Today, a large number of people across the world use English every day. About four hundred million people use English as their first language, and nearly 1.2 billion people use it as their second language. This means a total of 1.6 billion people speak English today! English is a very international language. It is not only spoken by native speakers but also by people from around the world, including Japan and Africa. Now, with so many people using English, new words are being added all the time. This influence is making the English language more international than ever before.

## Questions:

(1) About how many people use English in the world today?
(2) Which of the following is true about the English language in the world today? (circle one)
(a) English is an official language in all countries in Japan and Africa.
(b) English is the favorite language of people all around the world.
(c) English is used by people from across the world except for Japan and Africa.
(d) No one speaks English.
(3) Which of the following is happening to English today? (circle one)
(a) New words in English are making it sound like an Asian language.
(b) English speakers are becoming global citizens.
(c) English is becoming more international with an increasing number of new words.
(d) A large number of English words are used by native speakers of other languages.

## VOCAB time!!

(1) What do you think international means?
(a) All across the world
(b) Just in Japan
(c) Just in Africa
(2) What do you think one million means?
(a) 1000
(b) 100,000
(c) $1,000,000$
(d) 100
(3) What do you think one billion means?
(a) 100,000
(b) 1,000,000
(c) 1,000
(d) 1,000,000,000
(4) What do you think native speakers mean?
(a) People who speak the language as their second language.
(b) People who don't know that language at all.
(c) People who are learning that language now.
(d) People who have spoken that language their entire time.

