



WELCOME TO A JOURNEY THROUGH EUROPE'S LANGUAGES!

The languages you will encounter over the following pages reflect the diversity of the cultures and traditions which exist side by side on our continent. Some of the around 225 languages which are native to Europe are spoken by millions and others, that are only spoken by a handful of people, are, sadly, close to dying out.

During this short journey, you will discover lots of similarities. European languages largely fall into three main categories: Slavic, Romance and Germanic, with the languages in each group having similar roots – however, over centuries they have developed in their own distinct directions. You will also find out about their differences: the variety of alphabets (such as Latin, Cyrillic, Greek, Armenian and Georgian), often using artistic scripts; how they deal with creating words for new inventions and their sometimes mysterious origins. All have a unique identity and their own story to tell!

We can only give you a brief glimpse of some of Europe's languages. There are many, many more we have not mentioned, not because they are any less important or less interesting but simply because we cannot cover them all on this short journey.

There are some examples of regional and minority languages that are spoken in part of a country or areas of several countries by a relatively small part of the population. There are the non-territorial languages which are spoken by groups spread all over Europe but not identifying with a specific country of

origin. There are also the languages of migration which do not originate from Europe but have been brought to the continent by speakers moving from other parts of the world.

On each language page there is a short introduction from Lara, some key words, phrases and special characters from the alphabet, as well as an estimated number of people around the world who use it as their first language.

We hope you will enjoy following our guide, Lara, on her trip through some of Europe's languages. It might prompt you to set off on a similar voyage of discovery with a lot of 'oh really!' and 'wow – I didn't know that!' moments, as you uncover some of the treasures hidden just beneath the surface of our everyday lives!



LANGUAGES LARA ENCOUNTERS ON HER JOURNEY



Language code
(ISO-639-1)

Page number

28 ROMANI ČIB

30 



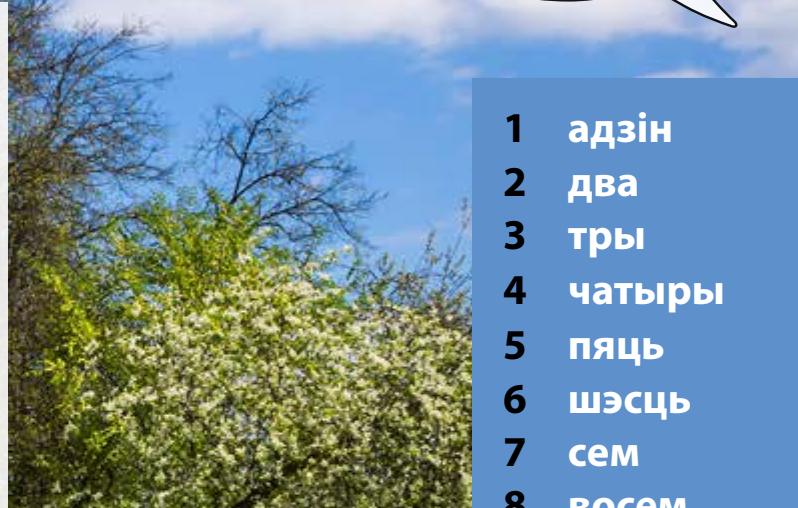
ВЕ БЕЛАРУСКАЯ МОВА

👤 5 000 000

Як справы?

Добры
дзень!

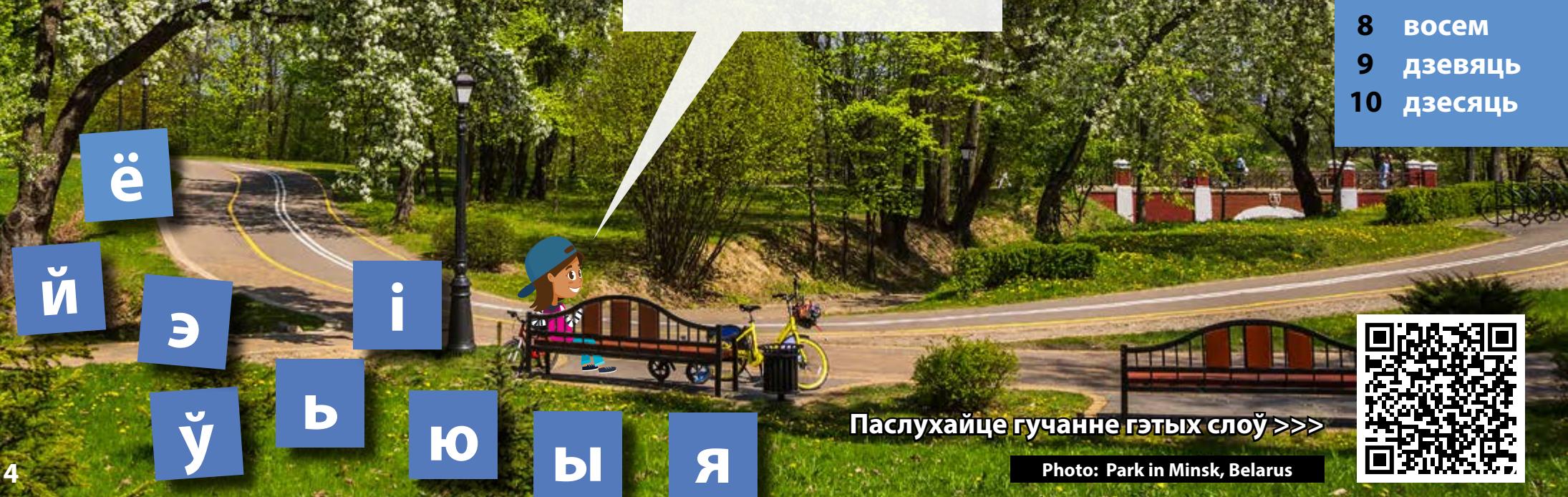
Дзякуй!



