

### **Young Britons shy away from learning languages**

*Two out of three teenagers in Britain are keen to work abroad but most of them don't speak foreign languages. Government figures show that 58% of 11-18 year olds in the UK have no foreign language skills, which has a negative effect on the economy.*

1. The interviewed man says that...

- a. ...it's not necessary to learn a foreign language.
- b. ...nobody needs to speak English.
- c. ...not everyone speaks a foreign language.

2. The interviewed woman...

- a. ...thinks you should speak English when you are abroad.
- b. ...blames foreigners for the bad foreign language skills of Britons.
- c. ...explains that it's easy to communicate in English-speaking countries.

3. How many British teenagers do not speak a foreign language?

- a. Two thirds.
- b. More than half.
- c. Between 11% and 18%.

4. What does the majority of British teenagers plan to do in the future?

- a. Taking holidays abroad.
- b. Learning another language when their older.
- c. Working in a foreign country.

5. Which is NOT mentioned as a country, where many Britons would like to work?

- a. Germany
- b. France
- c. Italy

6. According to the British government ...

- a. ...not enough schools offer language courses.
- b. ...many people stop learning languages after school.
- c. ... language classes in British schools are insufficient.

7. What does the representative of the *National Centre of Languages* say?

- a. Britain is very competitive on the global market.
- b. It's important to speak foreign languages to contact customers abroad.
- c. Britain exports more and more goods to foreign countries.

8. Most young British people are convinced that...

- a. ...the authorities in London must change.
- b. ...everybody should have to learn English
- c. ...they will be understood in foreign countries.

ANSWER KEY:

1a 2b 3b 4c 5a 6b 7b 8c