

# LEARN THE ESPERANTO LANGUAGE

## The International Second Language

In existence since 1887. Millions of speakers in over 135 countries. Not intended to replace any existing languages. Easier and faster to learn than any other language. Thousands of books written in, and translated into, Esperanto. Complex enough to say anything from any language. Make contact with people in foreign countries on the Internet or when you travel. Add a language to your resume.

The alphabet: a, b, c, ĉ, d, e, f, g, ĝ, h, ĥ, i, j, ĵ, k, l, m, n, o, p, r, s, ŝ, t, u, ŭ, v, z (no: q, w, x, y)

Vowels (the same as in English): a, e, i, o, u

Each letter has a unique sound that never changes (they sound as found in English except the ĥ which has a guttural German sound). Each letter in a word is sounded. Sixteen basic grammar rules. For starters:

- Nouns end in “o”
- Adjectives end in “a”
- Adverbs end in “e”
- Direct objects end in “n”
- Plurals end in “j”
- Verb tense ending is added to the root word (no verb conjugating): past: “...is”, present: “...as”, future: “...os”, infinitive: “...i”, conditional: “...us”, imperative: “...u”.
- nouns do not have genders.

Vocabulary is mostly from Slavic, German, Russian, Latin roots often occurring in the English language (cognates) so many are recognizable.

Frequent use of affixes reduce the vocabulary to learn.

To make a sentence into a question start it with “Ĉu.”

### Learning Resources:

Duolingo (on the Internet)

Teach Yourself Esperanto (1992, old but a good book)

Complete Esperanto (2018), (online exercises spoken in the Esperanto language)

Esperanto – Learning and Using the International Language (good, but getting hard to find – a recent updated reprinting in 2017) (free pdf version online at Esperanto-USA), (inexpensive e-book version on Amazon)

International Esperanto exams are available to certify proficiency.

USA National Organization: Esperanto-USA.org

Local Contact:

Lots of Zoom groups on the Internet.

Start your own group to help learn and use the language, give support and provide conversation.

The 2023 Summer Esperanto Workshop (NASK) will be in Raleigh the first week of July at William Peace University, Raleigh, NC. Preadmission requirement: Must have completed a basic text or online course. Stipends for students will be available. For more information: [admin@esperantic.org](mailto:admin@esperantic.org)