так

не

- 1 адзін
- 2 два
- 3 тры
- 4 чатыры
- 5 пяць
- 6 шэсць
- 7 сем
- 8 восем
- 9 дзеўяць
- 10 дзесяць



Паслухайце гучанне гэтых слоў >>>

Photo: Park in Minsk, Belarus

ENGLISH EN

400 000 000

How are
you?

Hello!

Thank
you!

- | | |
|----|-------|
| 1 | one |
| 2 | two |
| 3 | three |
| 4 | four |
| 5 | five |
| 6 | six |
| 7 | seven |
| 8 | eight |
| 9 | nine |
| 10 | ten |



yes

no

<< Listen to the sound of these words

Photo: London eye and Big Ben, United Kingdom

FY FRYSK

500 000

Hoi!

Hoe giet it
mei dy?

Tank!

ja

nee

- 1 ien
- 2 twa
- 3 trije
- 4 frouwer
- 5 fiif
- 6 seis
- 7 sâñ
- 8 acht
- 9 njoggen
- 10 tsien

êé

ûú

â

ô

Harkje nei it lûd fan dizze wurden >>>

Photo: Ljouwert, Netherlands



SLOVENŠČINA SL

888 2 500 000



- 1 ena
- 2 dve
- 3 tri
- 4 štiri
- 5 pet
- 6 šest
- 7 sedem
- 8 osem
- 9 devet
- 10 deset



<<< Prisluhnite zvoku teh besed

Photo: Triglav National Park, Slovenia



č

š

ž

FR FRANÇAIS

888 76 800 000

oui

non



Ça va ?
Bonjour !
Merci !

ùûü

àâä

ôö

æ

îï

ç

œ

Écoutez le son de ces mots >>>

Photo: Dune du Pilat, France

- 1 un
- 2 deux
- 3 trois
- 4 quatre
- 5 cinq
- 6 six
- 7 sept
- 8 huit
- 9 neuf
- 10 dix



УКРАЇНСЬКА МОВА UK

888 35 000 000

Привіт!

Дякую!

Як справи?

так

ні

є й
ії ґ
ю я щ
ь



<< Прослухайте звучання цих слів

Photo: Love tunnel created from trees along the railway in Klevan, Ukraine

- 1 один
- 2 два
- 3 три
- 4 чотири
- 5 п'ять
- 6 шість
- 7 сім
- 8 вісім
- 9 дев'ять
- 10 десять

CA CATALÀ

10 000 000

Com estàs?

Hola!

Gràcies!



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úü

à

éè

íï

óò

sí

no

Escolta el so d'aquestes paraules >>>

Photo: Park Guell in Barcelona, Spain

- | | |
|----|--------|
| 1 | un |
| 2 | dos |
| 3 | tres |
| 4 | quatre |
| 5 | cinc |
| 6 | sis |
| 7 | set |
| 8 | vuit |
| 9 | nou |
| 10 | deu |



- 1 bir
- 2 iki
- 3 üç
- 4 dört
- 5 beş
- 6 altı
- 7 yedi
- 8 sekiz
- 9 dokuz
- 10 on



<< Bu sözcüklerin sesini dinle

Photo: Cappadocia, Turkey



ç ğ ö ş ü İ

AS AZƏRBAYCAN DİLİ

888 23 000 000



I
Ö
Ü
Ç
Ə
Ş
ğ



bəli

xeyr

- | | |
|----|--------|
| 1 | bir |
| 2 | iki |
| 3 | üç |
| 4 | dörd |
| 5 | beş |
| 6 | altı |
| 7 | yeddi |
| 8 | səkkiz |
| 9 | doqquz |
| 10 | on |

