

ACE²
EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY



**Applied
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Engaged**

EXPLORE

**the languages
in the ACE²-EU**





MACEDONIAN

FACT: MACEDONIAN IS WRITTEN IN THE CYRILLIC ALPHABET, WHERE EACH SOUND MATCHES EXACTLY ONE LETTER, MAKING IT VERY PHONETIC AND EASY TO READ.

Unique features of the Macedonian language:

Phonetic spelling system:

- Words are pronounced exactly as they are written.
- It uses Cyrillic alphabet and letters like А, Б, В, Г, Д, Ѓ, Ж, Љ, Њ, Ч, Ш, each representing a single sound.
- The article is added at the end of words (e.g., книга → книгата = “the book”).

No grammatical cases:

- Meaning is shown through word order instead of case endings.

А, Б, В, Г, Д, Ѓ, Е, Ж, З, С,
И, Ј, К, Л, Љ, М, Н, Њ, О,
П, Р, С, Т, Ќ, У, Ф, Х, Ц, Ч,
Џ, Ш.





SPANISH

FACT: SPANISH IS THE SECOND MOST SPOKEN NATIVE LANGUAGE IN THE WORLD (AFTER MANDARIN CHINESE) AND IS USED ACROSS MORE THAN 20 COUNTRIES.

Unique features of the Spanish language:

Consistent pronunciation:

- Spanish vowels are always pronounced the same way, making it easy to read.

Simple vowel system:

- There are only five vowel sounds (a, e, i, o, u), giving Spanish a clear and rhythmic sound.
- Words are usually pronounced as they are written.
- Accents (á, é, í, ó, ú) show which syllable is stressed and can change meaning.





PORTUGUESE



FACT: PORTUGUESE IS THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGE OF NINE COUNTRIES ACROSS FOUR CONTINENTS (EUROPE, SOUTH AMERICA, AFRICA, AND ASIA).

Unique features of the Portuguese language:

Global Presence: It is the official language of Portugal, Brazil, Angola, Mozambique, Guinea-Bissau, Cabo Verde, São Tomé and Príncipe, Equatorial Guinea, and Timor-Leste.

Demographic Weight: It is spoken by approximately 260 million people, making it the most spoken language in the Southern Hemisphere.

Nasal vowels: Portuguese has distinct nasal sounds (e.g., ão, õe) that are a hallmark of the language's phonology.

Linguistic Diversity: While European and Brazilian Portuguese differ noticeably in phonetics and vocabulary, they remain part of a unified global language.

Accent marks: Accents are essential to indicate both vowel quality and syllable stress.





GERMAN

FACT: GERMAN IS FAMOUS FOR VERY LONG COMPOUND WORDS, LIKE “DONAUDAMPFSCHIFFFAHRTSGESELLSCHAFTSKAPITÄN = DANUBE STEAMSHIP COMPANY CAPTAIN”, CREATED BY COMBINING SMALLER WORDS. OFFICIAL LANGUAGE OF GERMANY AND THE PRIMARY OFFICIAL LANGUAGE OF AUSTRIA.

Unique features of the German language:

- German combines words to form longer terms (e.g., Streichholzschachtel = “matchbox”).
- All nouns are written with a capital letter.

Grammatical cases:

- German uses cases to indicate grammatical roles.

Different vocabulary in Germany and Austria:

- Some everyday words differ
- (e.g., Kartoffel (Germany) vs. Erdapfel (Austria) = “potato”).





LATVIAN

FACT: LATVIAN IS ONE OF ONLY TWO SURVIVING BALTIC LANGUAGES AND PRESERVES MANY ANCIENT INDO-EUROPEAN FEATURES.

Unique features of the Latvian language:

Pitch accent system:

- Latvian uses tone (pitch) to distinguish meaning in some words.
- Vowel length can change the meaning of words.

Grammatical cases:

- Latvian uses cases to show relationships between words.

Special letters:

- The alphabet includes characters like ā, ē, ī, ū, č, š, ž.





LITHUANIAN

FACT: LITHUANIAN LANGUAGE HAS PRESERVED MANY ANCIENT FEATURES OF THE INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES, WITH SOME WORDS SHOWING SIMILARITIES TO SANSKRIT.

Unique features of the Lithuanian language:

Archaic Indo-European features:

- Lithuanian has preserved many ancient features of Indo-European languages.
- Some words resemble those found in Sanskrit.

Complex grammar:

- Lithuanian has rich verb forms and grammatical cases.

Special letters:

- The alphabet includes letters like *ą, č, ę, è, į, š, ū, ž*.





ROMANIAN



FACT: ROMANIAN IS A ROMANCE LANGUAGE SURROUNDED BY SLAVIC LANGUAGES, CREATING A UNIQUE MIX OF LATIN AND SLAVIC INFLUENCES.

Unique features of the Romanian language:

- Postposed definite article:
- Romanian adds “the” at the end of words (e.g., lup → lupul = “the wolf”).
- Latin roots with Slavic influence:
- Many core words come from Latin, while others show strong Slavic influence.

Preserved grammatical cases:

- Romanian still uses cases (like Latin), which are mostly lost in other Romance languages.

Special letters:

- The alphabet includes unique characters: ă, â, î, ș, ț.





POLISH

FACT : POLISH USES THE LATIN ALPHABET WITH SPECIAL CHARACTERS LIKE Ł, Ś, Ź, WHICH GIVE IT A DISTINCTIVE LOOK AND PRONUNCIATION.

Unique features of the Polish language:

- Rich system of consonant sounds:
- Polish has many “sh” and “ch”-like sounds (sz, cz, ś, ź), giving it a distinctive sound.
- Complex consonant clusters:
- Words can have many consonants together (e.g., szczęście = “happiness”).

Grammatical cases:

- Polish uses cases to show meaning and relationships between words.

Special letters and diacritics:

Letters like ą, ę, ł, ś, ć, ź, ż give Polish its unique spelling and pronunciation

