
DLO DAILY MEDIA UPDATE V2

CURRENT NEWS 30 SEPTEMBER 2010 – HAPPY (FISCAL) NEW YEAR'S EVE!

[HTTP://WWW.MILITARYTIMESEDGE.COM/ADVANCEMENT/CAREER-DEVELOPMENT/ED_STRAT_LANGUAGE_100410S/](http://www.militarytimesedge.com/advancement/career-development/ed_strat_language_100410s/)

OR

[HTTP://TINYURL.COM/2ANWP23](http://tinyurl.com/2anwp23)

- Language skills pay now (\$300-\$1,000 per month)
- Language skills pay later (research suggests that workers who speak a second language average \$10,000 a year more in annual income)
- Language skills set you apart
- Language training is often F-R-E-E

BILL WOULD WATER DOWN CALIFORNIA HIGH SCHOOL FOREIGN LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT

For years, business and government leaders and education planners have argued for fortifying foreign-language training in public schools, both as a tool in a global economy and as a skill in a diverse society. But a bill on Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's desk would allow districts to water down the one provision California now has regarding second-language and art education.

GATES OFFERS DUKE ROTC CADETS LEADERSHIP LESSONS

Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates returned to the lectern today, thanking about 300 ROTC Cadets at Duke University here for choosing to serve in uniform during wartime, and offering some leadership lessons to take along to the Field and Fleet. He encouraged them to consider alternative learning experiences to enhance their military education and training: going on to graduate school, becoming foreign area officers, trying a stint as a think tank Fellow, or serving in other branches of government. "All these experiences will make you a more successful military officer in the 21st century," he told the cadets.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT TEACHES STUDENTS ABOUT CULTURE

Bringing the experience of learning language outside of the classroom helps students to grasp the cultural aspects of a region, according to Bailey. "Apart from the mechanical importance of struggling with the tools to express yourself in another language, I don't think that you're ever going to be able to appreciate or understand the cultural, historical or literary expressions of a place without having struggled with it somewhere else," Trautmann said.

LINGUIST SALARIES IN TYSONS CORNER, VA | Indeed.com

Very eye (and wallet) opening figures (\$57,000-\$271,000 range).

LANGUAGE IDENTIFIER FREWARE

Have you ever come across documents or websites and not known what language it is written in? The Lextek Language Identifier is capable of identifying not only what language it is written in but also its character encoding and what other languages are most similar. This will alleviate your wondering of what languages you are working with or looking at. An easy to use interface gives you the ability to quickly and easily identify the language of your documents. Simply paste the text in question into the Language Identifier's text window and press the Identify Button. The language identifier will analyze the text you have provided and tell you which language matches and which other languages most closely match. Snapfiles.Com tested it with several languages and always received correct results.

PREVIOUS NEWS

Eurostat: Every third EU citizen says he fluently speaks foreign language

All pupils in elementary schools in Spain, Italy, Luxemburg and Sweden study at least one foreign language at school, EU statistical service Eurostat announced on the occasion of the European Day of Languages, cited by **Interfax**. "About 79% of pupils in elementary schools and 83% of pupils at secondary schools in the EU had studied foreign language in 2008. Besides this 30% of adult EU citizens said they fluently speak at least one foreign language", press release of the service announced.

California ranks high in languages, housing costs, commutes

Data released yesterday by the U.S. Census Bureau show California leading the nation in at least two areas: linguistic diversity and housing costs. The state also ranks highly in longest commute times. In California, 43.1 percent of residents age 5 and older spoke a [language other than English](#) at home in 2009 – the highest percentage of any state. Of those people, two out of three [spoke Spanish](#). Nationwide, 20 percent spoke a foreign language at home, with 12.4 percent being Spanish.

Replacing Teachers With Technology

At Ironia Elementary School in Randolph, New Jersey Spanish class means a visit to the computer lab. Students complete their lessons individually, murmuring into microphones to work on their pronunciation. A classroom teacher is on hand to supervise and help with technical support, but the language learning comes from Rosetta Stone, an interactive computer program. Randolph is one of several districts in the state cutting elementary foreign language teachers due to budget cuts. Owen Snyder, Randolph Superintendent of Schools says that before the cut the township only had money in the budget for two foreign language teachers to work in all the elementary schools. Each class got half an hour a week of Spanish language instruction. Now, with Rosetta Stone the students get regular lessons and the district saves nearly \$100,000.