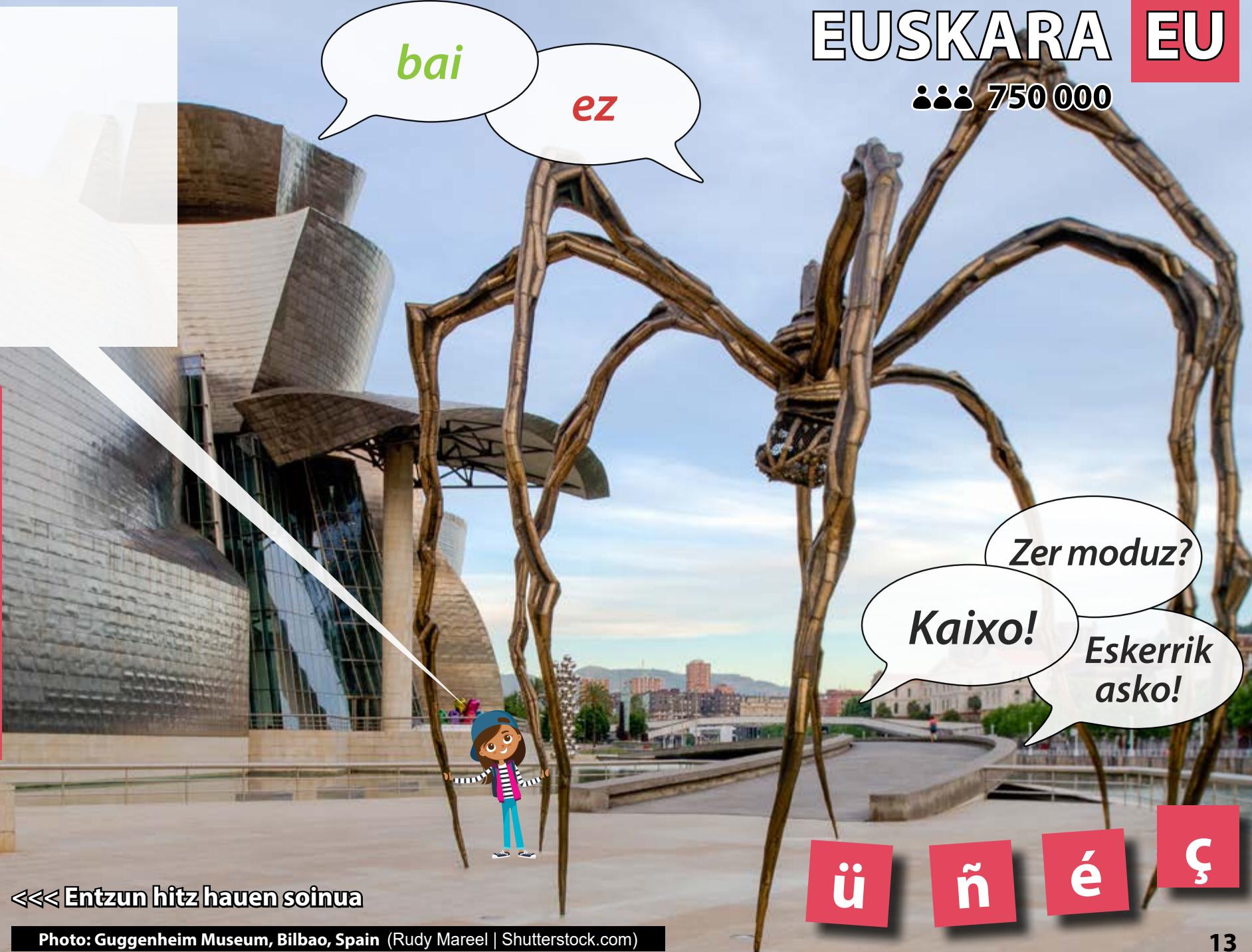


Bu sözlərin səsini dinləyin >>>

Photo: Three Flame Towers, Baku, Azerbaijan (Borka Kiss | Shutterstock.com)

EUSKARA EU

750 000



<<
Entzun hitz hauen soinua

Photo: Guggenheim Museum, Bilbao, Spain (Rudy Mareel | Shutterstock.com)



MT MALTI

520 000

Kif int?

Bonġu!

Grazzi!

iva

le

ċ

ġ

ħ

ż

Isma' l-ħoss ta' dawn il-kelmiet >>>

Photo: Typical street in Ir-Rabat, Malta

- 1 wieħed
- 2 tnejn
- 3 tlieta
- 4 erbgħha
- 5 ħamsa
- 6 sitta
- 7 sebghha
- 8 tmienja
- 9 disgħha
- 10 għaxra



ÍSLENSKA IS

314 000

Hvernig
hefurðu
það?

Hæ!

Þakka
þér fyrir!

