



WELCOME
WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!



ENGLISH

TIME

for you

C1 Proficient User



Common European Framework of Reference for Languages



What is it?

The CEFR is a descriptive scheme that can be used to analyse L2 learners' needs, specify L2 learning goals, guide the development of L2 learning materials and activities, and provide orientation for the assessment of L2 learning outcomes.

Common European Framework of Reference for Languages



How did it all start?

It all started with the 'Language Learning for European Citizenship' project between 1989 and 1996 during which a need for a common European framework for languages arose. This was necessary in order to improve the recognition of language qualifications and help teachers co-operate, and will eventually lead to improvement in the communication among language teachers across Europe.

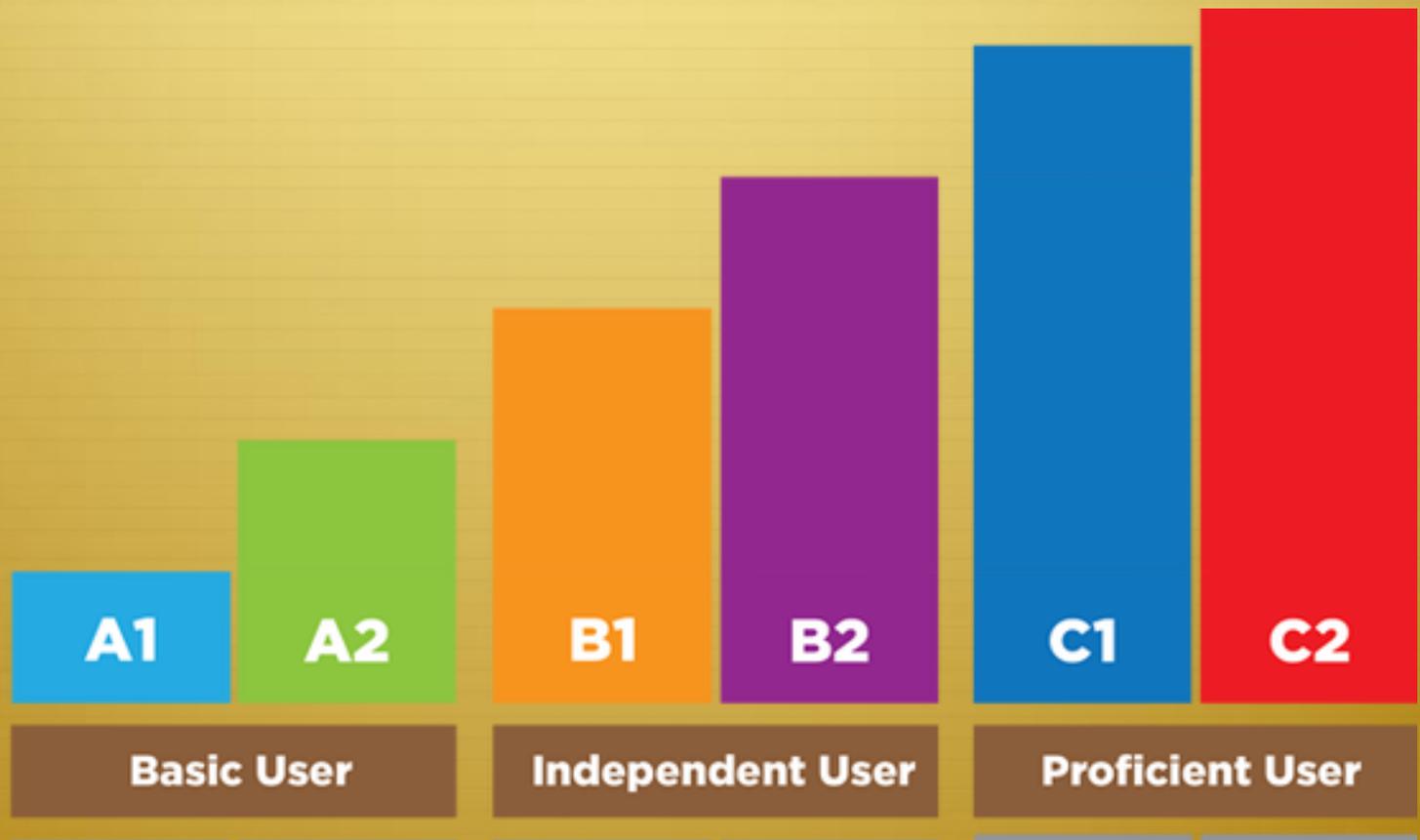
Common European Framework of Reference for Languages

CEFR's Theoretical Background

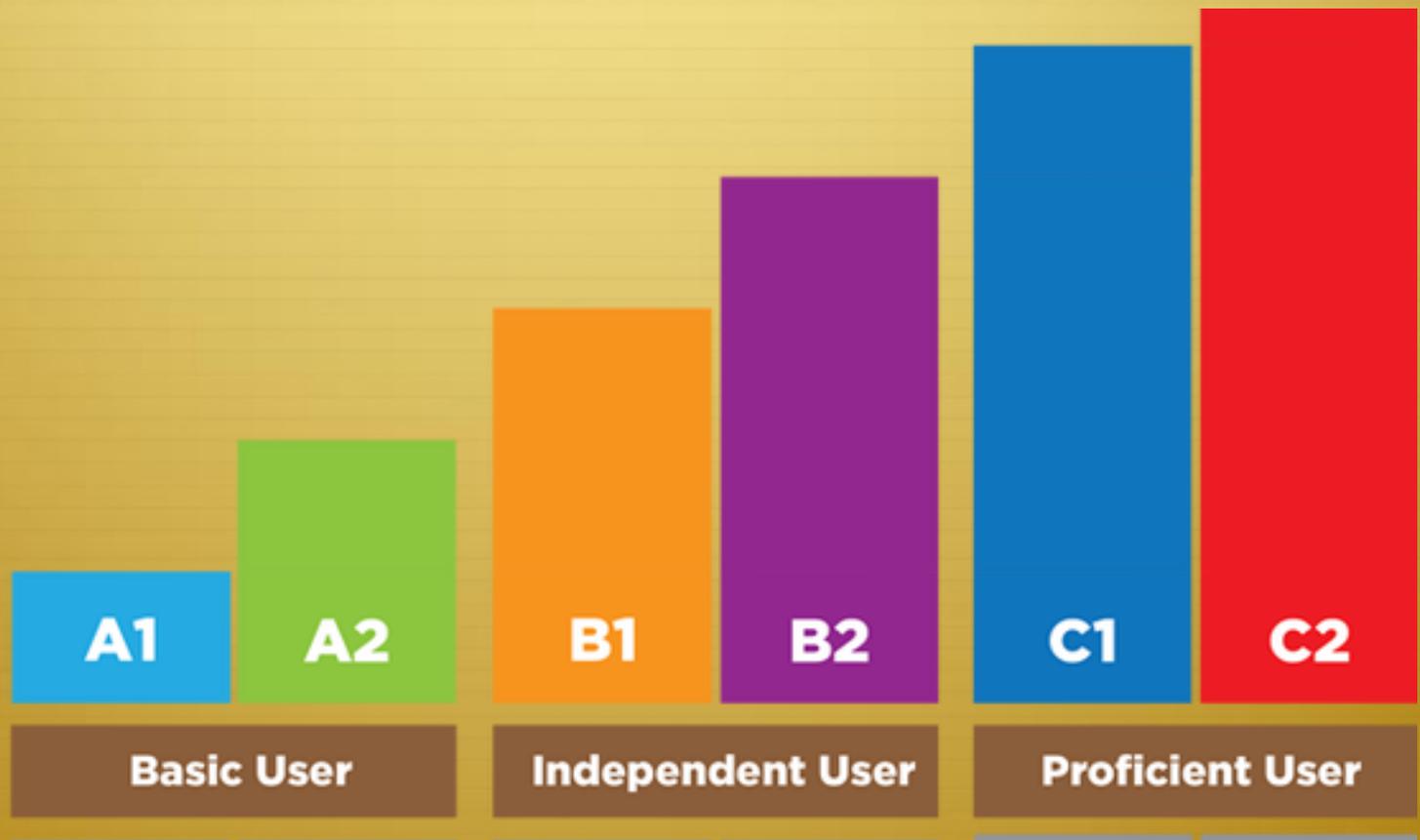
The CEFR adopts an action-oriented approach that can be traced back to theoretical proposals made by philosophers of language. This approach sees language users as 'agents' that develop general and particular communicative competences while trying to reach their everyday goals.

