

The Study and Production of Texts

Lesson 3

Homework for today

- Revise class 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.

Table 3, page 12

Table 3 contains statistics from the 2012 Special Barometer survey on multilingualism in the European Union published by the European Commission.

It illustrates the five most spoken foreign languages, namely English, French, German, Spanish and Russian, that EU citizens speak well enough in order to have a conversation, comparing data for the EU27 to data for the UK.

Table 3, page 12

French is the only foreign language in which speakers are more numerous in the UK compared to those in the EU27. In fact, almost one in five (19%) declare they can converse in French whereas this drops to just over one in ten (12%) for those in the EU27.

This noticeable difference might be due to the fact that French has always been the first foreign language taught in British schools.

Table 3, page 12

As regards English, 38% of EU27 citizens are comfortable having a conversation in English. One in ten people (10%) in the UK declare they know it well enough in order to have a conversation. This statistic reflects those residents who are not mother-tongue speakers.

Table 3, page 12

Despite being the language with the highest number of native speakers, German is used in conversations by just over one in ten (11%) of those living in the EU27. This figure is much lower for those in the UK, however, where only 6% of the population have a good enough knowledge for conversations.

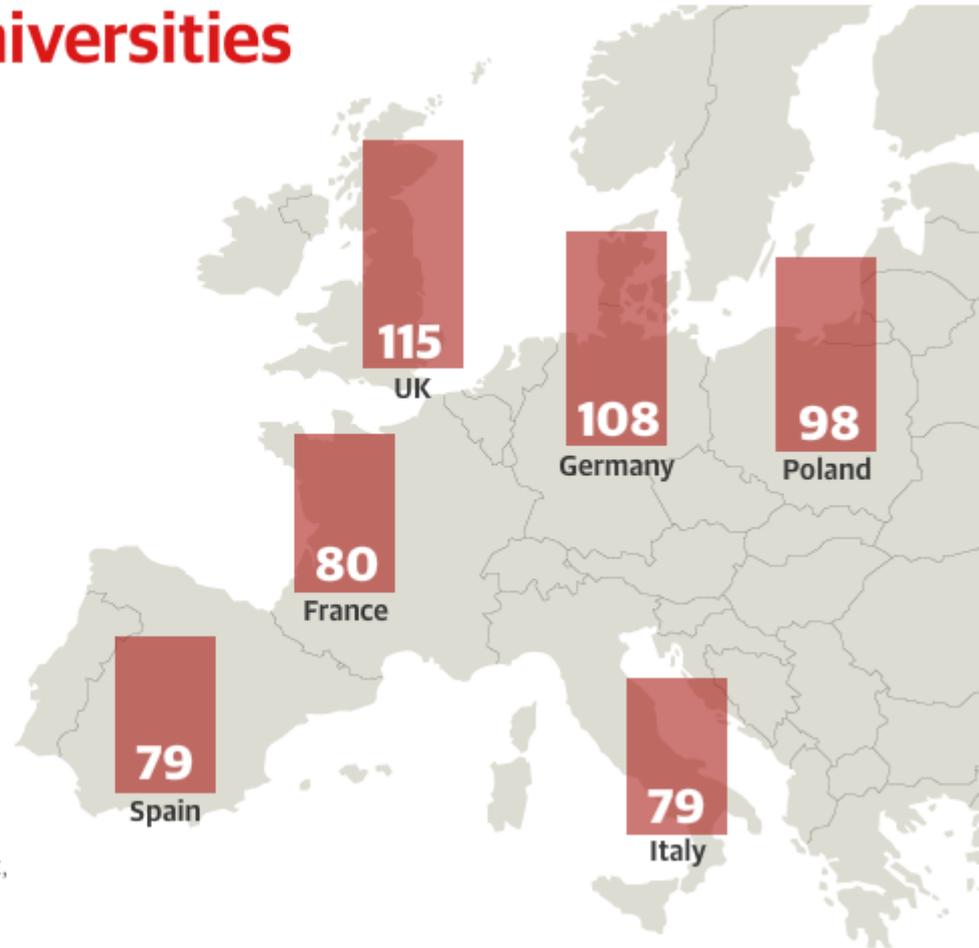
Table 3, page 12

Spanish and Russian have the fewest speakers. Data regarding conversational ability in the former show a difference of only one point with 7% of EU citizens and 6% of UK residents declaring they can use it successfully to converse. Predictably, Russian is the language that is least known in both the EU27 and the UK (5% vs. 2% respectively). This can be explained by the fact that three former Soviet independent states, namely Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, where Russian is spoken, only joined the EU in 2004.