ð

í

á

b

æ

ý

ö ó

ú

é



<< Hlustaðu á þessi orð

Photo: Goðafoss waterfall, Iceland

- | | |
|----|--------|
| 1 | einn |
| 2 | tveir |
| 3 | þrír |
| 4 | fjórir |
| 5 | fimm |
| 6 | sex |
| 7 | sjö |
| 8 | áttu |
| 9 | níu |
| 10 | tíu |

já

nei



ET EESTI KEEL

1 100 000



õ

ä

ö

ü

Kuula nende sõnade kõla >>>

Photo: Kitesurfing in Viimsi, Estonia

LIMBA ROMÂNĂ RO

26 000 000

Ce faci?

Bună ziua!

Mulțumesc!

- | | |
|----|-------|
| 1 | unu |
| 2 | doi |
| 3 | trei |
| 4 | patru |
| 5 | cinci |
| 6 | șase |
| 7 | șapte |
| 8 | opt |
| 9 | nouă |
| 10 | zece |

î

ț

ăâ

ș



<< Ascultă cum sună aceste cuvinte

Photo: Corvin Castle, Romania

da

nu



CS ČEŠTINA

14 000 000

Dobrý den!
Jak se máš?
Děkuji!

ano

ne

éě č d' í
ó ř ú ū á
ž y t š ň

Photo: Dancing House in Prague, Czech Republic (Vladimir Sazonov | Shutterstock.com)

Poslechněte si zvuk těchto slov >>>

- 1 jedna
- 2 dvě
- 3 tři
- 4 čtyři
- 5 pět
- 6 šest
- 7 sedm
- 8 osm
- 9 devět
- 10 deset



SLOVENČINA SK

5 200 000

Ahoj!

Ako sa
máš?

Ďakujem!

áno

nie

- 1 jeden
- 2 dva
- 3 tri
- 4 štyri
- 5 päť
- 6 šesť
- 7 sedem
- 8 osem
- 9 deväť
- 10 desať



<< Vypočujte si zvuk týchto slov

Photo: High Tatras, Slovak Republic



í é t
í é t
ú áä ñ í óô š
č d' ý

FI

SUOMI

5 800 000

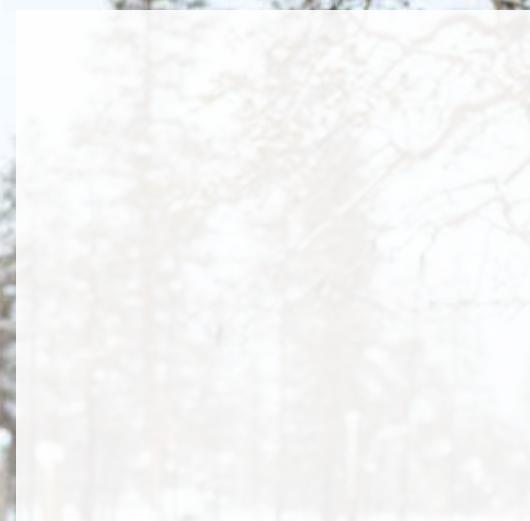
kyllä

ei

- 1 yksi
- 2 kaksi
- 3 kolme
- 4 neljä
- 5 viisi
- 6 kuusi
- 7 seitsemän
- 8 kahdeksan
- 9 yhdeksän
- 10 kymmenen

ö

ää



Kuuntele nämä sanat >>>

Photo: Dog Sledding in Lapland, Finland



RUMANTSCH RM

60 000

- 1 in
- 2 dus
- 3 traïs
- 4 quatter
- 5 tschintg
- 6 sis
- 7 set
- 8 otg
- 9 nov
- 10 diesch

gea

na



CY CYMRAEG

1 000 000

ie

na

Sut wyt ti?

Shwmae!

Diolch!