According to CEFR, the aforementioned general and particular communicative competences are developed by producing and receiving text in various contexts and situations. These contexts correspond with various domains of the language user's life, for example educational, private, public and occupational.

Common European Framework of Reference for Languages



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C1

GLOBAL SCALE

- ✦ Can understand a wide range of demanding, longer texts, and recognise implicit meaning.
- ✦ Can express him/herself fluently and spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions.
- ✦ Can use language flexibly and effectively for social, academic and professional purposes.
- ✦ Can produce clear, well-structured, detailed text on complex subjects, showing controlled use of organisational patterns, connectors and cohesive devices.

C1

Self-assessment grid

- ✦ **Listening:** I can understand extended speech even when it is not clearly structured and when relationships are only implied and not signalled explicitly. I can understand television programmes and films without too much effort.
- ✦ **Reading:** I can understand long and complex factual and literary texts, appreciating distinctions of style. I can understand specialised articles and longer technical instructions, even when they do not relate to my field.
- ✦ **Writing:** I can express myself in clear, well-structured text, expressing points of view at some length. I can write about complex subjects in a letter, an essay or a report, underlining what I consider to be the salient issues. I can select style appropriate to the reader in mind.

C1

Self-assessment grid

- ✦ **Spoken Interaction:** I can express myself fluently and spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions. I can use language flexibly and effectively for social and professional purposes. I can formulate ideas and opinions with precision and relate my contribution skilfully to those of other speakers.
- ✦ **Spoken Production:** I can present clear, detailed descriptions of complex subjects integrating sub-themes, developing particular points and rounding off with an appropriate conclusion.

C1

Qualitative aspects of spoken language use:

A C1 language user...

Has a good command of a broad range of language allowing him/her to select a formulation to express him/ herself clearly in an appropriate style on a wide range of general, academic, professional or leisure topics without having to restrict what he/she wants to say.

Consistently maintains a high degree of grammatical accuracy; errors are rare, difficult to spot and generally corrected when they do occur.

Can express him/herself fluently and spontaneously, almost effortlessly. Only a conceptually difficult subject can hinder a natural, smooth flow of language.

C1

Qualitative aspects of spoken language use

Can select a suitable phrase from a readily available range of discourse functions to preface his remarks in order to get or to keep the floor and to relate his/her own contributions skilfully to those of other speakers.

Can produce clear, smoothly-flowing, well-structured speech, showing controlled use of organisational patterns, connectors and cohesive devices.

How can I improve my English?



The Successful Language Learner



Learning a language is a complex process, and ideas about how to study a second language have evolved a lot over the years. In the past, emphasis was placed on memorization; memorization of grammatical rules, memorization of lists of vocabulary; and memorization of dictionary definitions.

But today we know that learning a language goes far beyond memorizing endless lists of vocabulary and grammar rules. In fact, you may have memorized lists of vocabulary, you may know all the grammar needed to hold any conversation and still find yourself at a loss when wanting to express yourself.

The Successful Language Learner

Learning a language has been compared to learning a music instrument, or mastering a sport.



How can I improve my English?

1. BE PATIENT



**KEEP
CALM
BE PATIENT**

**GREAT THINGS
TAKE TIME**

KeepCalmAndPosters.com

*Great things come
to those who wait*

How can I improve my English?

2. Success depends on effort



How can I improve my English?

3. Expose yourself to the language



LISTEN
SPEAK
LEARN
READ
WRITE

How can I improve my English?



3. Expose yourself to the language

You have to use the language in order to learn it, improve it, and remember it. It's like learning to play tennis. No matter how many tennis manuals you read, you won't be able to improve your game until you get out and start hitting the ball. Language is the same. Learners need exposure to the language - through reading it whenever and wherever possible, through speaking and listening to the language, through using the language for real communication. Language learning is largely an unconscious process; we learn grammar by hearing and seeing models of correct English, not by studying grammar rules.

How can I improve my English?

4. Don't be afraid of making mistakes



How can I improve my English?



4. Don't be afraid of making mistakes

To improve your speaking, you need to speak. Students learning a language need to become risk-takers. Mistakes are not bad; they are an opportunity to learn. Fluency is more important than grammatical accuracy. Foreign diplomats speaking to the United Nations often make common grammatical errors. However, they are able to express their ideas fluently and with a large vocabulary.

How can I improve my English?



5. Develop your vocabulary.

Studies show good second language learners, writers, speakers, and listeners have a more extensive vocabulary under their control. Second language researchers are starting to understand that grammar should not be the primary focus of second language study; vocabulary is the key aspect of learning a language.

How can I improve my English?



Researchers say that to truly know a word, the student should be able to do the following:

- Recognize the word when it is heard
- Be familiar with its written form so that it is recognized when it is met in reading
- Know what the word means in context
- Know the concept behind the word which will allow understanding in a variety of contexts
- Be able to pronounce the word correctly, with proper syllable stress
- Be able to use the word in speaking or in writing

How can I improve my English?



Rather than simply memorizing a definition, students need to be able to use the word in a wide variety of contexts. Studies show that different contexts provide rich information on a variety of aspects, (which are words which commonly occur with certain other words, such as tall man, not high man), grammatical patterns, word family members, and related meanings. In fact, studies show that learners need from 5 to 16 or more repetitions to learn a word. As the student meets the word through a variety of activities and in different contexts, a more accurate understanding of its meaning and use will develop.

How can I improve my English?



How can I improve my English?

6. READ, READ, READ

Read,
read,
read.

William Faulkner

Reading regularly improves students' speaking, writing, grammar, and vocabulary skills. Grammar, writing and speaking are improved because by reading in English, students are constantly exposed to models of correct English. Students who read a lot unconsciously learn what is correct and what is incorrect English.

How can I improve my English?

7. LISTEN, LISTEN, LISTEN



How can I improve my English?

✦ PODCASTS

Podcasts are a fantastic way for learners to improve their understanding of spoken English. The BBC has a fantastic collection of podcasts.

- ✦ Some of them are produced for an international audience so you can hear interviews with non-native speakers of English. These are usually found on the BBC World Service channel.
- ✦ Other podcasts are produced for a UK audience. These are ideal for advanced students. Listening to British English speakers will make understanding English which is spoken in the UK easier. These are produced by BBC Radio 4 or Radio 5.
- ✦ The BBC Learning English is also highly recommended:
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/english/>

Here is a list of podcasts which may be useful for higher-level English learners:

How can I improve my English?

BBC World Service



6 Minute English.

Learn new phrases about a variety of topics. (6 minutes)

The English We Speak

Short podcasts about real English phrases or items of slang. (3 minutes)

The Why Factor

Learn the extraordinary truth about everyday actions. (18 minutes)

Click

All about the latest digital technology. (30 minutes)

Forum

Great for practising short presentations. Global thinkers present new political, cultural and scientific ideas. (7-8 minutes).

Global News.

Best stories from around the world. (30 minutes)

Discovery

Analysis of latest ideas and discoveries in science (25 minutes)

How can I improve my English?

