

**At the end of the lesson, the student will be able to:**

* explain the importance of the English language; talk about the English ability of their nation 10 years ago and the changes in the English ability of his/her countrymen.

**Let's Read!**

Realizing that nation's future **prosperity** will depend a lot on its English communication skills, the countries' leaders began to place the highest priority on English education beginning in the mid- 1990s.

English speaking ability has been essential for getting a job with any of the major multinational corporations in most countries. Job applicants have to pass oral interviews in English—usually conducted by native speakers—in order to be considered for important positions. Nowadays it would be impossible for college graduates with no English ability to land a good job with a major corporation in their own countries.



Let's Talk

1. How do you feel about having to learn English? Explain your answer.
2. How important is English conversation ability to the success in today's business- world? Tell me why you think so.
3. Looking 20 years ahead, what changes do you think will occur with the English ability of Japanese compared to today?
4. What do you think of the idea making English an official language of Japan? Do you think it will ever happen? Tell me why you think so.