

Task 3

Read this blog about the best reasons to learn a language before taking a trip abroad and complete the sentences (1 – 7) in between **TWO** and **FOUR** words. There is an example (0) at the beginning.

SEVEN REASONS TO LEARN A LANGUAGE FOR YOUR NEXT VACATION



1. Unlock new cultures

Learning a language helps you appreciate a new culture in ways you wouldn't otherwise. Whether it's absorbing yourself in the works of a country's most famous poets or just appreciating the daily lives of the people around you, knowing some of the local language gives you an insider's view into the country you are visiting. If you're only speaking English, you're just skimming the surface!

2. Order what you want to eat

Do you want bouillabaisse or bolognese? Sure, you can point at an item on the menu and smile sheepishly while the waiter reads what you want, but being able to communicate what you'd like to eat — or even asking for a recommendation — will prevent confusion, and turn your meal into an unforgettable experience.

3. You don't have to be fluent

A lot of people become overwhelmed by the idea of mastering a whole new language for what should be a relaxing trip. Don't pressure yourself! You don't have to discuss philosophy, you just need enough to get by. Even being able to say, "Sorry, I don't speak Italian," can be a huge help! Locals will appreciate the effort you're putting in to talk to them in their own language, regardless of how much (or little) you say.

4. Make getting around easy

Traveling can already be a nightmare, so anything to grease the wheels when you're abroad is sure to pay off. It doesn't take a lot to nail down some language basics that will save you time and money on vacations that are all too brief and all too expensive already! Plus you won't have to go around asking everyone for directions like an uber-tourist.

5. Find unexpected connections

It says a lot about you as a traveler if you take the time to learn new phrases in a foreign language. It says that you want to explore and learn, that you aren't just there for photos and to tick items off of a list. Travel is all about the experiences and people you meet; and there's no better way to enhance both than through learning a new language.

6. It's fun!

If you have any affinity for your vacation spot, its quirks and customs will grow on you. You'll find you want to become a part of the atmosphere and say the little things like "Prost!" or "Ciao!" Like learning a language, traveling isn't just about studying other cultures as if they're other species —it's about discovering a new part of yourself.

7. It's *not* as difficult as you think

Hi, did you notice that it's 2016? You *don't* have to torture yourself with textbooks, classrooms, or clumsy cassettes and CD's. And you *don't* have to become a multilingual mastermind overnight. You just have to take the first step and let yourself float down the language stream!

EXAMPLE: 0. You will not appreciate a new culture unless **you learn the language** _____ of the country you are visiting.

1. Misunderstandings at a restaurant _____ if you use the local language when ordering food.

2. People from the area will show you _____ for trying hard to communicate in their language.

3. It is _____ to learn a few common expressions to get around more easily.

4. Learning a new language will help you enrich your relationship with _____ on your trips

5. Travelling and learning a foreign language _____: they can both teach the traveler not only about other cultures but about themselves.

6. You are _____ the language from one day to the next, so relax and let the new language guide you down the process.

KEY

1. Misunderstandings at a restaurant _____ **CAN / WILL BE PREVENTED / AVOIDED** _____ if you use the local language when ordering food.
2. People from the area will show you ___ **THEIR GRATITUDE / APPRECIATION** ___ for trying hard to communicate in their language.
3. It is ___ **NOT DIFFICULT** ___ to learn a few common expressions to get around more easily.
4. Learning a new language will help you enrich your relationship with **THE PEOPLE YOU MEET** _____ on your trips
5. Travelling and learning a foreign language ___ **ARE SIMILAR / ALIKE / THE SAME** ___: they can both teach the traveler not only about other cultures but about themselves.
6. You are ___ **NOT GOING TO LEARN** ___ the language from one day to the next, so relax and let the new language guide you down the process.