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# THE IMPACT OF A SINGLE GLOBAL LANGUAGE: PROS AND CONS OF ADOPTING ONE UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE

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#### Abstract

Day by day, a demand for multilingualism has been growing significantly around the world in order to succeed in various fields. For instance, this is important in the context of globalization, technology, communication, industrialism and economy. By contrast, it will influence cultural diversity, leading to a loss of heritage, ethical and as well as sociopolitical implications. This article highlights both advantages and disadvantages of a single global language, discusses a majority of impact that will arise from it and offers an exact perspective by author. Especially, this article explores if one language becomes dominant, what causes can be seen over the world. During the article, while author is surveying from different age people, their opinions and comments are analyzed rigidly, at the same time provides strong basic outlines about the statement. All in all, the author intended by writing this article that explore what will occur if all people use the same language in the example of English language, and it leads to what kind of results by looking at both pros and cons of the one universal language.

Key words: universal language, technology, communication, industrialism, economy, cultural diversity, sociopolitical implications

#### Introduction

In today's globalized world, the demand to know more and more languages especially English is increasing noticeably. Because of the numerous opportunities and benefits which are the fundamental aspects of high income, lucrative jobs, and the development in an exact sector. According to David Crystal's (2003) works, English can be a global language and it has led to become dominant in several fields such as science, technology and a wide range of business [1]. Indeed, as a consequence of abundant reasons, people want to learn. It has already



developed in many countries as well as my home country. Moreover, a wide range of young people tied to learn English and this is the most studied language, with approximately 1.5 billion people currently learning English globally [2]. On the other hand, economical, commercial and technological advantages are very important to mention [3]. Firstly, by adopting English, companies not only enhance communication with their partners worldwide, but also can reduce the need for multiple translations or interpreters when working internationally. Therefore, these can be effective in cost saving generally. Another possible example is many international technological systems, and devices internationally. In this article, all advantages and disadvantages will be analyzed, gathered several points and concluded.

#### Literature review

## Advantages of a single global language:

Focusing on the significant impact first, if there is a single universal language, for example English, people can communicate with others easily even they are from different countries. It creates various benefits such as it will be useful in education to share ideas, to enhance knowledge, to expand mindset and other. Especially, the ability to use English opens up opportunities for the enhancement of personal and professional well-being [4]. Next good side is economic opportunities which can significantly promote employment prospects, provide good English skills in order to access information. Moreover, a single language would reduce misunderstanding and remove language barriers in international businesses and trades. As a result, these could develop smoother collaboration and faster communication [5]. There is definitely another positive side of this phenomenon, tourism will be the most considerably effected. For instance, without any challenges tourists can travel among the world, they easily understand history, culture and tradition of countries. It is not only beneficial for people, but also for the financial development and to boost tourism among countries that depend heavily on tourism.

It is not fact that, all technological devices, platforms, programs formed in English and over the world people always feel requirement for it. That is why, if this language be universal, humans do not face difficulties associated with language, it will be useful both saving time and budget. Furthermore, common language comes in useful in many fields such as science, literature and education. Despite many circumstances, it could facilitate faster sharing of ideas, innovation and research and would simplify international cooperation, collaboration and



descend misunderstandings. While translating literary and scientific books, usually some important parts or meaning can be lost. It means mostly translators could not change literatures 100% compared with real one. That is why, this support the idea of the single language. Based on the views given by Wells (2019) applying a single language would be productive on literary production and it gives the free exchange of ideas globally [6].

#### Disadvantages of a single global language:

By contrast, varying issues may come from the backdrop of the single universal language. First of all, the widespread of using one language could lead to the significant extinction of many languages. In fact, nowadays majority of languages are becoming endangered or die out. As Crystal (2000) argues that at the end of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the world could lose almost 50% of languages due to the dominance of languages such as English [7]. It is clear that the extinction of languages influence to cultures, tradition, and identity. Consequently, when a language disappears, it can result in the extinction of them. According to Nettle and Romaine (2000) losing language equals to losing culture [8]. Next disadvantage is social inequality which people struggle to participate in social life. At the same time, some professions may absent likely including translator, language teachers, interpreter and others related to language fields. It causes the growth of unemployment rate worldwide. The educational centers, publishing houses fail into financial decay. The imposition of the universal language could guide to insecure linguistic imperialism due to the dominance of one language (for example English) namely that of nation is pushed onto others. Phillipson (2009) conducted the survey about how the spread of global language (English) can be dominant and marginalize other languages and cultures respectively [9].

