is one of {F, J, G}.
- Clue 4 states no one speaks both Japanese and French, meaning no traveler has both J and F in their language set (native or foreign).

#### ### Step 2: Analyze Clue 2

- **\*\*A is Japanese\*\***: A's native language is Japanese (J), and A's foreign language is one of {E, G} (since A cannot speak French due to Clue 4).
- **\*\*D cannot speak Japanese\*\***: D's native language is not Japanese (so D is from E, F, or G), and D's foreign language is not Japanese.
- **\*\*A and D can communicate without difficulty\*\***: For two travelers to communicate, they must share a common language (either A's native or foreign language matches D's native or foreign language). Since D cannot speak Japanese, they cannot communicate via Japanese. Thus, A's foreign language must be D's native language, or D's foreign language must be A's native language (Japanese, but this is ruled out since D cannot speak Japanese). Therefore, A's foreign language must be D's native language.

Let's denote:

- A's native language: J.
- A's foreign language: X (where X is E or G, due to Clue 4).
- D's native language: Y (where Y is E, F, or G).
- D's foreign language: Z (where Z is not J, and Z is one of the other two languages based on Y).

Since A and D communicate, and D cannot speak Japanese, A's foreign language (X) must be D's native language (Y). Thus,  $X = Y$ , meaning A's foreign language is D's native language. So, if D is from England ( $Y = E$ ), A's foreign language is English ( $X = E$ ); if D is from Germany ( $Y = G$ ), A's foreign language is German ( $X = G$ ). (D cannot be from France because A cannot speak French due to Clue 4.)

### ### Step 3: Analyze Clue 1

- **\*\*B cannot speak English\*\***: B's native language is not English (so B is from F, J, or G), and B's foreign language is not English.
- **\*\*B can translate for A and C when they talk\*\***: For A and C to need a translator, they must not share a common language. A speaks Japanese (native) and X (foreign, where X is E or G). C's native language is W (E, F, J, or G), and C's foreign language is V (one of the other three). For A and C to communicate via B, B must speak a language A speaks (J or X) and a language C speaks (W or V), acting as a bridge.

Since B cannot speak English, B's native language is F, J, or G, and B's foreign language is one of the other two (not E). Let's denote:

- B's native language: P (F, J, or G).
- B's foreign language: Q (not E, and one of the other two based on P).

For B to translate:

- A speaks {J, X}, C speaks {W, V}, and B speaks {P, Q}.
- B must speak one of A's languages (J or X) and one of C's languages (W or V).
- Possible translation paths: A speaks J to B, B speaks W to C (so B speaks J and W); or A speaks X to B, B speaks V to C (so B speaks X and V); etc.

### ### Step 4: Analyze Clue 3

- **\*\*Only one language is spoken by three of them\*\***: Across all travelers, each language (E, F, J, G) is spoken by some number of people (as native or foreign). Exactly one language is spoken by three travelers, meaning the distribution of languages is 3-1-1-1 (one language spoken by three, the others by one each) or possibly 3-2-1-0, etc., but we'll test distributions later.

### ### Step 5: Analyze Clue 4

- **\*\*No one speaks both Japanese and French\*\***: No traveler has both J and F in their language set. Since each traveler speaks their native language and one foreign language:
  - If native is J, foreign cannot be F (already satisfied for A).
  - If native is F, foreign cannot be J.
  - If native is E or G, foreign can be J or F, but not both (only one foreign language is spoken).

#### #### Step 6: Assign countries and languages

Let's assign countries and test configurations systematically, starting with A and D from Clue 2.

- **\*\*A is Japanese\*\***, native J, foreign X (E or G).
- **\*\*D's native language is X\*\***, and D's foreign language Z is not J.

#### #### Case 1: A's foreign language is English (X = E)

- A: Native J, foreign E (speaks J, E).
- D: Native E (since X = E), foreign Z (one of {F, G}, since Z  $\neq$  J).
- A and D communicate because A speaks English (foreign), and D speaks English (native).

Now assign B:

- B cannot speak English, so B's native language is F, J, or G, and foreign is not E.
- Possible B assignments:
  - Native F, foreign J or G.
  - Native J, foreign F or G (but native J is taken by A, so not possible).
  - Native G, foreign F or J.

Since A is Japanese, let's try B from France or Germany.

#### **\*\*Subcase 1.1: B native F, foreign G (speaks F, G)\*\***

- B cannot speak English, which holds (B speaks F, G).
- Countries assigned: A (Japan), D (England), B (France). C must be from Germany.
- C: Native G, foreign one of {E, F, J} (but not J due to Clue 4, since C's native is G). So, C's foreign is E or F.
- Let's try C: Native G, foreign E (speaks G, E).
- Current assignments:
  - A: Japan, speaks J, E.
  - B: France, speaks F, G.
  - C: Germany, speaks G, E.
  - D: England, speaks E, Z (Z = F or G).

#### **\*\*D's foreign language\*\***:

- D: Native E, foreign F or G.
- Try D: Native E, foreign F (speaks E, F).
- Languages spoken:
  - English: A (foreign), C (foreign), D (native)  $\rightarrow$  3 speakers.
  - French: B (native), D (foreign)  $\rightarrow$  2 speakers.
  - Japanese: A (native)  $\rightarrow$  1 speaker.
  - German: B (foreign), C (native)  $\rightarrow$  2 speakers.
- Clue 3: Only one language has three speakers. Here, English has 3, but French and German have 2 each, violating the 3-1-1-1 or similar distribution.

