

Language “Facteroids”

Keyword	“Facteroid”	Reference
How many?	There are about 6000 different languages in the world	http://www.ethnologue.com/
Internet	“While the majority of the Internet’s content is in English, English is not the preferred language for the majority of Internet users.”	http://www.verisign.com/static/002284.pdf
Brain	“Learning and using a second language helps to protect the brain from the effects of ageing.”	Leake, J. (2004) (report on research by Bialystok, E.) ‘Talking a second language keeps old age at bay’ in Times Online, June 13, 2004, www.timesonline.co.uk
London	“Over 300 different languages are spoken in London.”	http://www.dfes.gov.uk/londonchallenge/facts.shtml
Politicians	“A fifth of the UK’s MPs describe themselves as bi-lingual.”	BBC 14.05.04 http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/education/3715719.stm
Children	“Children who speak at least two languages do better at school than those who speak only one.”	Independent 09.10.03 http://education.independent.co.uk/schools/story.jsp?story=451298
Hello	“Hello. Until 150 years ago people always said, “Good day” or “How do you do?” Hallo was used to get someone’s attention and gradually became used as a greeting.”	http://www.everydayspelling.com/workout/languagefacts/11hello.html
Biggest	“It is estimated that more than half of the world’s population communicates in only 8 languages: English, Mandarin Chinese, Hindi (with Urdu), Spanish, Russian, Arabic, Bengali and Portuguese.”	http://portal.unesco.org/ci/en/ev.php-URL_ID=16917&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html
Death	“Languages can die. More than 3000 languages are now spoken by fewer than 10 000 people. Some 417 languages are nearly extinct.”	http://portal.unesco.org/ci/en/ev.php-URL_ID=16917&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html
Rhymes	“No word in the English language rhymes with month, orange, silver, and purple.”	http://www.dyana.info/Language/language.htm
Ough	““Ough” can be pronounced in eight different ways. Here they are: “A rough-coated, dough-faced ploughman strode through the streets of Scarborough, coughing and hiccoughing thoughtfully.”	http://www.dyana.info/Language/language.htm
Chinese	“The number of Chinese speaking people probably exceeds a billion! This makes Chinese the most common language of the world.”	http://www.language-capitals.com/facts.php

German	"Every 10th book worldwide is published in the German language."	http://www.language-capitals.com/facts.php
English	English has the world's largest vocabulary	http://hypertextbook.com/facts/2001/JohnnyLing.shtml
Vocabulary	"An educated person has a vocabulary of about 20,000 words and uses about 2,000 in a week's conversation."	http://www.wordorigins.org/number.htm
Geek	"Geek is actually a very old word. It is a variant of geck, a term of Low German/Dutch origin that dates in English to 1511. It means a fool, simpleton, or dupe."	http://www.wordorigins.org/homepage.htm
Scot	"To get off 'scot' free has nothing to do with Scotland. It derives from 'scot' meaning a payment or tax. It probably comes from Old Norse, but an origin in the French escot is not out of the question."	http://www.wordorigins.org/homepage.htm
Frogs	"Strangely in France you don't have a frog in your throat when you have a croaky voice, it's a cat (un chat dans la gorge)."	http://ecbaill.free.fr/expressi/expressi06.htm
Reading	"Aoccdrnig to rscheearch, it deosn't mtttaer in waht oredr the ltteers in a wrod are, the olny iprmoetnt tihng is taht the frist and lsat ltteer be at the rghit pclae. Tihs is bcuseae the huamn mnid deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the wrod as a wlohe."	http://www.engsc.ac.uk/tcr/anecdote/index.asp
Writing	"While written Chinese is universal to the Chinese-speaking community, spoken Chinese features a number of variations and dialects, which mostly aren't mutually comprehensible."	http://www.language-capitals.com/facts.php