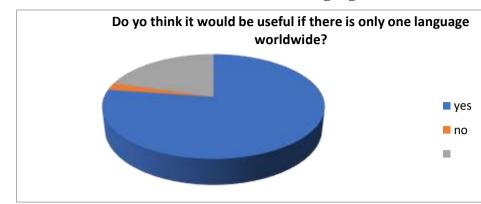
#### Methodology

During the writing article, the author conducted 35 participants and monitored their opinions about the universal language globally. Therefore, mostly multiple choice questions were offered as well as questionnaire was completed by respondents. Additionally, they reacted about the pros and cons of a single language as an example of English in various fields. More specifically, questions associated with education, tourism, cultural diversity, communication, economy and the effect of special professions. The majority of people that participated in survey are the learners of English. In survey respondents were voluntary, and their responses are anonymity. By conducting this, diverse views were examined in detail.

**Findings and discussion** 

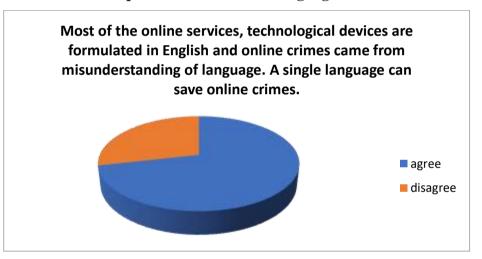


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## General views about the values of the universal language

According to 19 respondents, the universal language would be useful in various sides such as communication, education, travelling economy and others, while 7 respondents think that it results with losing culture, more languages and may appear conflict between people. In addition, 9 persons kept balance, it would be both.



**Opinions about online impacts of the universal language** 

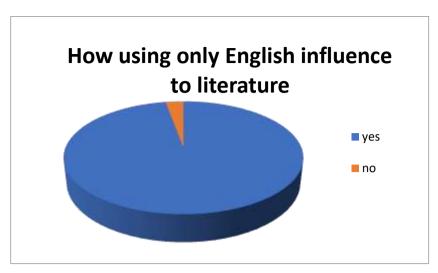
25 participants agreed with the opinion "Most of the online services, technological devices are formulated in English and online crimes came from misunderstanding of language. A single language can save online crimes". However, 10 participants said that it is not the main factor for this issue and knowing English could not finish crimes fully.

## Opinions about the effects of the universal language to literature

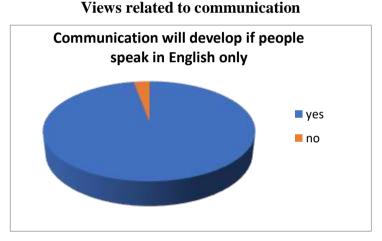


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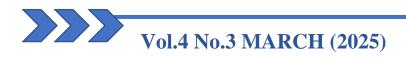


Based on 19 opinions literature would not be fostered by using only English, moreover with different languages, varying cultures literature are more interesting and meaningful. By contrast others argued that during translating some words, essential meanings might be lost.



Following 34 participants speaking in only English will be very useful and time keeper. Because if people speak in only English language, they can easily communicate, share their ideas, understand what they said at the same time it would save more time. People do not need to learn language instead of this they learn more, explore more. However, only one person mentioned about the dispute may occur between people.

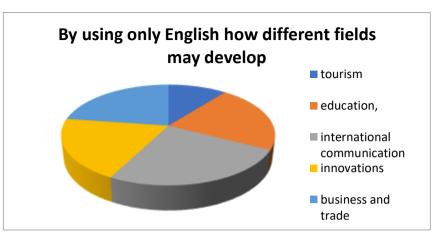
The development of several fields by the universal language (English)



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Participants generally gave their thoughts about what fields can be seen more development and 35 people chose different options, 14 votes to tourism, 13 votes to education, 33 votes to international communication, 26 votes to innovations, 30 votes figured to business and trade respectively.

#### Conclusion

In conclusion, the ability of knowing languages, especially English, can open more and more doors in the world. In this essay, the criteria, about the universal language as an example of English language, discussed in detail and both advantages and disadvantages were examined. Consequently, the results of survey indicate that most of people think that this idea would be more productive and can foster our lives. Therefore, utilizing only English globally might be useful in communication, education, travelling and business, although it causes linguistic imperialism, the extinction of languages, culture and some professions.

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