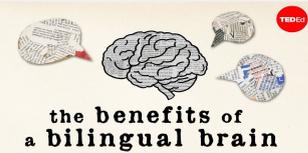


## THE BENEFITS OF A BILINGUAL BRAIN

What are the advantages of having a bilingual or multilingual brain? Mia Nacamulli explains the different types of bilingual brains and comments on the benefits of bilingualism.



### A. Match the words to make collocations.

do	tasks	1 _____
regardless	a favor	2 _____
play	a role	3 _____
have	the good fortune	4 _____
problem	solving	5 _____
perform	of	6 _____

### B. Watch the video and complete the text with the missing words.

- If you watching this in English, chances are you belong to the world's bilingual and \_\_\_\_\_ majority.
- And besides having an easier time traveling or watching movies \_\_\_\_\_.
- Language ability is typically \_\_\_\_\_ in two active parts.
- As a \_\_\_\_\_ bilingual, Gabriella develops two linguistic codes \_\_\_\_\_.
- Her teenage brother, on the other hand, might be \_\_\_\_\_ bilingual, working with two set of concepts.
- Gabriella's parents are likely to be \_\_\_\_\_ bilinguals, who learn a secondary language by \_\_\_\_\_ it through their primary language.
- Because all types of bilingual people can become fully \_\_\_\_\_ in a language, \_\_\_\_\_ accent and pronunciation, the difference may not be apparent to a **casual observer**.
- Recent advances in brain imaging technology have given neurologists a \_\_\_\_\_ into how specific aspects of language learning affect the bilingual brain.
- It's \_\_\_\_\_ that the brain's left hemisphere is more dominant and analytical in logical processes.
- Learning a language in \_\_\_\_\_ may give you a more holistic grasp of its social and emotional contexts.
- People who learned a second language in \_\_\_\_\_ exhibit less emotional bias and a more \_\_\_\_\_ approach when confronting problems in the second language than in their native one.

12. Being multilingual gives your brain some \_\_\_\_\_ advantages.
13. The effort and attention needed to switch between languages \_\_\_\_\_ more activity in, and potentially strengthened, the dorsolateral prefrontal cortex.
14. This is the part of the brain that plays a \_\_\_\_\_ role in executive functions, problem solving, switching between \_\_\_\_\_ and focusing while filtering out \_\_\_\_\_ information.
15. While bilingualism may not necessarily make you \_\_\_\_\_, it does make your brain more \_\_\_\_\_, complex and actively engaged.
16. And even if you didn't have the good \_\_\_\_\_ of learning a second language as a child, it's never too late to make yourself \_\_\_\_\_ and make the linguistic leap from hello to hola....

### **C. Watch it again and answer the following questions**

1. What are the active and passive parts of a language?
2. Why is Gabriella's teenage brother a coordinate bilingual?
3. When is the brain's right hemisphere more active?
4. Why do children find learning languages easier?
5. Mention some benefits of being bilingual.

### **D. Discussion**

1. Do you speak foreign languages? Which ones?
2. What language would you like to learn?
3. What languages did you study at school when you were younger?
4. In your opinion, is learning languages important? Why?
5. What problems did you face when learning languages in the past?