

•READING•

7 Read the text and answer the questions. (1 point each)

The Mandarin Language

Mandarin is the official language of the People's Republic of China. Mandarin is spoken by over 720 million people in China; that is, 70 percent of the population. There are also many Mandarin speakers in other countries, such as Taiwan, Singapore, and Malaysia. More people in the world speak Mandarin than any other language. Around one billion people speak Mandarin.

The grammar of Mandarin is not complicated. Compared to other languages, Mandarin word structure is also simple. However, the writing system is more complex and has little relation to the spoken language. It is based on written symbols or characters and is over two thousand years old.

Today more and more people around the world are learning Mandarin. Perhaps in the future, Mandarin will become the language of international communication. So start learning now!

1. In what country is Mandarin the official language?
The People's Republic of China
2. How many people in China speak Mandarin?

3. In what other countries is Mandarin spoken?

4. How many people in the world speak Mandarin?

5. Is Mandarin grammar difficult?

6. Is written Mandarin easy?

7. Is written Mandarin closely related to spoken Mandarin?

8. What is written Mandarin based on?

9. How old is written Mandarin?

10. Is Mandarin the language of international communication today?

•COMMUNICATION•

8 Write the dialogue (a-h) in the correct order (1-8). (1 point each)

- a. It was fine. I slept most of the way.
- b. How do you do? I'm Mrs. Yates and this is Laura.
- c. Excuse me, are you Jamie?
- d. Thanks very much.
- e. Yes, I am.
- f. Hello. Nice to meet you.
- g. How was the journey?
- h. Here, let me take your backpack. The car is over there.

1. *Excuse me, are you Jamie?* _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____