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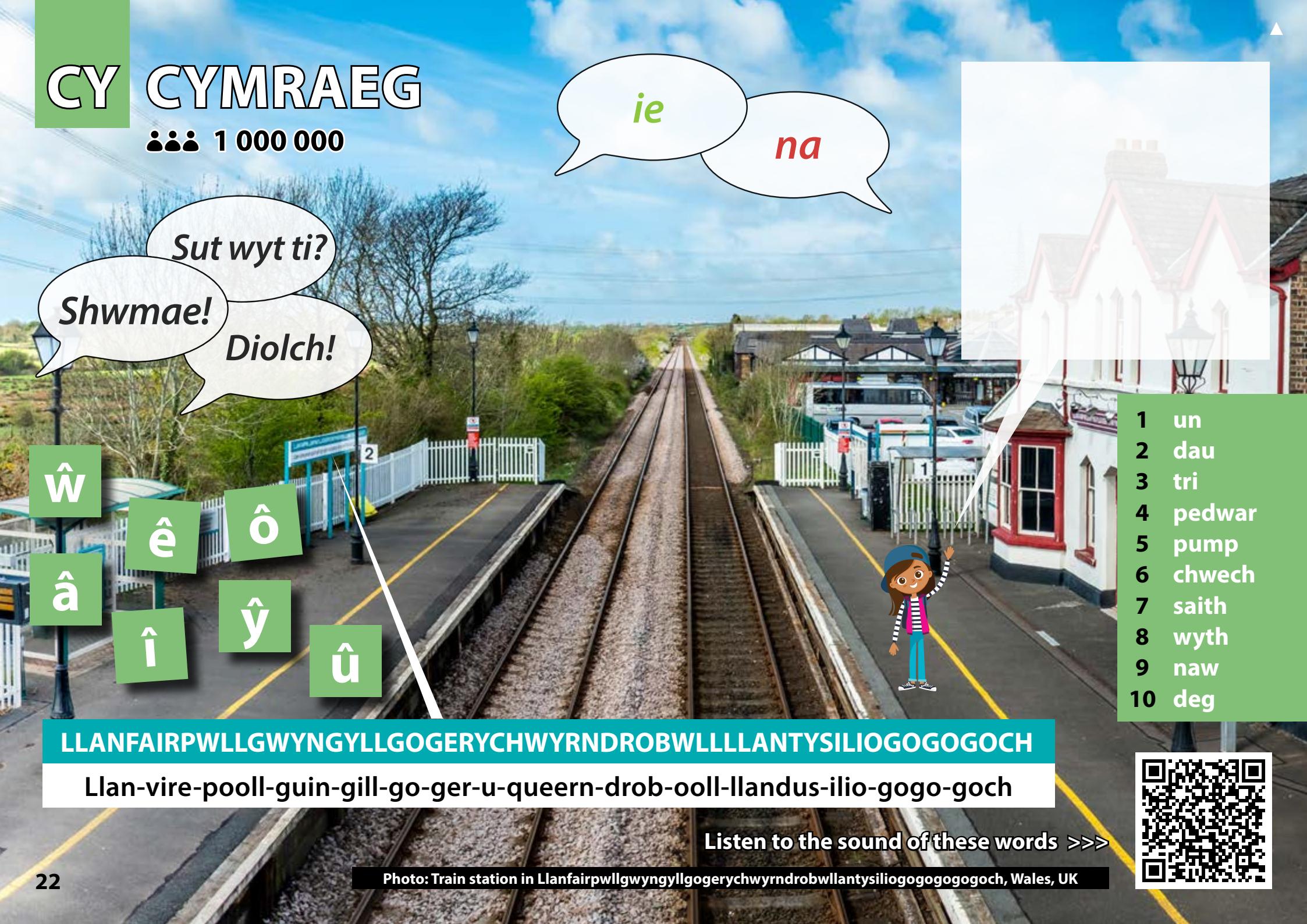
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û



- 1 un
- 2 dau
- 3 tri
- 4 pedwar
- 5 pump
- 6 chwech
- 7 saith
- 8 wyth
- 9 naw
- 10 deg

LLANFAIRPWLLGWYNGYLLGOGERYCHWYRNDROBWLLLANTYSILIOGOGOGOCH

Llan-vire-pooll-guin-gill-go-ger-u-queern-drob-ooll-llandus-ilios-gogo-goch

Listen to the sound of these words >>>



DEUTSCH DE
95 000 000



ü

ö

ä

ß

<< Hör dir an, wie diese Wörter klingen

Photo: Island Sylt, Germany

Hallo!

Danke!

Wie geht's?

- | | |
|----|--------|
| 1 | eins |
| 2 | zwei |
| 3 | drei |
| 4 | vier |
| 5 | fünf |
| 6 | sechs |
| 7 | sieben |
| 8 | acht |
| 9 | neun |
| 10 | zehn |

HR HRVATSKI

5 600 000

Kako si?

Bok!

Hvala!

da

ne

ć

ć

ž

š

đ

Poslušaj kako zvuče ove riječi >>>

Photo: National park Plitvice, Croatia

- 1 jedan
- 2 dva
- 3 tri
- 4 četiri
- 5 pet
- 6 šest
- 7 sedam
- 8 osam
- 9 devet
- 10 deset



BOSANSKI BS

3 000 000

Kako
si?

Ćao!

Hvala!