Sing-A-Lingo Supports the Excellence and Innovation in Language Learning Act (H.R 6036)

A bill, called The Excellence and Innovation in Language Learning Act (H.R. 6036), recently introduced into congress draws on what language experts have known for a long time: children are efficient language learners-- the earlier the better. This bill links our nation's underperforming k-12 language programs with risks to our national security and economic future. Sing-A-Lingo, whose award-winning products help children, parents and teachers bring language to young children, is proud to support this bill.

Afghanistan adds female officers to swelling army

Afghanistan's army got its first female officers in decades on Thursday when 29 women graduated in a class of new recruits who hope to help take the lead role in national security from foreign forces by 2014. President Hamid Karzai, NATO and the United States have been pushing to expand and train Afghanistan's army, police and other security forces to allow them to take over during a planned drawdown of foreign troops. "I am fully committed to serving my country, the same way as my Afghan brothers currently serving in the army. That is why I decided to join," said female officer Mari Sharifi after the graduation ceremony at the Kabul Army Training Centre.

Award-winning teacher shares passion for language

"My students constantly remind me of the value of language learning," Harkins said. "The ability to communicate with others is the single greatest skill which unites the human race. My students find joy in simple greetings to total strangers in another language."

Kindergarten Teacher Launches Free Site to Introduce Children to Five Different Languages

A new Web site called Chillola.com is giving parents a fun, safe learning environment where their kids can explore different languages. Chillola.com employs a playful, child-oriented theme to introduce children to five languages: English, Spanish, French, German and Italian. "Chillola.com is designed to give children all over the world the opportunity to explore foreign languages, and learn about different countries, cultures and people," said Tina Jack, a California-based kindergarten teacher who owns the Web site.

Military Specialists Aim to Improve Cultural Understanding

The specialists will build on their existing language skills and cultural understanding by gathering local knowledge and fostering contacts at bazaars, shuras and other places where local people gather. At full strength, the unit will have forty two members and is open to all trades in the three Services and will also support cultural training in the wider military and other government departments.

Training the Troops 'Hyperrealistically'

After she retired in 2005, she and her husband, Leroy, who is also a retired Army veteran, decided to form a business that did just that — provide the most realistic cultural awareness and military training to troops being transferred to these two inhospitable parts of the world. The key element missing from the Army's training was a more realistic approach to what soldiers should expect along with a cultural awareness and rudimentary language skills that could give them an edge in their mission, she said. To accomplish that, the Latshaws enlisted native Iraqi people to play residents of an authentically simulated Iraqi village.

Opportunity knocks ... for SMEs with language skills

Preparing to address the conference and participate in a round-table discussion on languages, competitiveness and employability, Androulla Vassiliou, the European Commissioner for Education, Culture, Multilingualism and Youth, stressed the importance of overcoming linguistic barriers. 'Europeans are increasingly aware of the difference that foreign language skills can make in their lives,' she said. 'As well as being a practical asset for an individual's personal development, languages mean more business for companies, giving them a competitive edge and opening up export markets.' The European Commission's Lifelong Learning Programme supports language activities and projects to the tune of EUR 50 million each year.

Cuts hurting language classes

Everyone is aware of the current budgetary crisis in Louisiana and its consequences for education in the state. What may have gone unnoticed is the damage that is being done to foreign language education in Louisiana. From the elementary to the university level, cuts have eliminated or reduced language programs. Parents, students and graduates recently had to rally in support of the highly successful immersion programs slated to be eliminated in Calcasieu Parish. Universities like LSU and Southeastern are dropping relatively inexpensive language programs in the name of budget cuts. Language skills are a necessity for the future success of this global generation. The Louisiana Foreign Language Teachers Association asks Louisiana citizens to consider how these widespread trends are closing doors of opportunity for our children.

Schools at below-standard level for languages

This is European Day of Languages [Sunday, September 26], which is this year focusing on language skills for business. Up to 11% of small and medium businesses in Europe have said they have lost contracts because of a lack of language skills. Ruth Deasy of the European Commission Representation in Dublin has said: "There should be more focus on foreign languages in Ireland's schools, starting at primary level."

Contractor helps troops gain conversation skills for war zone

In a mock Afghan village on the Quantico Marine base, Sloan Mann, a military contractor, guided several Marines into a sweltering concrete room. They came to meet a fake mullah, played by an Afghan American actor. Mann, a former Army infantry officer, watched as the Marines practiced the seemingly

straightforward tactic of chatting up Afghan village leaders. But the Marines, weeks from deploying to Helmand province, stumbled through their conversations. Their encounters with the "mullah" felt like bad first dates, with the Americans posing robotic questions about the village. Sgt. Walton Cabrera, 25, an aspiring police officer from Southern California, sat before the mullah but couldn't ease into a groove. "So . . . how's everything in the village so far?" he asked. "Has the population changed?"