(313 words)

Number of universities

- Number of Universities »
- Number of students »
- Students - per cent »
- Cost »
- Students studying abroad »
- Drop out rate »



Sources: HESA, Universities UK, OECD, BIS, Statistisches Bundesamt, HIS. Spanish, Polish, Italian governments, UNESCO,

Student numbers

Students in tertiary education

- Number of Universities »
- Number of students »
- Students - per cent »
- Cost »
- Students studying abroad »
- Drop out rate »

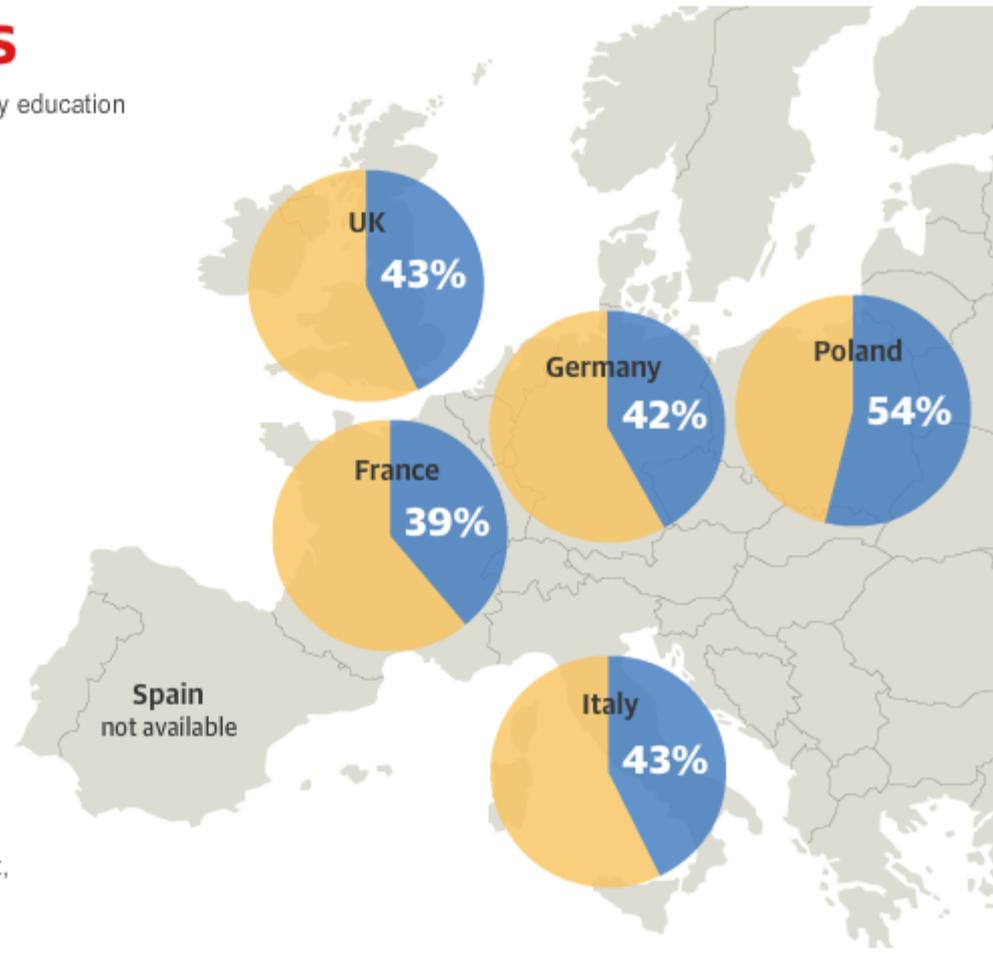


Sources: HESA, Universities UK, OECD, BIS, Statistisches Bundesamt, HIS. Spanish, Polish, Italian governments, UNESCO,

