

PICTURE STORY

Look at the picture below. Who is in the picture? What might be happening? Tell us the story behind this picture. What do you think happens next?



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ROLEPLAY

STUDENT

You are attending a summer English course in Oxford and staying with a host family. During your time at summer school, you met a really nice British boy/girl and the two of you have become good friends. Your birthday is coming up soon, and your host family is organising a small party for you. Call your friend to invite them to the party.

ROLEPLAY

TEACHER

Your new friend from a British summer school is calling to invite you to their birthday party, organised by their host family in Oxford. React politely to the invitation and ask follow-up questions (time, place, who will be there, what to bring, etc.).

You start: Hello (name of the student)! What's up?

ANSWER KEY

GRAMMAR – 15 points

1. D	6. D	11. C
2. C	7. C	12. B
3. A	8. B	13. B
4. B	9. B	14. D
5. A	10. A	15. A

VOCABULARY – 10 points

1. shopping mall	8. dress	15. cash register
2. boots	9. jacket	16. price
3. sandals	10. fitting room(s)	17. change
4. sneakers	11. size	18. receipt
5. discount	12. bracelet	19. return
6. try on	13. sunglasses	20. purchases
7. fit	14. gloves	

READING – 10 points

1. C	6. F
2. G	7. I
3. A	8. divides
4. E	9. allergies
5. B	10. regularly

LISTENING – 5 points

1. B
2. C
3. D
4. A
5. B
6. B
7. C

LISTENING COMPREHENSION

(please, read twice)

The Benefits of a Bilingual Brain - Mia Nacamulli

If you speak multiple languages, you're part of the bilingual or multilingual majority. Knowing two or more languages can change how your brain functions compared to those who speak only one language. Language ability typically includes four components: speaking, writing, listening, and reading. A balanced bilingual has similar proficiency in both languages, but most bilinguals use them in varying amounts based on their experiences.

For example, Gabriella immigrated to the U.S. from Peru at the age of two. She is a compound bilingual, developing both English and Spanish simultaneously, which allows her to process the world with a single set of concepts. Her teenage brother, on the other hand, is a coordinate bilingual who learns English in school while continuing to speak Spanish at home, thus working with two distinct sets of concepts. Gabriella's parents are likely subordinate bilinguals, learning a second language through their primary language.

Recent advances in brain imaging have revealed how language learning affects the bilingual brain. The left hemisphere is more analytical, while the right is involved in emotional processes. This balance is important since language involves both functions.

The critical period hypothesis suggests that children learn languages more easily due to the plasticity of their developing brains, allowing them to engage both hemispheres. In contrast, adults often have their language limited to one hemisphere, usually the left.

Research indicates that adults learning a second language may approach problems more rationally and with less emotional bias compared to their native tongue. Being multilingual offers cognitive advantages, including a higher density of grey matter in the brain, which helps delay diseases like Alzheimer's.

Historically, bilingualism was viewed as a handicap that slowed a child's development. But now we recognize that it enhances brain health. Embracing multiple languages enriches communication and contributes to a healthier brain. It's never too late to start learning a new language, which can be a rewarding experience for both mind and body.

(Adapted from TEDed: The benefits of a bilingual brain. *TEDed*. June 23, 2015. [online]. Retrieved from: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MMmOLN5zBLY&t=226s>.)

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