

English rules the world! Or perhaps not.

You only have to take a trip abroad to realize that English has become the *lingua franca* for the global family. No matter your destination, the language that joins us is the one that the people of the British Isles created many centuries ago.

British colonization served as the fuel to help **spread** the language, **aided** later by western **industrialization** and the rise of the United States as a global **powerhouse**. The end result is that when you go to any hotel today, the reception clerk is likely to greet you with "How was the flight?" The **implicit gamble** is that English is the one foreign language you speak on some level.

But to **dismiss** the importance of local languages is **short-sighted**. When you want the reader to truly understand what you are communicating, writing in the native tongue is **vital**. It is simply easier to **grasp** what you are saying. For companies with employees all around the world, this means that documents must be translated. While the process takes resources, the end result is **worth the effort**.

Just think of the last time you saw text with multiple language options. Chances are your eyes automatically **scanned** for your native language. While you understand English, you can do what is instructed far easier when you see text in the language that your mother speaks to you in.

So, yes, while English may **rule** the world, it does not dominate. Local languages still **prevail**, and they are not going away any time soon.

Glossary

aid	help
be worth the effort	there is a good reason to work toward something
dismiss	ignore
gamble	risk
grasp	understand
implicit	implied, not directly expressed
industrialization	the process of developing industries in a country
powerhouse	a powerful place or organization
prevail	continue to exist
rule	run, be in power
scan	search
short-sighted	not considering how an action will affect the future
spread	expand
vital	very important

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