

## TASK 1

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1) You'll hear 10 covers of a famous song by The Beatles: *All my loving*.

Listen and answer the following questions:

- Which one do you like the most? And the least? Why?
- Would you describe any of the versions as:

Surprising?

Sad?

Ridiculous?

Embarrassing?

Funny?

2) The different performers come from different L1 backgrounds. Can you match them with their country of origin?

The UK

The US

Argentina

Brasil

Sweden

Thailand

France

Korea

Spain

Singapore

3) What aspects did you pay attention to when deciding?

Did the musical version influence your choice?

Could you recognize traces of their L1 accent in their performance?

Now check the answers with the teacher.

4) Now that you know the nationality of the performers, would you change your answers to the questions in Ex1? Why? why not?

Did the accent influence you at all when first doing the activity?

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## TASK 2

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Answer the following questionnaire

1) a - How many varieties of English would you say there are in the world?

- a) Four or five
- b) Around a dozen
- c) Hundreds

b - Do you have any preferences towards any in particular?

c - Are certain varieties better than others?

Why are they better?

- a) Because they make communication easier
- b) Because they are more understandable
- c) Because they are the proper accents in the academic world
- d) Because they are spoken by native speakers
- e) Because they are the ones we are usually the most exposed to
- f) Because the teaching materials are in those varieties

2) a - How comfortable do you feel when you listen to yourself in English?

1                      2                      3                      4                      5



Choose a position in the cline, being 5=extremely comfortable and 1=extremely uncomfortable

b - If you are not comfortable with your accent, what aspects do you think you should improve or develop?

c – Why would you like to improve your pronunciation?

- a) To be understood
- b) To get rid of your accent
- c) To sound native-like
- d) To feel comfortable when expressing my own ideas.
- e) To belong

3) What is your ultimate goal regarding your pronunciation/accents?

4) Have you ever used English as a lingua franca?

Describe the experience. How did it feel?

### TASK 3

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You will now watch a talk by British linguist David Crystal: ***Should English be taught as a global language?***

Watch the video and answer the following questions in the light of your answers to the previous questionnaire:

- 1) What does Crystal say regarding the varieties of English?
- 2) What would be the benefits of understanding different varieties?
- 3) Does the expression "*the student is in for a shock*" apply to you?

### TASK 4

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You will hear two speakers discussing their feelings about the concept of ***lingua franca***, which they have just learned about. Both speakers have regularly used English in ELF situations previously, but were unaware of the role their English was playing.

The following extracts are taken from the recording, to what extent do you feel identified with them?

- 1) "*...and the British... and nobody could understand the British... (both laugh)*"
- 2) "*what I like most about the concept is that it doesn't say this English is better or this one is worse....*"
- 3) "*...being exposed to as many accents and dialects as...can just enrich... your knowledge and... your life*"
- 4) "*...people don't listen enough...so... it's learning to listen more carefully to what people are saying*"

### TASK 5

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Food for thought

- 1) What have you learned today about English and the English world?
- 2) What idea has left an impression on you?
- 3) Did any idea "come as a shock to you"?
- 4) Would you give a second thought to any of the ideas discussed today?
- 5) Have you changed your mind in any way?