BBC RADIO 4



✦ Desert Island Discs

Interviews with famous and successful people about their lives and favourite music. (35 minutes)

✦ Front Row Daily

Interviews with writers, artists, musicians, actors, and directors. (30 minutes)

✦ The Listening Project

Interviews with real people in the UK. Great for listening to different British accents and learning about British culture (14 minutes)

✦ Great Lives

Biographies of famous people. (27 minutes)

✦ Word of Mouth

All about the English language. (28 minutes)

How can I improve my English?

If you want to really improve your English, listen to a podcast in the gym, when you go for a run, while you're doing housework, on the bus, train or in your car. So, your first homework task is to download the following apps:

BBC News

BBC Learning English



How can I improve my English?



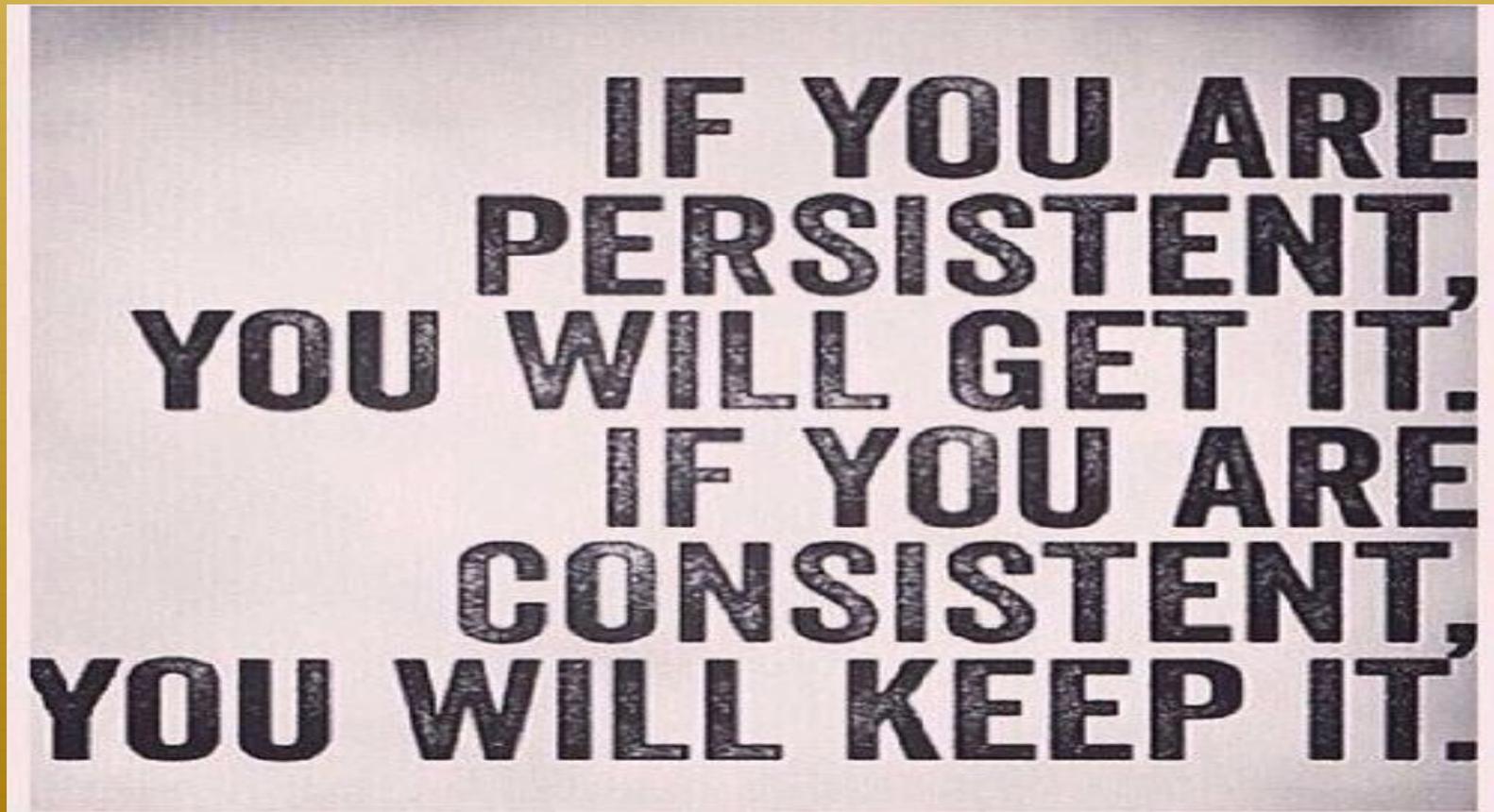
8. FIND THE BEST APPROACH FOR YOU

Second language learning is a challenging, yet rewarding process. The important thing is to approach study in the correct way, in order to learn as much as possible. A recent study suggests that we learn:

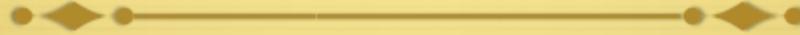
- 20% of what we hear
- 30% of what we see
- 50% of what we hear and see
- 70% of what we say or discuss with others
- 80% of what we do or experience personally
- 90% of what we say and do
- 95% of what we teach someone else

How can I improve my English?

9. BE POSITIVE, BE CONSTANT, BE PERSISTENT

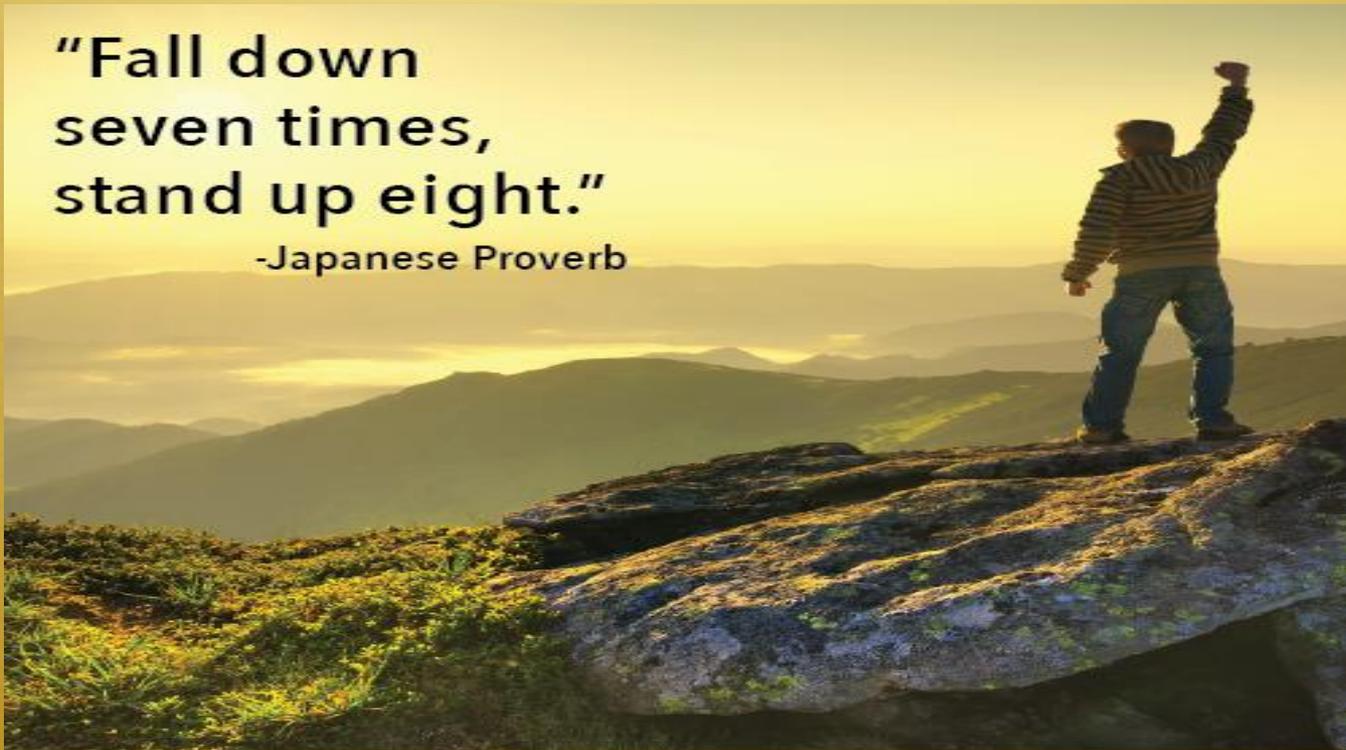


How can I improve my English?