% of students

Percentage of young people in tertiary education

- Number of Universities »
- Number of students »
- Students - per cent »
- Cost »
- Students studying abroad »
- Drop out rate »



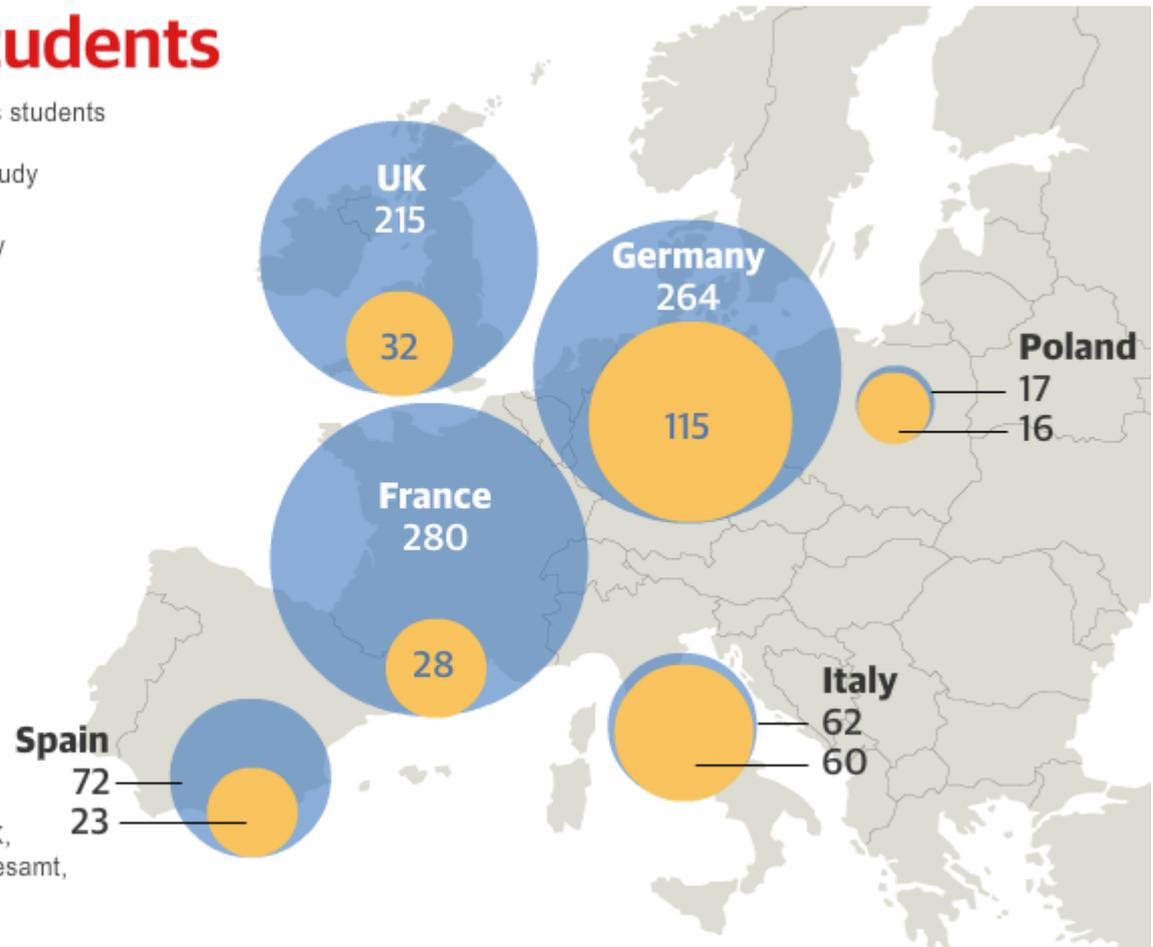
Sources: HESA, Universities UK, OECD, BIS, Statistisches Bundesamt, HIS. Spanish, Polish, Italian governments, UNESCO,