Try D: Native E, foreign G (speaks E, G).

- Languages:
  - English: A (foreign), C (foreign), D (native) → 3 speakers.
  - French: B (native) → 1 speaker.
  - Japanese: A (native) → 1 speaker.
  - German: B (foreign), C (native), D (foreign) → 3 speakers.
- Clue 3 fails: English and German both have 3 speakers.

Try C: Native G, foreign F (speaks G, F).

- D: Native E, foreign F or G.
- Try D: Native E, foreign F (speaks E, F).
- Languages:
  - English: A (foreign), D (native) → 2 speakers.
  - French: B (native), C (foreign), D (foreign) → 3 speakers.
  - Japanese: A (native) → 1 speaker.
  - German: B (foreign), C (native) → 2 speakers.
- Clue 3 holds: French has 3 speakers, others have 1 or 2.
- Check Clue 1: B translates for A and C.
  - A speaks J, E; C speaks G, F; B speaks F, G.
  - A and C share no common language (J, E vs. G, F).
  - B can translate: C speaks F to B (B's native), B speaks J to A (but B doesn't speak J, so fails).
- B cannot translate since B doesn't speak Japanese.

**\*\*Subcase 1.2: B native G, foreign F (speaks G, F)\*\***

- A: Japan, speaks J, E.
- D: England, speaks E, F or G.
- B: Germany, speaks G, F.
- C: France, speaks F, E or J (not J due to Clue 4, so F, E).
- Try C: Native F, foreign E (speaks F, E).
- Try D: Native E, foreign F (speaks E, F).
- Languages:
  - English: A (foreign), C (foreign), D (native) → 3 speakers.
  - French: B (foreign), C (native), D (foreign) → 3 speakers.
  - Japanese: A (native) → 1 speaker.
  - German: B (native) → 1 speaker.
- Clue 3 fails: English and French both have 3 speakers.

Try D: Native E, foreign G (speaks E, G).

- Languages:
  - English: A (foreign), C (foreign), D (native) → 3 speakers.
  - French: B (foreign), C (native) → 2 speakers.
  - Japanese: A (native) → 1 speaker.
  - German: B (native), D (foreign) → 2 speakers.
- Clue 3 fails: English has 3, but others don't fit 3-1-1-1.

#### Case 2: A's foreign language is German ( $X = G$ )

- A: Native J, foreign G (speaks J, G).
- D: Native G (since  $X = G$ ), foreign Z (one of {E, F}, since  $Z \neq J$ ).
- A and D communicate because A speaks German (foreign), and D speaks German (native).

**\*\*B's assignment\*\*:**

- B: Native F, J, or G (not E), foreign not E.
- Since D is Germany, B is F or J (but J is taken by A, so B is F).
- B: Native F, foreign J or G (not J due to Clue 4, so foreign G).
- B: Native F, foreign G (speaks F, G).
- C: England, speaks E, foreign F or J (not J due to Clue 4, so E, F).
- C: Native E, foreign F (speaks E, F).
- D: Native G, foreign E or F.

**\*\*Try D: Native G, foreign E (speaks G, E)\*\*:**

- Assignments:
  - A: Japan, J, G.
  - B: France, F, G.
  - C: England, E, F.
  - D: Germany, G, E.
- Languages:
  - English: C (native), D (foreign)  $\rightarrow$  2 speakers.
  - French: B (native), C (foreign)  $\rightarrow$  2 speakers.
  - Japanese: A (native)  $\rightarrow$  1 speaker.
  - German: A (foreign), B (foreign), D (native)  $\rightarrow$  3 speakers.
- Clue 3 holds: German has 3 speakers, others have 1 or 2.
- Clue 1: B translates for A and C.
  - A: J, G; C: E, F; B: F, G.
  - A and C share no language (J, G vs. E, F).
  - B translates: A speaks G to B (B's foreign), B speaks F to C (C's foreign). This works.
- Clue 2: A and D communicate (A's G matches D's native G). This works.
- Clue 4: Check no one speaks J and F:
  - A: J, G (no F).
  - B: F, G (no J).
  - C: E, F (no J).
  - D: G, E (no J, F). This works.

**\*\*Try D: Native G, foreign F (speaks G, F)\*\*:**

- Languages:
  - English: C (native)  $\rightarrow$  1 speaker.
  - French: B (native), C (foreign), D (foreign)  $\rightarrow$  3 speakers.
  - Japanese: A (native)  $\rightarrow$  1 speaker.
  - German: A (foreign), B (foreign), D (native)  $\rightarrow$  3 speakers.
- Clue 3 fails: French and German both have 3 speakers.

### Step 7: Verify the solution

- **\*\*Final assignment\*\*:**

- A: Japan, speaks Japanese, German.
- B: France, speaks French, German.
- C: England, speaks English, French.
- D: Germany, speaks German, English.
- All clues satisfied:
  - Clue 1: B (F, G) translates for A (J, G) and C (E, F) via German and French.
  - Clue 2: A (J, G) and D (G, E) communicate via German.
  - Clue 3: German (3), English (2), French (2), Japanese (1).
  - Clue 4: No one speaks both J and F.

#### ### Step 8: Check for other solutions

- Case 1 (A's foreign is English) consistently failed Clue 3 or Clue 1.
- Other configurations (e.g., swapping B and C) lead to similar conflicts with Clue 3 or translation requirements.

#### ### Final Answer

- A: From Japan, speaks Japanese and German.
- B: From France, speaks French and German.
- C: From England, speaks English and French.
- D: From Germany, speaks German and English.