**"Fall down
seven times,
stand up eight."**

-Japanese Proverb



NaturalEpicurean.com

How can I improve my English?



You should try to associate learning something with positive emotions. If our brain links learning to something negative, boring or stressful you will eventually get frustrated and quit.

How can I improve my English?

Your positive attitudes and experiences while learning a language are extremely important. So why not trying this?

Playing videogames in English

Watching your favourite TV show in English

Using English to communicate with friends.

Listening and singing to your favourite English songs

Joining a speaking exchange to meet native speakers in a fun environment

How can I improve my English?

The English lessons can also be fun. Your second homework task for next day is to download this app:



How can I improve my English?

And last but not least: Learning a language will make you

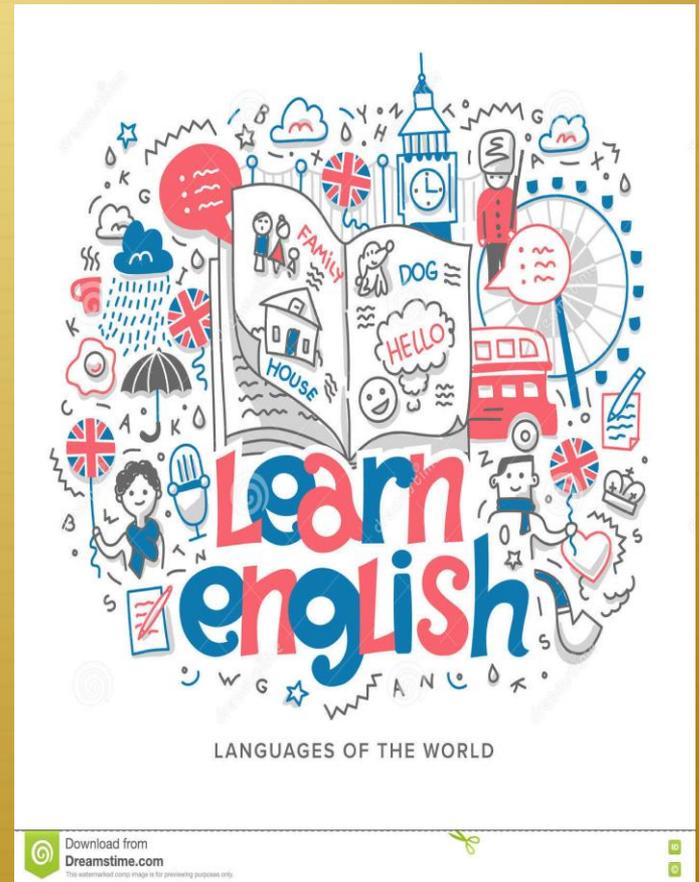
HAPPY



How can I improve my English?

LEARNING ENGLISH WILL MAKE YOU HAPPIER

Every human being has the desire to learn new things, and see new places. Humans are curious and eager to explore, and the feeling of interests comes from that curiosity. When you feel interested in learning something new you instantly become more open to adventure, experiences, and challenges... You discover, you evolve, and you are happier.



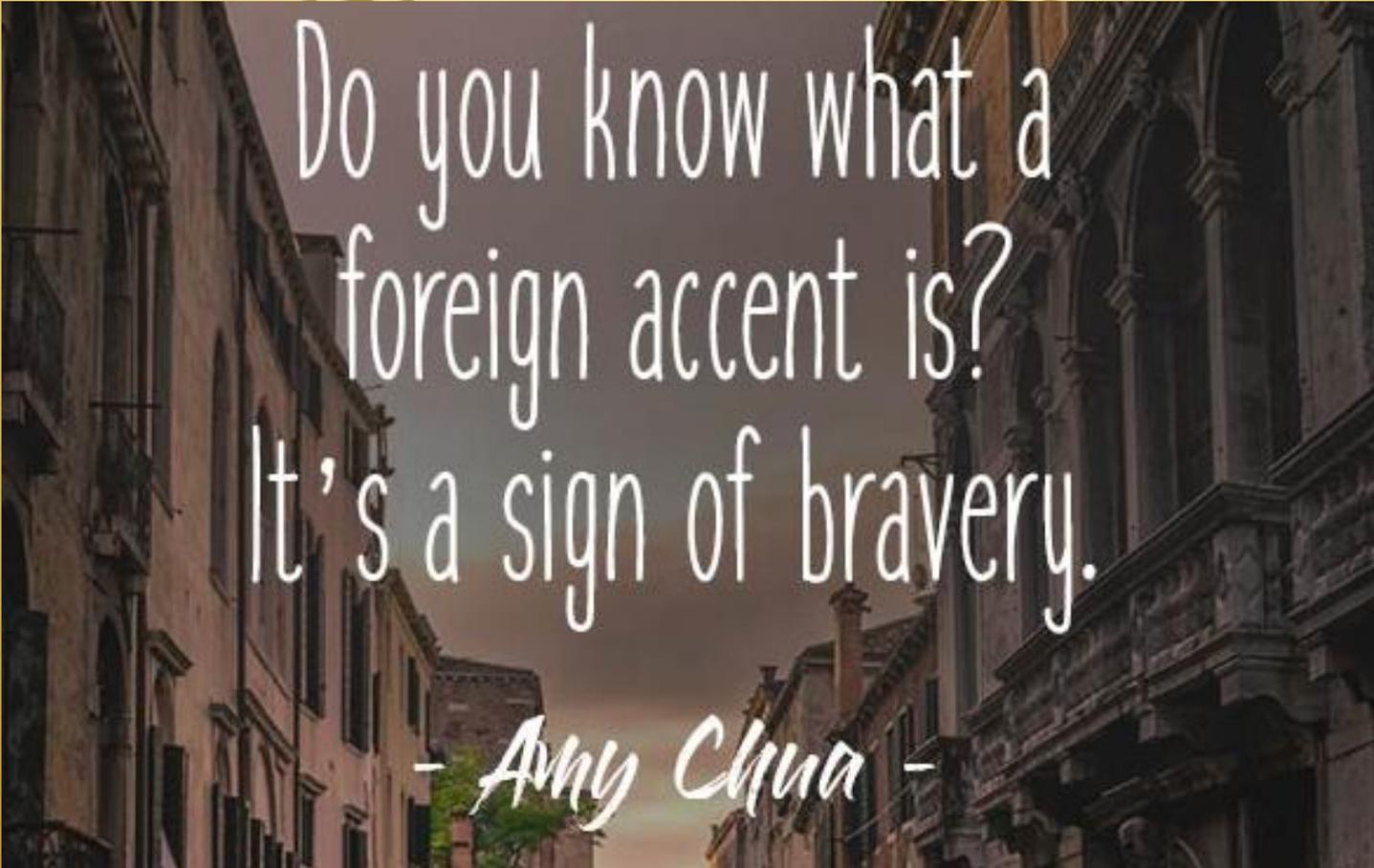
QUOTES

A different language is a different vision of life.

