

English No Longer the World Language?

Fill in the blanks with the words from the box. There are TWO words you will not need!

Many children in school _____ all over America are taking _____ language courses in Chinese. The concept is easy. On one day they learn everything in English and the next they _____ to Chinese.

It is an _____ to learn languages when you are young because small children _____ up the language and use it in _____ situations. Chinese has become so _____ that some schools even want to _____ parents Chinese courses.

Because of China's growing economy and _____, Chinese has become a language many people want to learn. In the United States about 50,000 students from kindergarten to eighth _____ are taking Chinese, _____ to only 5,000 in 2004. About 100 million people worldwide are studying Chinese as a second language.

The Chinese _____ has started a number of Confucius Institutes to _____ the Chinese language and the country's culture. Currently there are such institutes in over 60 countries. 2,000 students have _____ the program in the last two years.

In the Philippines people think that learning Chinese will allow them to get better _____ in the future. As more and more Chinese travel to other countries as tourists or on _____, people who can speak Chinese have an advantage over others.

In Panama one government official has even thought about making Chinese compulsory in _____ schools, however it is so hard to get enough _____ teachers to teach Chinese.

In the future Mandarin Chinese might not _____ English as the world's number one language but because China is _____ further it will become an important language.

additional
 advantage
 attended
 business
 change
 classes
 compared
 everyday
 expanding
 fluently
 government
 grade
 influence
 jobs
 language
 offer
 overtake
 popular
 public
 qualified
 soak
 spread

Key

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Fill in the blanks with the words from the box. There are TWO words you will not need!

Many children in school **classes** all over America are taking **additional** language courses in Chinese. The concept is easy. On one day they learn everything in English and the next they **change** to Chinese.

It is an **advantage** to learn languages when you are young because small children **soak** up the language and use it in **everyday** situations. Chinese has become so **popular** that even want to **offer** parents Chinese courses.

Because of China's growing economy and **influence**, Chinese has become a language many people want to learn. In the United States about 50,000 students from kindergarten to eighth **grade** are taking Chinese, **compared** to only 5,000 in 2004. About 100 million people worldwide are studying Chinese as a second language.

The Chinese **government** has started a number of Confucius Institutes to **spread** the Chinese language and the country's culture. Currently there are such institutes in over 60 countries. 2,000 students have **attended** the program in the last two years.

In the Philippines people think that learning Chinese will allow them to get better **jobs** in the future. As more and more Chinese travel to other countries as tourists or on **business**, people who can speak Chinese have an advantage over others.

In Panama one government official has even thought about making Chinese compulsory in **public** schools, however it is so hard to get enough **qualified** teachers to teach Chinese.

In the future Mandarin Chinese might not **overtake** English as the world's number one language but because China is **expanding** further it will become an important language.