

The Study and Production of Texts

Lesson 2

Homework for today

pp. 1 – 6: read and study

p. 8: do the geography quiz on Europe at this link

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/global-development/interactive/2012/dec/20/geography-game-how-well-know-world>

p. 9: do exercise and highlight phrases/expressions that belong to data commentary

p. 9: try out quiz at bottom of page

pp.10-11: read and study

Homework for today

p. 32: check and learn expressions

p. 33: do exercise

p. 34: revise dates and numbers

Watch the slideshow on data commentary:

<https://www.slideshare.net/bettul01/data-commentary>

All the links in the dispensa can be found in a Word document on Moodle.

EU Languages and Language Policy p. 9

L. 2 ... has carried out two resource projects ...

L. 3 The surveys were conducted ...

L. 4... compare any changes ...

L. 5 ... the scope of the second survey ...

L. 8 The surveys show many intriguing results.

L. 8 ... respondents ...

L. 12 ... compared to ...

L. 14 In general, the surveys showed ...

L. 15 ... exhibited ...

L. 15 This was also true for ...

L. 16 Only ... had a majority of ...

L. 19 Only a minority of ...

L. 20... this figure represented a slight rise ...

Data Commentary and Comparison

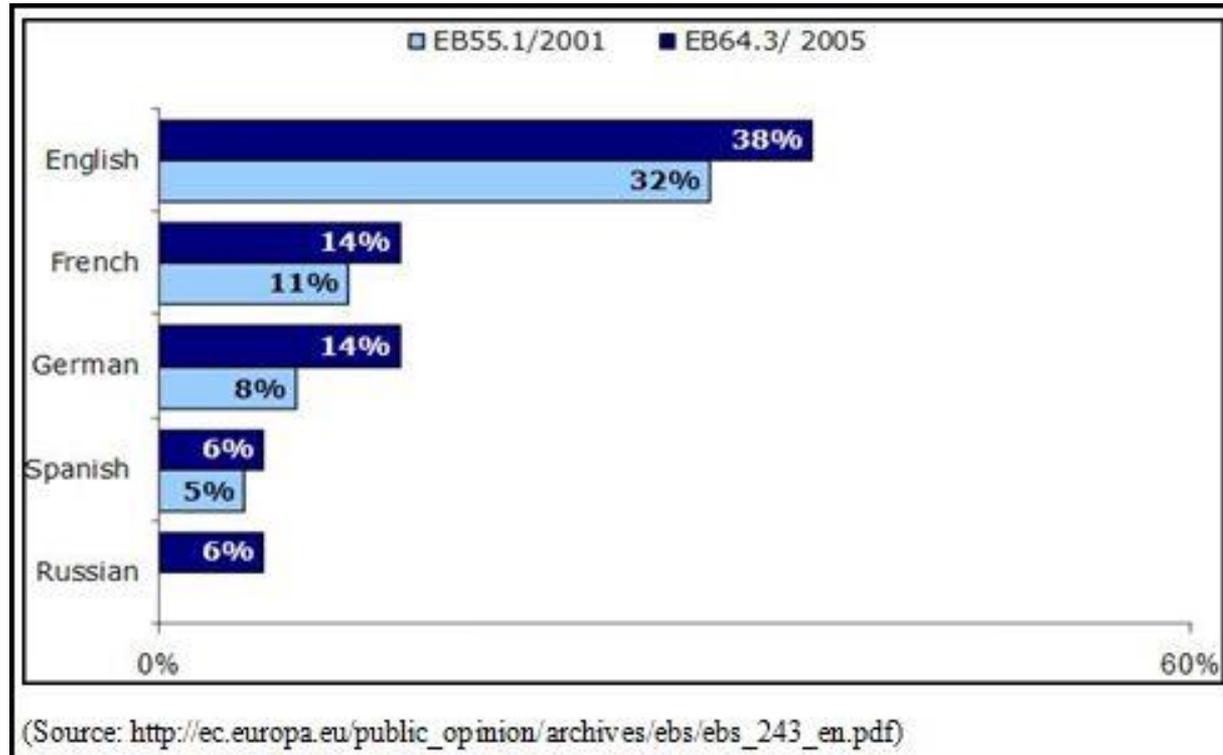
P. 10

Read first paragraph

Study chart

Read commentary

Table 1: Which languages do you know well enough to have a conversation, excluding your mother tongue?



Data Commentary and Comparison

1. What is the purpose of sentences 1 and 2?
2. What information is given in sentences 3 to 5?
3. What is the purpose of the last sentence of paragraph 1?
4. What is the purpose of the second paragraph?

Data Commentary and Comparison

5. Which tense is prevalent in this text?
6. Study the language in the text.
7. Identify the two lexical nets in this text.

Now read the analysis on page 11.

Data Commentary and Comparison

The **writer** must provide the **reader** with the following information:

Topic sentence which explains:

- the subject(s) of the tables/charts
- information about the source of the tables/charts
- date in which information was collected/published.

Data Commentary and Comparison

The **writer** must select what he/she considers to be the most significant data to comment on.

This could include:

- a marked change

OR

- data that indicates very little change.

Table 2: Languages that you speak well enough in order to be able to have a conversation.