- Federico Fellini -



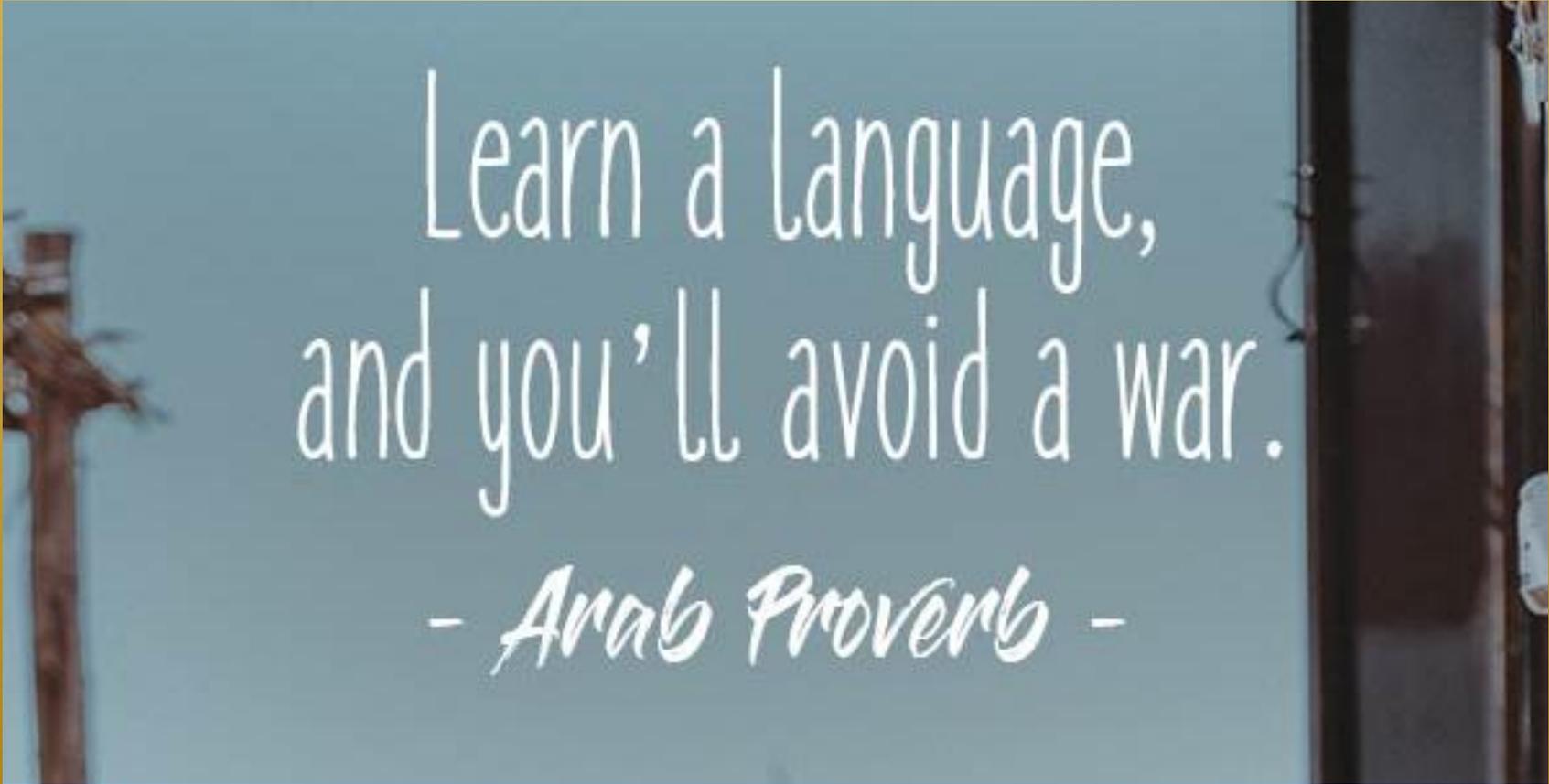
QUOTES



Do you know what a
foreign accent is?
It's a sign of bravery.

- Amy Chua -

QUOTES



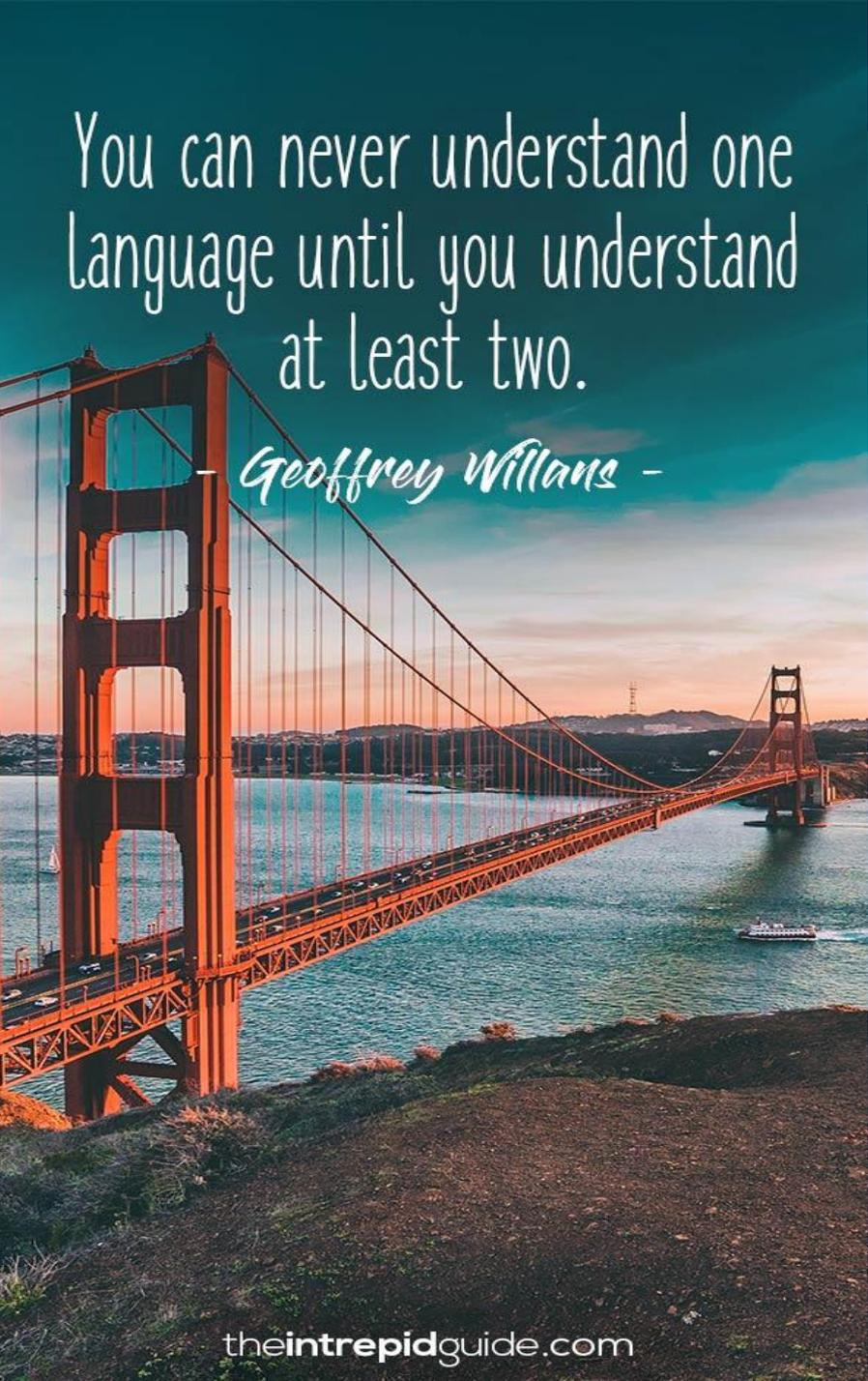
Learn a language,
and you'll avoid a war.