- | | |
|----|--------|
| 1 | jedan |
| 2 | dva |
| 3 | tri |
| 4 | četiri |
| 5 | pet |
| 6 | šest |
| 7 | sedam |
| 8 | osam |
| 9 | devet |
| 10 | deset |

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da

ne

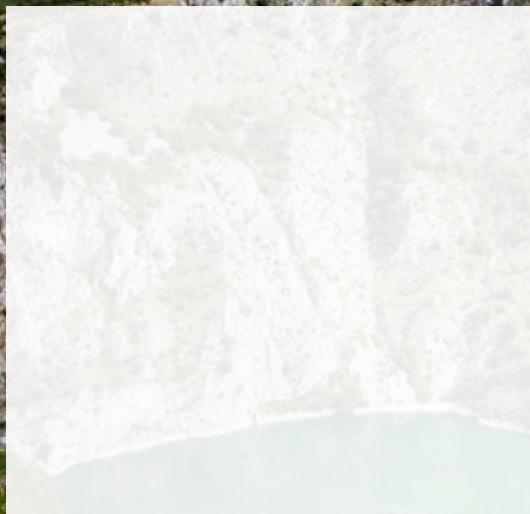
<< Poslušaj kako zvuče ove riječi

Photo: Old Bridge in Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina



SR СРПСКИ

12 000 000



Послушај како звуче ове речи >>>

Photo: Meanders of the Uvac River, Serbia

Здраво!

Како си?

Хвала!

да

не

- | | |
|----|--------|
| 1 | један |
| 2 | два |
| 3 | три |
| 4 | четири |
| 5 | пет |
| 6 | шест |
| 7 | седам |
| 8 | осам |
| 9 | девет |
| 10 | десет |



ՀԱՅԵՐԵՆ ՀՅ

6 700 000

Ուս ես:

Ողջույն:

Ըստհակա-
լություն:

- 1 մեկ
- 2 երկու
- 3 երեք
- 4 չորս
- 5 հինգ
- 6 վեց
- 7 յոթ
- 8 ութ
- 9 ինը
- 10 տասը

աբգդեգեռթժիւխծկհանմ

յնշոչաշուկաւոցուփեսօֆ

<< Լսեք այս բառերը

Photo: Armenian Alphabet Monument (Arty Om | Shutterstock.com)



ROM

ROMANI ČHIB

888 3 500 000

Lašo d'ēs!

Sar san?

Najis tuke!

va

na

Ašun kadala svaturja >>>

Photo: Romani dance

- 1 jekh
- 2 duj
- 3 trin
- 4 štar
- 5 panž
- 6 šov
- 7 efta
- 8 oxto
- 9 iňa
- 10 deš



LËTZEBUERGESCH LB

888 600 000

Moien!

Wéi geet
et?

Merci!

- 1 eent
- 2 zwee
- 3 dräi
- 4 véier
- 5 fënnef
- 6 sechs
- 7 siwen
- 8 aacht
- 9 néng
- 10 zéng



<< Lauschter wéi dës Wierder kléngen

Photo: Petrusse Skatepark, Luxembourg (degetzica | Shutterstock.com)

ä

ëé





INTERNATIONAL SIGN LANGUAGE



- | | |
|----|--|
| 1 | |
| 2 | |
| 3 | |
| 4 | |
| 5 | |
| 6 | |
| 7 | |
| 8 | |
| 9 | |
| 10 | |



αβγδεζηθικλμν

ξοπρστυφχψω

<<< Άκουσε τον ήχο αυτών των λέξεων

Photo: Colourful street in Oia, Greece

- | | |
|----|---------|
| 1 | ένα |
| 2 | δύο |
| 3 | τρία |
| 4 | τέσσερα |
| 5 | πέντε |
| 6 | έξι |
| 7 | επτά |
| 8 | οχτώ |
| 9 | εννιά |
| 10 | δέκα |

SQ SHQIP

7 500 000



Sijeni?

Përshëndetje!

Faleminderit!

po

jo

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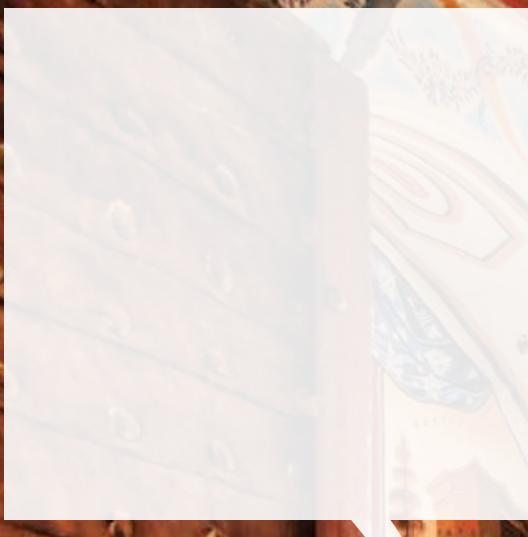
ë

Dëgjoni tingullin e këtyre fjalëve >>>

Photo: Beach cafe in Ksamil, Albania

- | | |
|----|----------------|
| 1 | <i>një</i> |
| 2 | <i>dy</i> |
| 3 | <i>tre</i> |
| 4 | <i>katër</i> |
| 5 | <i>pesë</i> |
| 6 | <i>gjashtë</i> |
| 7 | <i>shtatë</i> |
| 8 | <i>tetë</i> |
| 9 | <i>nëntë</i> |
| 10 | <i>dhjetë</i> |





- | | |
|----|--------|
| 1 | едно |
| 2 | две |
| 3 | три |
| 4 | четири |
| 5 | пет |
| 6 | шест |
| 7 | седем |
| 8 | осем |
| 9 | девет |
| 10 | десет |

<<< Чуйте как звучат тези думи

Photo: Rila Monastery, Bulgaria

МК МАКЕДОНСКИ

3 500 000

Како си?

