

Present a written argument to an educated reader on the following topic:

“One of the liveliest current debates [...] revolves around the accelerating global spread of English and the urgent socio-economic, ideological, and ecological issues raised as a consequence of this spread” (Seidlhofer 2003: 7).

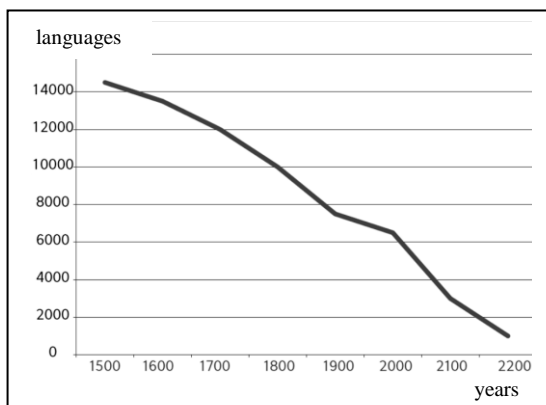
Do the potential benefits of having English as a global language for international communication outweigh possible disadvantages?

You have **75 minutes** to complete this task.
Write between **300 and 400 words**.

Support your arguments by referring to **both** sources of visual information and **at least one** of the other quotations below.

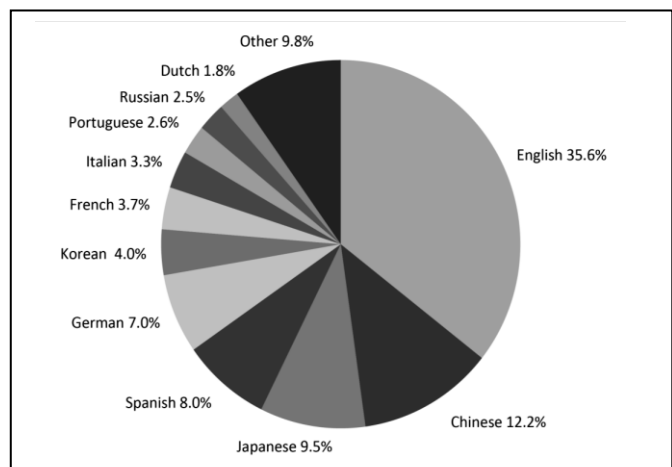
You will receive points for task achievement, good organization, range of vocabulary and sentence structure, and linguistic accuracy.

Number of languages worldwide



Graddol (2006: 60)

First languages of Internet users
Total: 680 million



Thurlow et al. (2004: 121)

[...] around two-thirds of the world’s top 100 universities are in English-speaking countries.

This is one reason why English is used increasingly as the medium of education in universities across the world.

[...] English-speaking countries have the most entrepreneurial universities, who seek income by marketing their courses to overseas students; and English itself is seen as a key educational investment.

Graddol (2006: 74-76)

[Crystal] warns us of the resentment, envy, anger of the non-English mother-tongue speakers who feel disadvantaged. Or who, worse still, feel their mother tongue or identity threatened.

Hanson (1997: 22)

Language may be a cornerstone of culture, but the culture itself would not have to disappear if English were used as a second or third language for the pure purpose of communicating globally.

Wheaton (2011: 1)

A language has traditionally become an international language for one chief reason: the power of its people - especially their political and military power.

Crystal (2003: 9)