

On the Road to Becoming the Common Language

English is spoken and used all over the world as a common language. It is easy to learn and originates from many European cultures allowing it to spread across the world. However, English has both advantages and disadvantages. If people don't speak English they will be the disadvantaged, but if there are two languages to communicate with people in business, like Chinese, then more people can be successful. China has potential to be a stronger economic power if Chinese becomes as popular as English, by comparing the two languages will explaining how Chinese can be as popular.

The history of English is divided into three parts. Old English, Middle English and Modern English. Old English was created roughly in the 5 century in the British Isles by the Germanic people, such as the Anglo-Saxons, whom migrated there. Half of the present common words have their roots in Old English and Germanic languages including German, Dutch, Norwegian and Icelandic. After the Norman conquest of 1066 happened, the Norman language which was French, was spoken by people in the ruling class while English was spoken by the people who were conquered. However, the status of French as the official language had decreased because of the Hundred Years War and people began to mainly speak English. French and Latin words about culture or politics were introduced to the English language at that time. During the age of colonization, Modern English was used to print books and documents to take to their colonies. England governed one fourth of the world in its golden age. During this time English was introduced to a lot of foreign languages. Today, English has various expressions related to other languages in the world.

Suppose to the condition which language spread is related to economic situation, explain about it. China has potential to become an economic power soon and more and more people will speak Chinese. The reasons why China's economic is growing is a result of lower employee salary and hospitality to economic developing zone, such as Xiamen or Shenzhen. By doing all of this China is gradually growing their economy. In 2010, the GDP (Gross Domestic Product) was about 39 trillion and 800 billion yen which is the second largest in the world. Although with the corona virus spread starting last year, most countries are recession, however the GDP in China increased by 6.5% (Before corona virus it was 6.0%). In addition, the number of people in the middle class whose annual income was more than 10 million, increased to 200

million. (dijima) Therefore, China will overtake the U.S. economy, so learning Chinese will be helpful for businesses.

Although China has potential to be an economic power, English is already a widely used common language, so it may be difficult to have a new common language like Chinese. However, if you have opportunity to communicate or have business with Chinese people, you should learn Chinese. For example, the number of Chinese people visiting Japan is increasing and some of them may be not able to speak Japanese or English. In such a situation, people who can speak Chinese would be helpful. Similarly, few Japanese people speak Chinese so such people are useful for businesses. For instance, when you deal with Chinese companies or do meetings, you can advance them smoothly. Especially, Japanese people have spirit of hospitality which other countries' don't have, so it will be strength. Thus, Japanese people have some advantages of learning it.

From this research, it is clear that finding a new common language will be difficult for three reasons: English has already spread all over the world, Chinese is unfamiliar with other languages and strong condition such as economic situation and the understandability of its language are needed. However, it can be helpful for people's life. For instance, Chinese is spoken in countries such as Singapore or Malaysia with a total population of about 1.3 billion. Therefore, when you visit these countries, you can communicate with the local people. In addition, if you learn Chinese as a means for career enhancement allowing, your business opportunities to expand because there are few Japanese people who can speak Chinese. The ITOCHU Corporation has developed human resources for Chinese speakers since 2015 and one third of the people career-track job can speak it. In conclusion, Chinese is considered as an important language, especially in Japan. It will be difficult to use as language which works all over the world, but it'll be useful if it has a strong appeal to companies. By learning other languages besides English, it will be helpful in your life in the future and it will give you a broader perspective.

(779 words)

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