



The necessity of english in relation to international challenges;

French was and still remains a prestigious language. But since the World War II, English has become the linking language in many fields and even between people with different cultures.

In the May 2012, Harvard Business Review Tsedal Neeley wrote "Ready or not, English is now the global language of business. More and more multinational companies are mandating English as the common corporate language—Airbus, Daimler-Chrysler, Fast Retailing, Nokia, Renault, Samsung, SAP, Technicolor, and Microsoft in Beijing, to name a few—in an attempt to facilitate communication and performance across geographically diverse functions and business endeavors."

Also in that year, the New York Times (Sharkey, May 21, 2012) reported, "English was mandated as the language of international flying in the years after World War II, as commercial aviation expanded worldwide.... [A]viation is now inextricably locked into English, and the need for better English communication skills is clear as more countries become major players in commercial aviation."

And the same is true in other fields, such as telecommunications, international banking, academic research, diplomacy, and more. More and more people, young and old, all over the world are recognizing that a working knowledge of English is imperative to their

professional growth.

In 1887 Dr. L.L. Zamenhof introduced a made-up language called "Esperanto," that he hoped would be a universal "second language" that was easily learned and could help simplify and harmonize communication across cultures. While Esperanto has yet to really catch on, English has essentially taken on that role—it has become the world's "second language."

It may not be as easy to learn as Esperanto, but more and more there are classes, books, on-line tools, radio and television programs and even mobile phone applications that help people learn the language and put them at a greater advantage to succeed in this global world.

When the American Corner at UPC reopens soon, so will the English Language Clubs that take place there. And free access to internet will allow eager English learners to access the website "American English" (<http://americanenglish.state.gov/>) as well as many other free on-line sites.

For those who wish to enhance their English skills in this ever-more competitive world, resources abound to help you!

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