- *Arab Proverbs* -

QUOTES

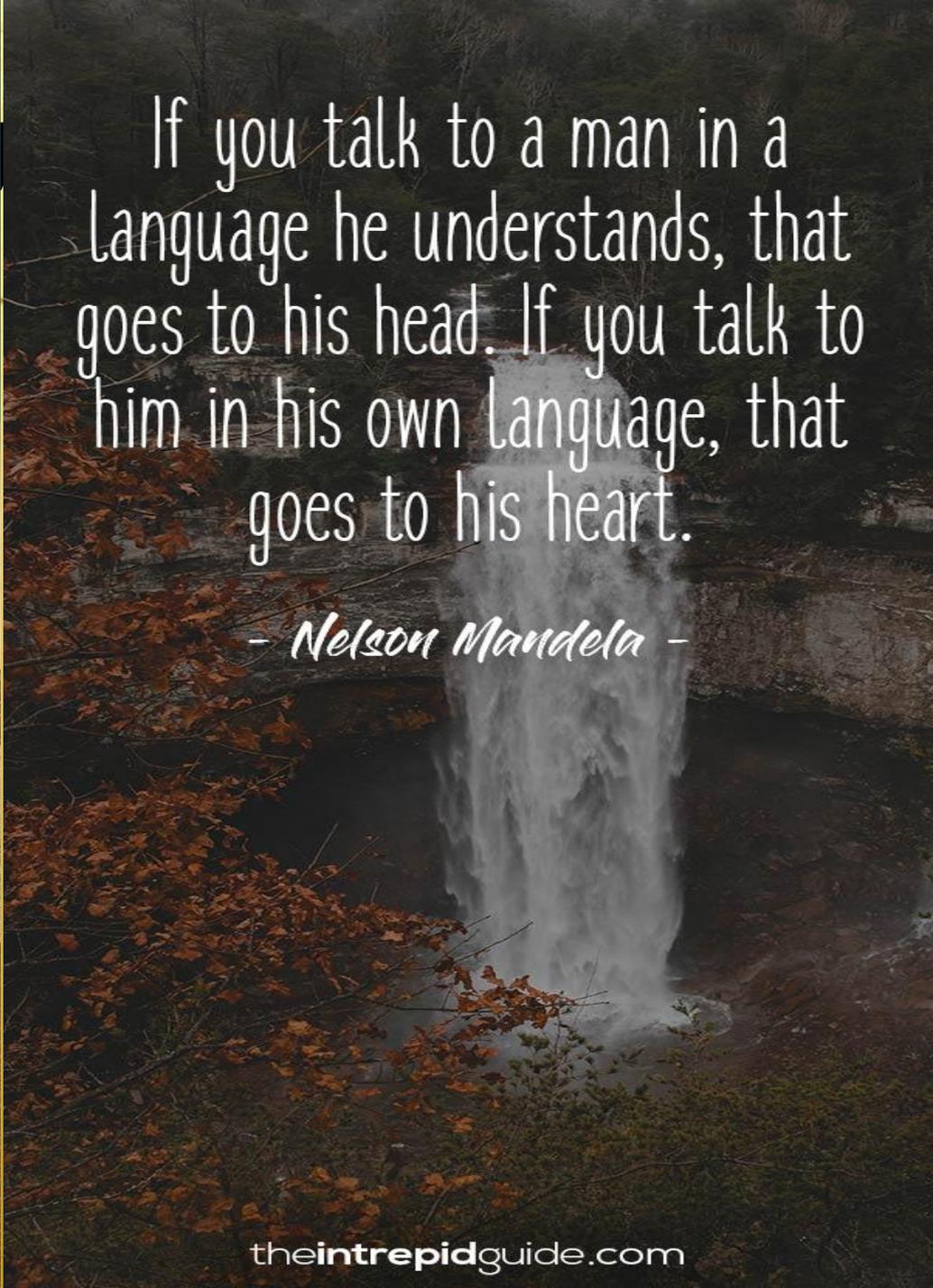
Learning is a treasure that will
follow its owner everywhere.

- *Chinese Proverb* -

A photograph of the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, California, taken from a high vantage point on a hillside. The bridge's iconic orange-red towers and suspension cables are silhouetted against a vibrant sunset sky with shades of orange, red, and purple. The water of the bay is a deep blue, and a small white boat is visible in the distance. The foreground shows a dark, rocky hillside with sparse vegetation.

You can never understand one language until you understand at least two.

- *Geoffrey Willans* -

A photograph of a waterfall cascading down a rocky cliff face. The water is white and frothy as it falls. The surrounding forest is dense with trees, many of which have autumn-colored leaves in shades of orange, yellow, and brown. The lighting is soft, suggesting an overcast day or late afternoon.

If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his own language, that goes to his heart.

- *Nelson Mandela* -

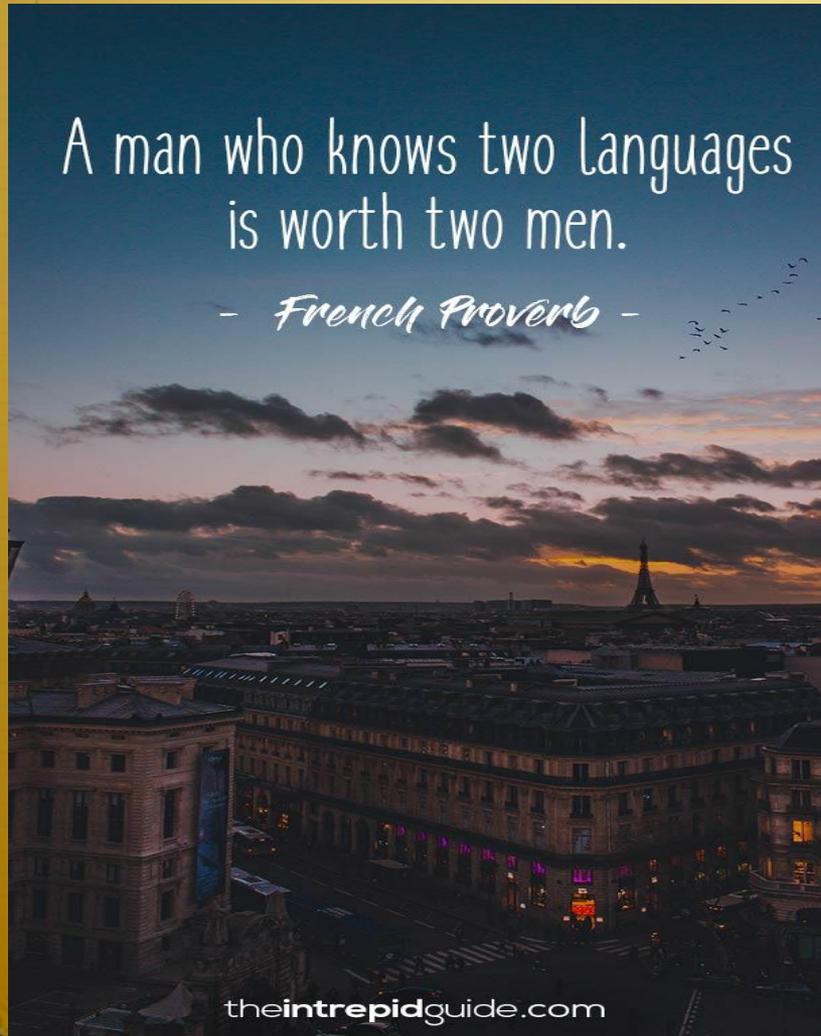


With languages,
you are at home anywhere.