Здраво!

Благодарам!

да

не

Г И
С Й
ј ъ љ њ ѕ ќ ц ќ ъ Ѥ



Слушнете како звучат овие зборови >>>

Photo: Church of St. John at Kaneo, North-Macedonia

- | | |
|----|--------|
| 1 | еден |
| 2 | два |
| 3 | три |
| 4 | четири |
| 5 | пет |
| 6 | шест |
| 7 | седум |
| 8 | осум |
| 9 | девет |
| 10 | десет |



A photograph of a man standing on a cliff edge, looking out at the ocean and the Cliffs of Moher. A cartoon character of a girl with a backpack is standing next to him. Three speech bubbles contain Irish greetings: "Conas atá tú?", "Dia dhuit!", and "Go raibh maith agat!". To the left, four red boxes contain the Irish vowels: ú, ó, á, and í. Below them is a QR code.

ú ó
á í

Conas atá tú?
Dia dhuit!
Go raibh maith agat!

« Éist le fuaim na bhfocal seo

Photo: Cliffs of Moher, Ireland

| | |
|----|------------|
| 1 | A hAon |
| 2 | A Dó |
| 3 | A Trí |
| 4 | A Ceathair |
| 5 | A Cúig |
| 6 | A Sé |
| 7 | A Seacht |
| 8 | A hOcht |
| 9 | A Naoi |
| 10 | A Deich |



« Éist le fuaim na bhfocal seo

Photo: Cliffs of Moher, Ireland

HU MAGYAR

13 000 000

Szia!

Hogy
vagy?

Köszönöm!



igen

nem

óöő

í

úüű

é

á

Hallgasd meg, hogy hangzanak ezek a szavak>>>

Photo: Balaton Lake, Hungary

- | | |
|----|--------|
| 1 | egy |
| 2 | kettő |
| 3 | három |
| 4 | négy |
| 5 | öt |
| 6 | hat |
| 7 | hét |
| 8 | nyolc |
| 9 | kilenc |
| 10 | tíz |



ja

nee

- 1 een
- 2 twee
- 3 drie
- 4 vier
- 5 vijf
- 6 zes
- 7 zev
- 8 acht
- 9 negen
- 10 tien



<<< Luister naar de klanken van deze woorden

Photo: Tulips and windmills in Zaanse Schans, Netherlands



Hoe gaat
het ermee?

Hallo!

Dankjewel!



LT LIETUVIŲ KALBA

3 000 000



- 1 vienas
- 2 du
- 3 trys
- 4 keturi
- 5 penki
- 6 šeši
- 7 septyni
- 8 aštuoni
- 9 devyni
- 10 dešimt

ą
ū
č
ę
ž
ė
i
š
ą

Pasiklausykite šiu žodžiu >>>

Photo: Trakai Island Castle, Lithuania



ITALIANO IT

888 67 000 000

Come stai?

Ciao!

Grazie!

- 1 uno
- 2 due
- 3 tre
- 4 quattro
- 5 cinque
- 6 sei
- 7 sette
- 8 otto
- 9 nove
- 10 dieci



<<< Ascolta il suono di queste parole

Photo: Riomaggiore, Italy

à

èé

ù

ì

òó

KA ქართული
მს 3 700 000



აბგდევზთიკლმნოპჲ

რსტუფეჭყყშჩცძწჭხჳ

მოუსმინეთ სიტუაციის უღერადობას >>>

Photo: Ushguli with mount Shkhara, Georgia (Mehmet | Shutterstock.com)

- 1 ერთი
- 2 ორი
- 3 სამი
- 4 ოთხი
- 5 ხუთი
- 6 ექვსი
- 7 შვიდი
- 8 რვა
- 9 ცხრა
- 10 ათი

SVENSKA SV

10 000 000



PL POLSKI

45 000 000

Jak się
masz?

Cześć!

Dziękuję!

tak

nie

ć
ą
ę
ł
ń
ś
ż
ż
ó

Posłuchaj brzmienia tych słów >>>

Photo: The Crooked Forest near Gryfino, Poland

- 1 jeden
- 2 dwa
- 3 trzy
- 4 cztery
- 5 pięć
- 6 sześć
- 7 siedem
- 8 osiem
- 9 dziewięć
- 10 dziesięć



DANSK DA

6 000 000

Hvordan går
det?

