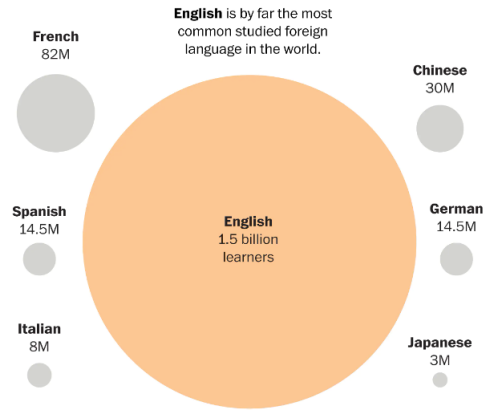


Learning languages

Date: _____



English is by far the most common studied foreign language in the world.

English is a language that many people learn, even though it doesn't have as many native speakers as some other languages. In fact, more people learn English than French, Spanish, Italian, Japanese, German, and Chinese combined.

Recently, some languages have become more popular to learn. More colleges in the United States teach Chinese now, making it easier for people to study. However, the number of Russian courses offered in colleges has gone down.

Learning different languages can be valuable. If you can speak German, it might help you earn more money. A scientist named Albert Saiz found that Americans who speak German can earn an extra \$128,000 throughout their careers. This is much more than what people can earn by speaking French or Spanish.

I. Read the text above. Then match the languages with their characteristics.

- | | |
|------------|---|
| 1. English | A. () More colleges teach this language. |
| 2. Chinese | B. () More commonly studied language worldwide. |
| 3. Russian | C. () Can potentially earn an extra cash. |
| 4. German | D. () The number of college courses for this language decreased. |

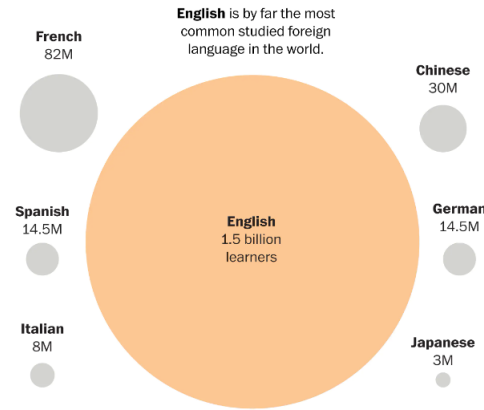
II. Answer the following questions.

- Is English the most important language to learn, even if it doesn't have the most native speakers? _____

- Should schools offer more opportunities to learn languages like Chinese, even if they are not spoken widely in Mexico? Why do you think this? _____

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