QUOTES

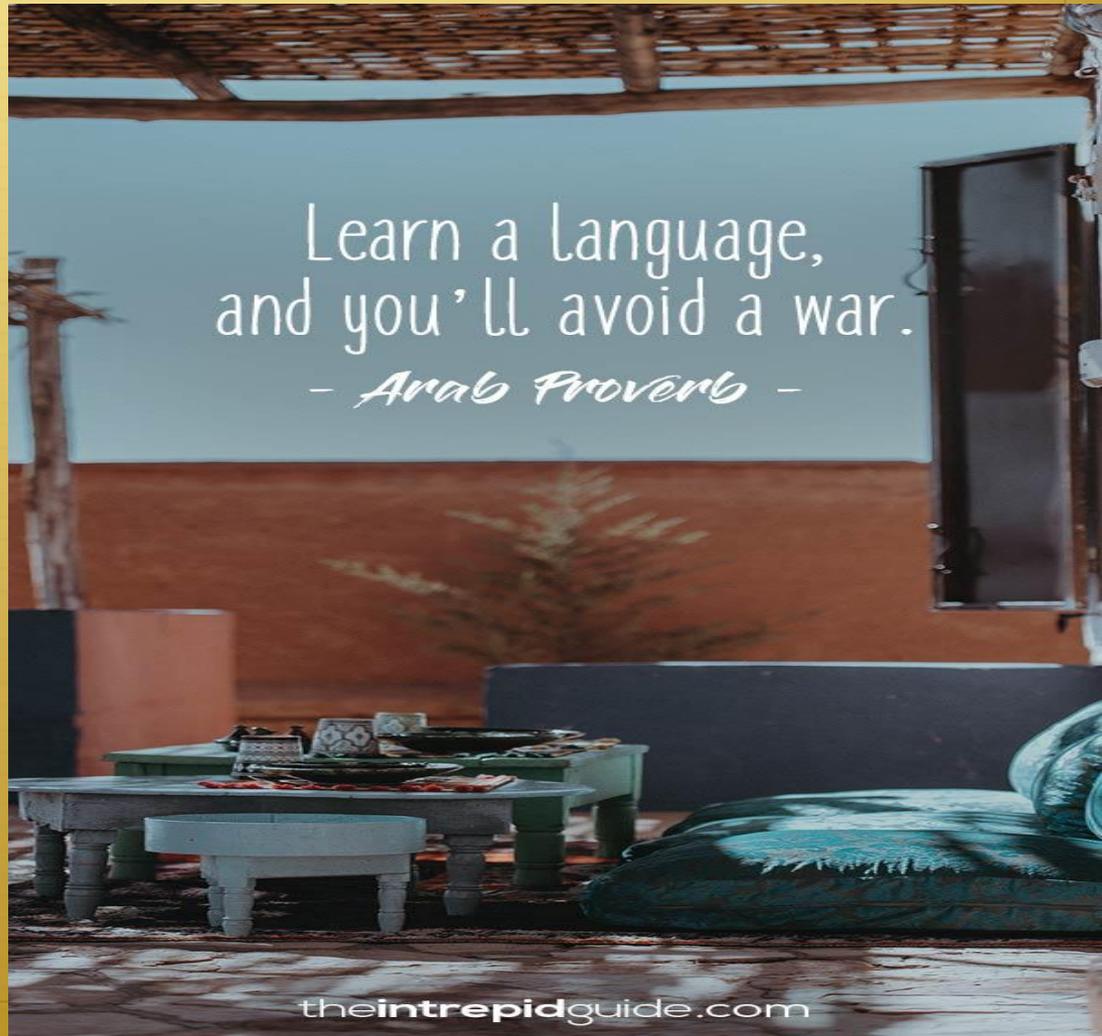
A man who knows two languages
is worth two men.

- *French Proverb* -



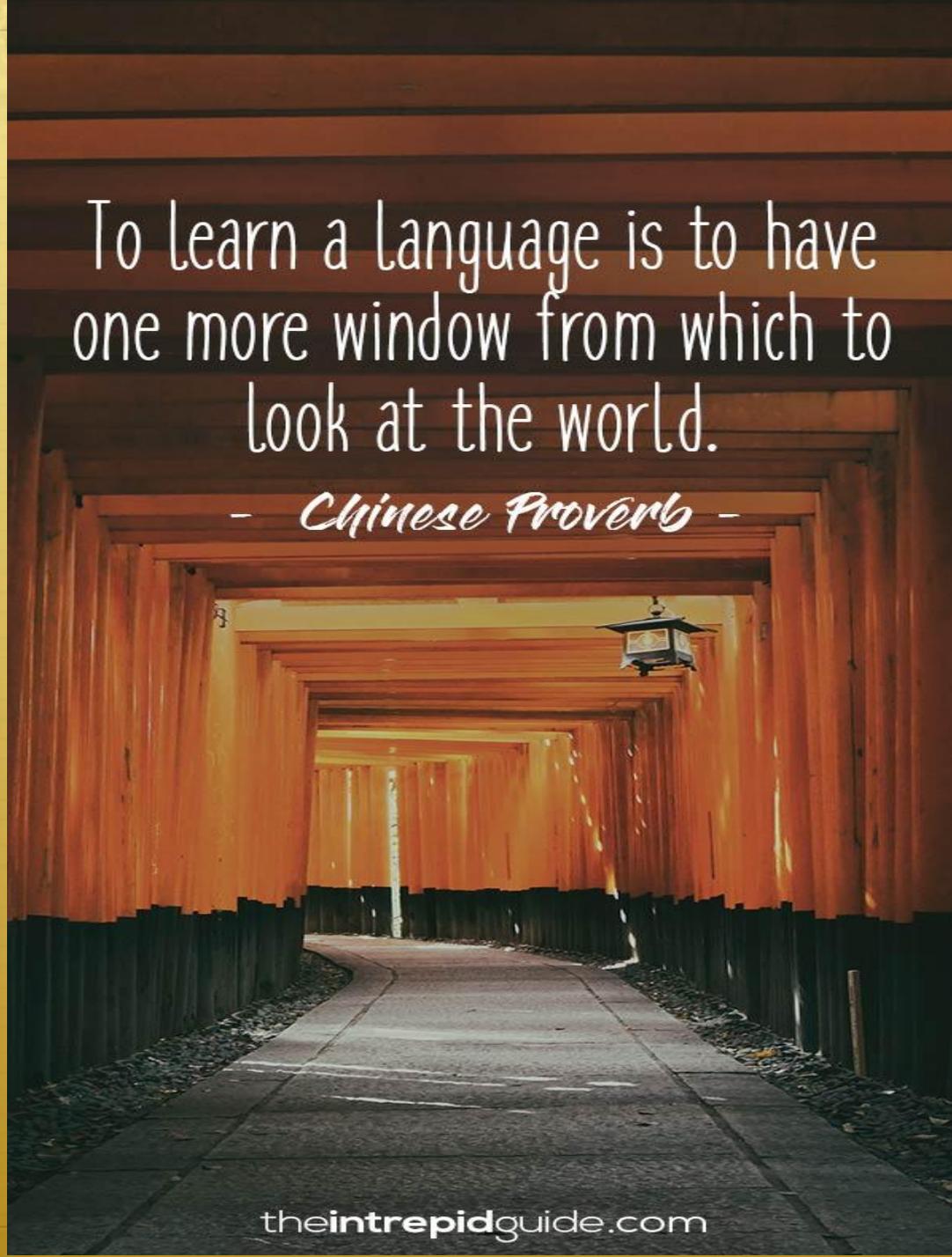
Learn a language,
and you'll avoid a war.

