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Subject: Re: Languages

Posted by [Spoony](#) on Fri, 06 Jul 2007 16:21:37 GMT

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Doitle wrote on Fri, 06 July 2007 06:12 You want to know the real reason? My mom has probably run into a handful of people who don't speak English in her life. Not everyone is some globe trotting bohemian. The majority of the people who go through the US Education system have no reason to learn another language because they will never use it. They'll never leave the country and will never be put in a situation where knowing another language will be important. In Europe your borders are very close and so it is pretty likely you will be meeting a lot of people who don't speak your language. For most of us in the US we can't just drive a short bit and cross a national border. It's like a 10+ hour drive to Canada from my state. That's the closest foreign nation. Guess what... They speak English...

Likewise for the British. Travelling around Europe, you can get by just with English in most countries. Not ideally, but you can get by.

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