Hej!

Tak!

Vinter

æ

ø

å



<< Lyt til lyden af disse ord

Photo: Tivoli in Copenhagen, Denmark

- | | |
|----|-------|
| 1 | en/et |
| 2 | to |
| 3 | tre |
| 4 | fire |
| 5 | fem |
| 6 | seks |
| 7 | syv |
| 8 | otte |
| 9 | ni |
| 10 | ti |

ja

nej

PT PORTUGUÊS

250 000 000

Olá!
Como
estás?
Obrigado/a!

áàâã

ç

úü

óôõ éê í

sim

não

Ouça o som destas palavras >>>

- 1 um
- 2 dois
- 3 três
- 4 quatro
- 5 cinco
- 6 seis
- 7 sete
- 8 oito
- 9 nove
- 10 dez



GALEGO GL

2 400 000

Ola!

Como
estás?

Grazas!

si

non

ó

í ï

á

é

ñ



<< Escoita o son destas palabras

Photo: As Catedrais Beach, Spain

- | | |
|----|-------|
| 1 | un |
| 2 | dous |
| 3 | tres |
| 4 | catro |
| 5 | cinco |
| 6 | seis |
| 7 | sete |
| 8 | oito |
| 9 | nove |
| 10 | dez |

LV LATVIEŠU VALODA

888 1 750 000



jā

nē

Kā tev iet?

Sveiki!

Paldies!



- | | |
|----|---------|
| 1 | viens |
| 2 | divi |
| 3 | trīs |
| 4 | četri |
| 5 | pieci |
| 6 | seši |
| 7 | septiņi |
| 8 | astoņi |
| 9 | deviņi |
| 10 | desmit |

NORSK NB
••• 5 320 000



Lytt til lyden av disse ordene

Photo: Reindeers in Tromsø, Norway

- | | |
|----|------|
| 1 | én |
| 2 | to |
| 3 | tre |
| 4 | fire |
| 5 | fem |
| 6 | sex |
| 7 | syv |
| 8 | åtte |
| 9 | ni |
| 10 | ti |

SE SÁMEGIELLA

888 30 000



juá

a-a

*Mo dat
manná?*

Bures!

Giitú!

- 1 okta
- 2 guokte
- 3 golbma
- 4 njeallje
- 5 vihtta
- 6 guhtta
- 7 čieža
- 8 gávcci
- 9 ovcci
- 10 logi

Guldal dáid sániid >>>

Photo: Aurora borealis, Norway



РУССКИЙ RU

150 000 000

да

нет



ES | ESPAÑOL

489 000 000

¡Hola!

¿Cómo
estás?

¡Gracias!

sí

no

- 1 uno
- 2 dos
- 3 tres
- 4 cuatro
- 5 cinco
- 6 seis
- 7 siete
- 8 ocho
- 9 nueve
- 10 diez

Escucha cómo se pronuncian estas palabras >>>

Photo: Women dancing flamenco in Sevilla, Spain (leonov.o | Shutterstock.com)

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LARA'S LANGUAGE JOURNEY ACROSS EUROPE

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These are the languages we encountered on our short journey through Europe, but there are many more languages both in Europe and across the world!

Basque

AFROASIAN
350 000 000

SEMITIC
Maltese

KARTVELIAN
5 000 000

Georgian

Albanian

Greek

INDO-EUROPEAN
3 200 000 000

GERMANIC
BALTO-SLAVIC
ROMANCE
ROMANCE
CELTIC
ARMENIAN
ROMANI

URALIC
25 000 000

FINNISH
ESTONIAN
Finnish
Northern Sami
UGRIC
Hungarian

ALTAIC
210 000 000

TURKIC
Azerbaijani
Turkish

| | | | | | |
|-----|----|----|----|----|----|
| BE | EN | FY | SL | FR | UK |
| CA | TR | AS | EU | MT | IS |
| ET | RO | CS | SK | FI | RM |
| CY | DE | HR | BS | SR | HY |
| ROM | LB | EL | SQ | BG | |
| MK | GA | HU | NL | LT | IT |
| KA | SV | PL | DA | PT | GL |
| LV | NB | SE | RU | ES | |

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A language can open the door into a different world. A world where you can discover treasures you would never have known existed about countries and cultures without having used the language as a key to enter it. And one door can take you into a room with lots of other doors leading off it!

For some, foreign languages are a passion and for others a necessity but wherever you go and whatever you do, you cannot avoid encountering them. We hope that this journey has given you an insight into just a few of the many languages around us and encourages you to delve deeper.

For more information on the European Centre for Modern Languages of the Council of Europe and the European Day of languages see www.ecml.at.

For any adaptations or translations please contact us at information@ecml.at.

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