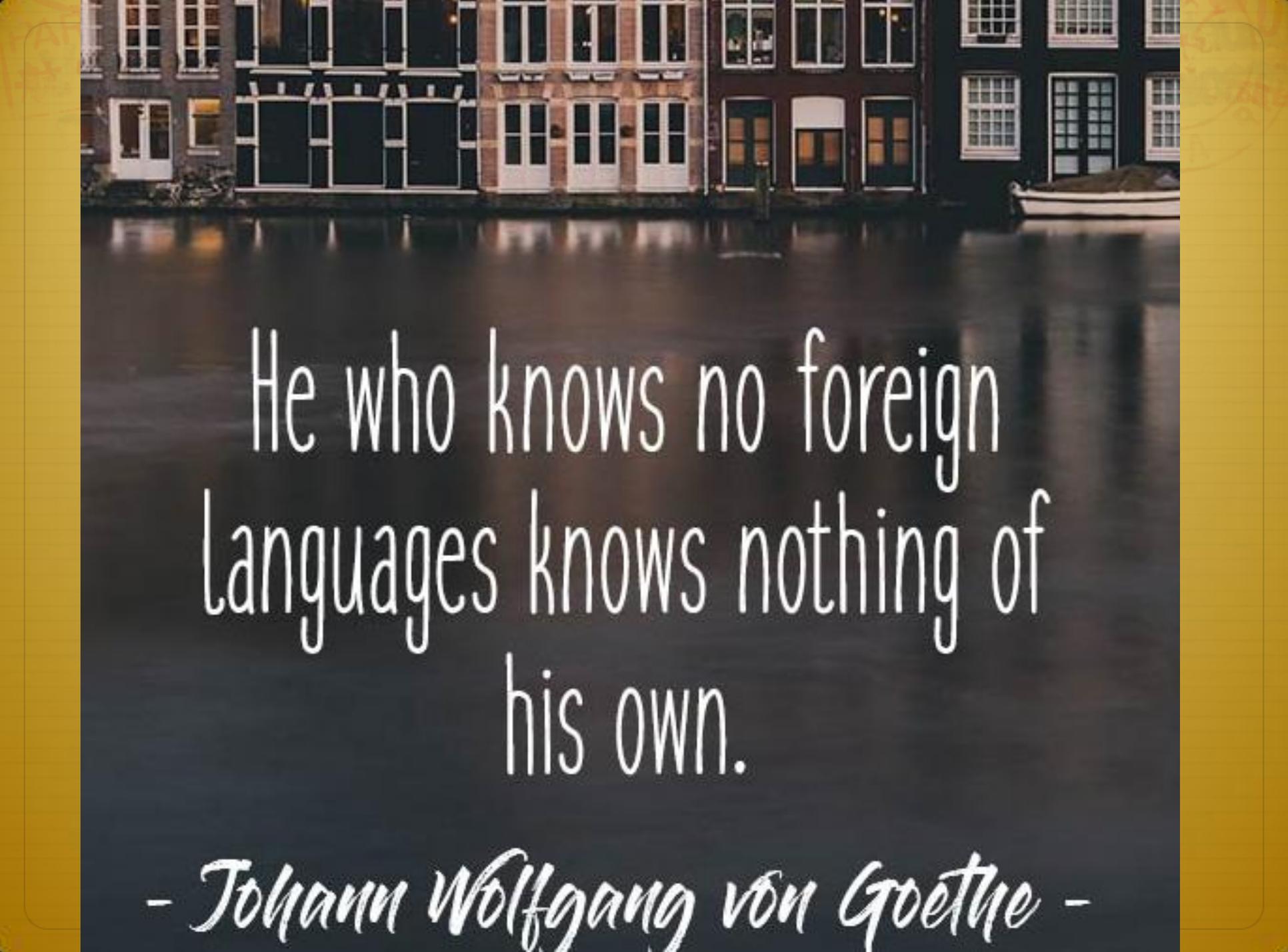
- *Arab Proverb* -



To learn a language is to have
one more window from which to
look at the world.

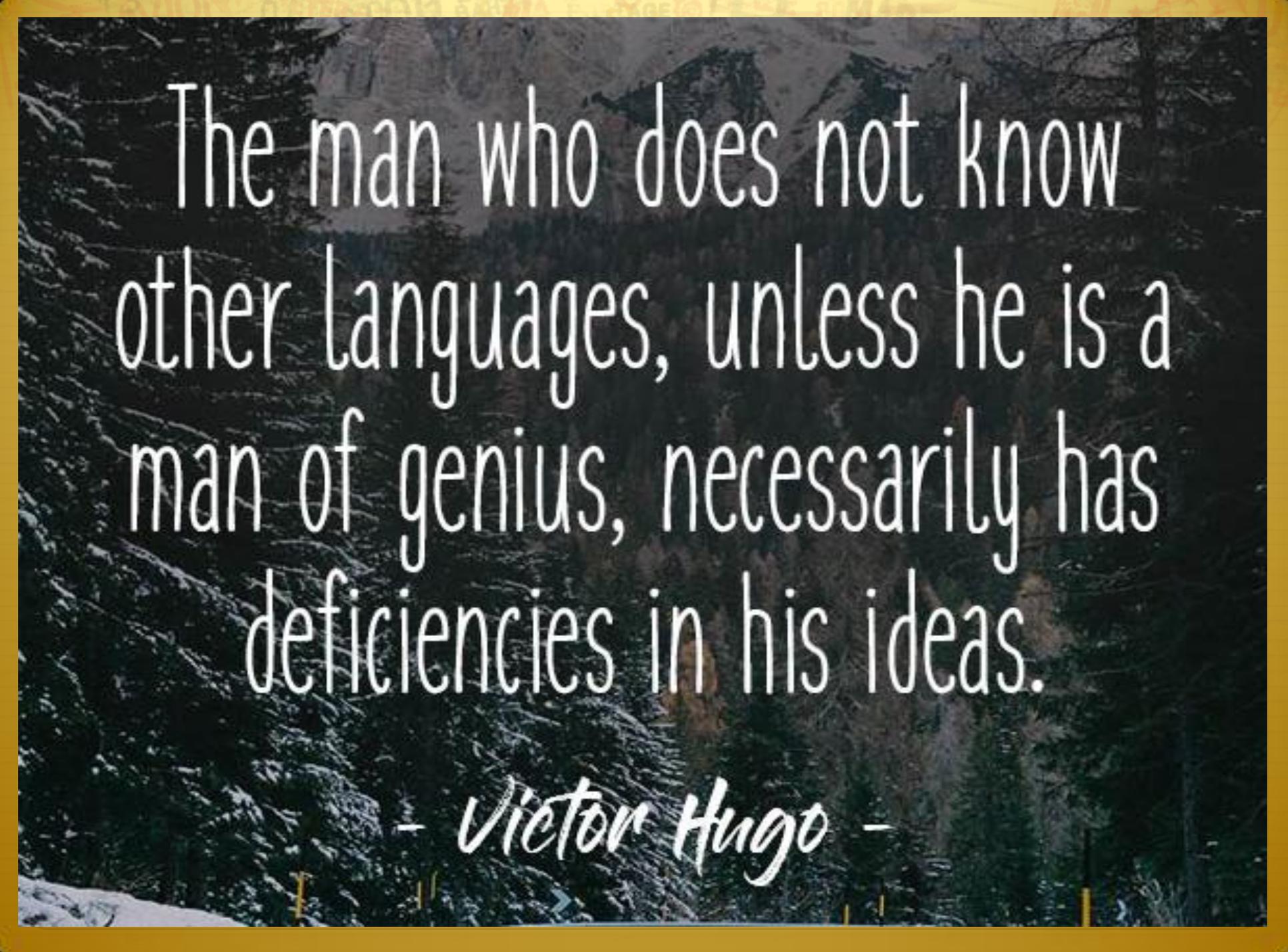
- *Chinese Proverb* -





He who knows no foreign
languages knows nothing of
his own.

- Johann Wolfgang von Goethe -



The man who does not know
other languages, unless he is a
man of genius, necessarily has
deficiencies in his ideas.

- *Victor Hugo* -

QUOTES

And the teacher's favourite....

To have another language is to
possess a second soul.

MJ Ramírez



Have a great year!