Overseas students

In thousands, includes Erasmus students

- Travelling to country to study
- Travelling abroad to study

- Number of Universities »**
- Number of students »**
- Students - per cent »**
- Cost »**
- Students studying abroad »**
- Drop out rate »**

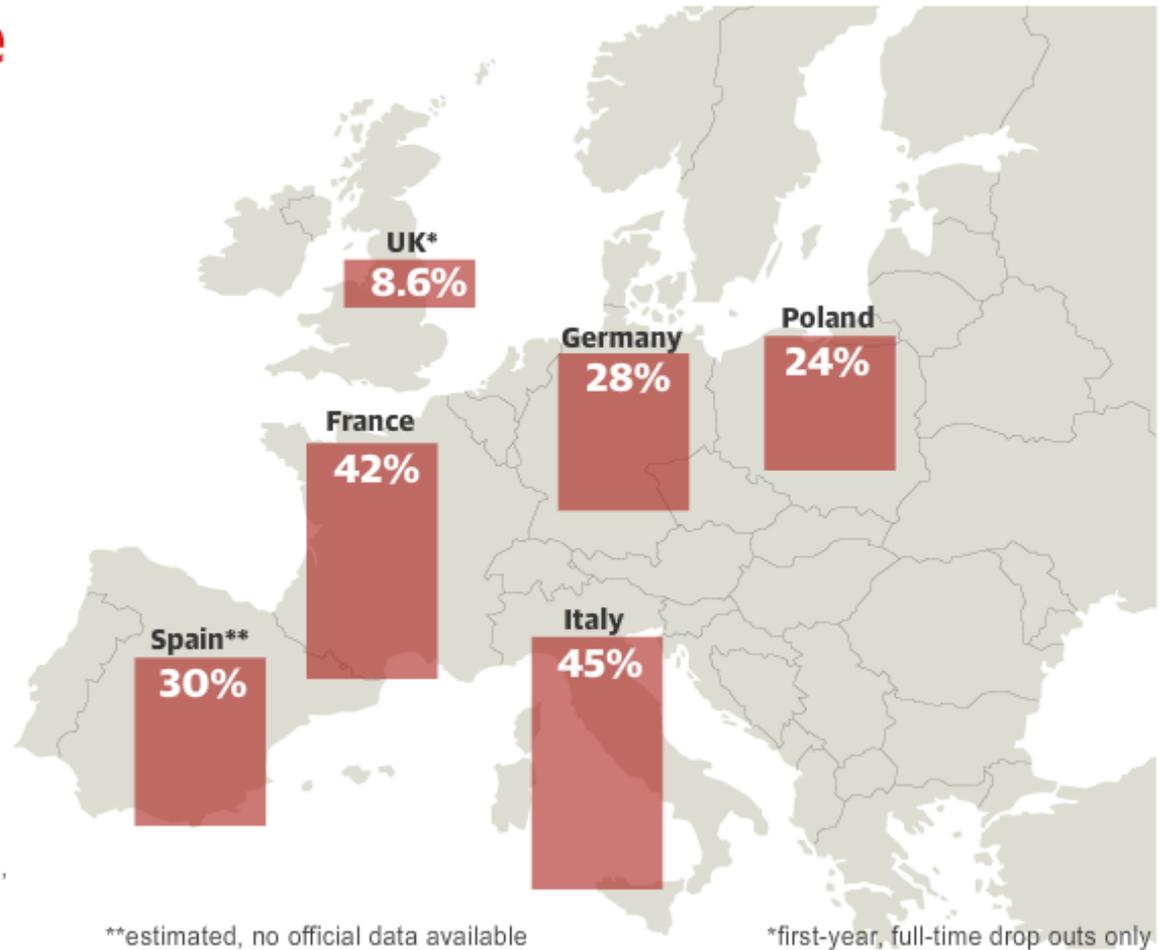


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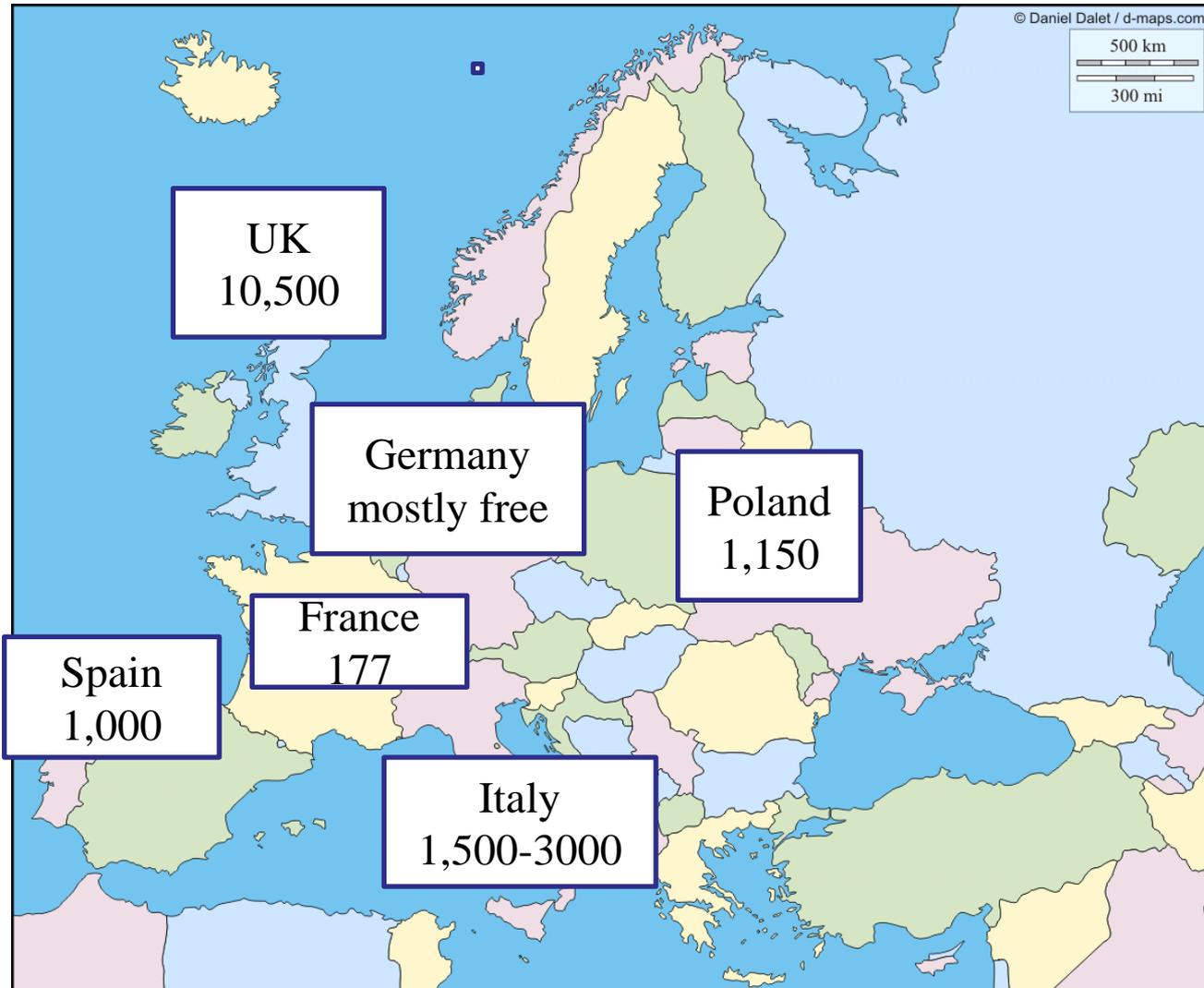
Drop-out rate

Percent

- Number of Universities »
- Number of students »
- Students - per cent »
- Cost »
- Students studying abroad »
- Drop out rate »



Annual Tuition Fees (euros)



Homework for lesson 4

- p. 19: Read the article and study the tables. Do not do the writing task.
- p. 54: Read article on Latvia and Russian
- Download and read the file on factivity
- Download and read the commentaries for tables 2 and 3, p.12
- Write a data commentary comparing the drop-out rate for Italy and the UK (slide 12). Use the information about tuition fees on slide 13 as a possible explanation about the drop-out rate.