

2 For questions 1–12, read the text again and think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only one word in each gap.

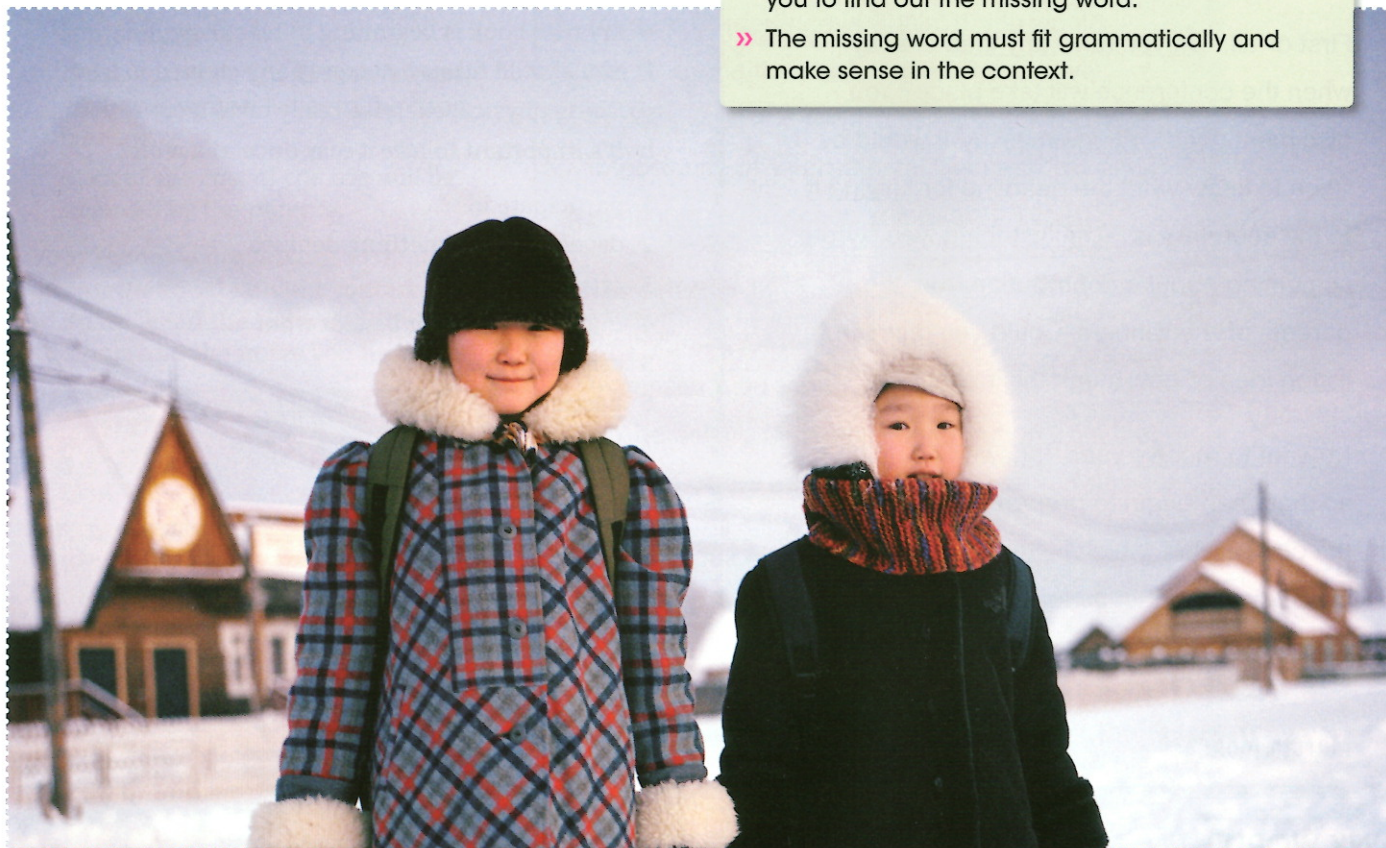
OPEN CLOZE

1 Read the text quickly, ignoring the gaps. Find out how many languages there are in the world. How many are spoken by more than 100 million people?

» EXAM HELPLINE

Part 2: Open cloze

- » Quickly read the title and the text for gist.
- » The sentence before or after each gap may help you to find out the missing word.
- » The missing word must fit grammatically and make sense in the context.



LANGUAGES IN DANGER

It appears that 90% of the world's languages are likely to disappear in the next half century, ⁰ according to research conducted recently. One such language is Tofa, which is only spoken by about 60 people who live in central Siberia. The language ¹ _____ also spoken by Manchester University's Gregory Anderson, who is fluent enough to be ² _____ to express what he wants to say.

Academics from the university are holding an 'Endangered Languages Day' tomorrow. They ³ _____ play videos of native speakers and talk about ⁴ _____ own field trips around the globe to investigate languages ranging from Faroese, with 50,000 speakers, to Banawa, one of 300 languages spoken in the Amazon Basin.

There is ⁵ _____ shortage of languages in the world: at the last count, ⁶ _____ were about 6,000 – but 4% of them are spoken by 96% of the world's people. About 10 languages, ⁷ _____ English, Arabic and Hindi, are spoken by more than 100 million people each, so there is little need to worry ⁸ _____ them. On the other ⁹ _____, languages with a slim chance of survival need help. A language survives ¹⁰ _____ it can be transmitted from parents to children. Every language counts because it is the storehouse of the culture of the people ¹¹ _____ speak it. As ¹² _____ as the last speaker of a language is lost, the cultural memory of a people is gone forever.