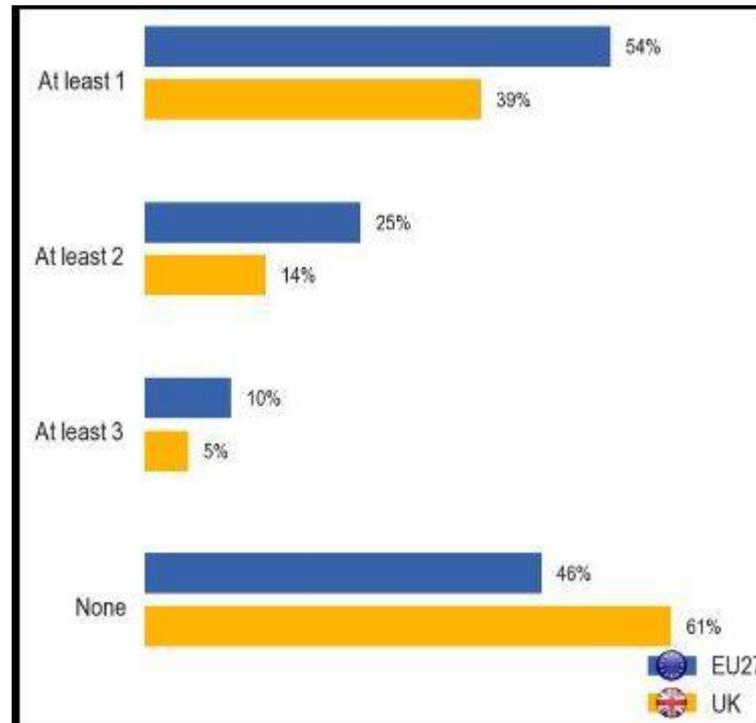
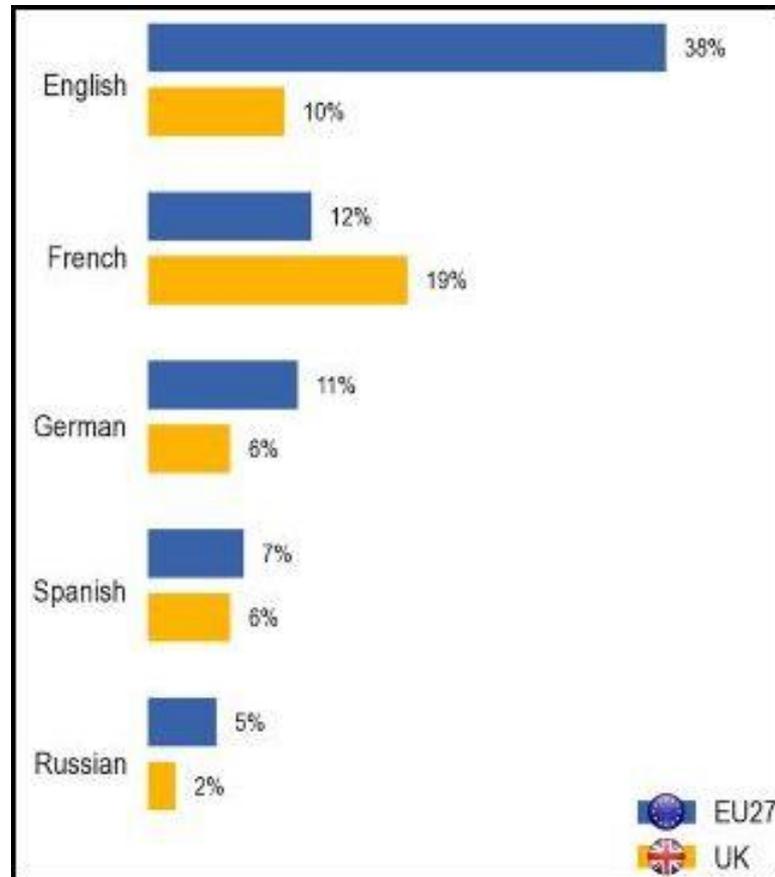


Table 3: Languages that you speak well enough in order to be able to have a conversation.



Writing

Work with a partner and write a commentary for table 2 on page 12.

- Table 2 is from the 2012 Special Barometer survey on multilingualism published by the European Commission.
- The table illustrates the number of languages that EU citizens speak well enough in order to have a conversation, comparing data for the EU27 to data for the UK.
- Just over half of EU27 citizens (54%) are able to hold a conversation in at least one additional language to their mother tongue.

- A quarter (25%) are able to speak at least two and one in ten (10%) are conversant in at least three.
- All these percentages are noticeably higher than those for the UK.
- In fact, only 39% state they can hold a conversation in at least one additional language.
- Slightly over one in ten (14%) are conversant in two and only one in twenty people in the UK (5%) are able to converse in at least three languages.

- Surprisingly, just under half of those living in the EU27 (46%) state they are unable to speak any foreign language well enough to have a conversation.
- In the UK, however, the figure is much higher (61%).
- This may be due to the dominance of English as the most common foreign language in the other EU countries which might lead people in the UK to make less of an effort to learn foreign languages.

(220 words)

Homework for lesson 3

- Revise today's work. Read again for language and analysis.
- p. 12: finish commentaries
- p. 18: Complete gapfill. Check answers in dispensa.
- p. 21: read article
- p. 22: watch video and answer questions. Check answers in dispensa.
- pp. 37-39: read information on modality.
- p. 42: do exercises 1 and 2. Check answers in dispensa.