

VIDEO SCRIPTS

UNIT 1

Using an app to learn a language is a smart way to improve a useful skill. But what about learning a language that won't help you to communicate at work or on holiday? There are hundreds of thousands of online learners who don't worry about that. They're learning Esperanto. It's not the official language of any country, so why are people learning it?

It may not have a country, but Esperanto has a flag. The green colour represents hope and the white colour represents peace. It's this message that is attractive to many learners. Esperanto was invented by a Polish eye doctor, Ludwig Zamenhof, who wanted to improve communication between people of different cultures around the world. Here in his home town, Białystok, they haven't forgotten the optimistic doctor, who was nominated for 13 Nobel Peace Prizes.

Zamenhof had lived in places where different communities did not speak each other's languages. This seemed to him to cause arguments and fighting. He wanted to create a simple global language which could encourage people from different cultures to share their ideas and understand one another better. Today there are about two million Esperanto speakers around the world.

[Esperanto speech]

Every language learner needs an opportunity to practise speaking and listening, so there are Esperanto conferences in countries from Canada to Korea.

Each summer, here at Chateau Grésillon, in the Loire Valley in France, Esperanto-speaking families from all over the world meet to speak, listen, and learn. There are immersion courses for beginners and people who want to improve, too.

Esperanto speaker: If you have five minutes, I'll teach you all you need to know about conjugating verbs in Esperanto. Five minutes! I've done it before. It's all you need, and then you're ready to roll.

Unlike many other languages, Esperanto is extremely easy to learn. It has only 16 basic rules, no irregular forms and only 1,000 root words. That's one other reason that people learn it. Esperanto teaches them about how a simple language works so they can understand the irregularities of other languages better.

Chao Chao from China is fluent in Esperanto. She often travels to meet other speakers.

Chao Chao: It's thanks to Esperanto that I've seen the world. It's a bridge for me to travel around the world.

Events like these may soon have even more guests, that's when online Esperanto learners look for ways to use their new language.

More than one hundred years after his death, there's no doubt that Doctor Zamenhof's dream is still alive with today's Esperanto speakers.

UNIT 2

In Los Angeles, these children may be visiting an art gallery and having fun, but they're also learning about science and getting ready for their futures!

Lauren Rodrigues: So what we're asking kids like you to do is to think about the city of the future. And how can we improve the city of the future using art and technology.

This is STEAM learning. It adds art to the traditional STEM subjects of science, technology, engineering and maths, putting an A in STEAM.

The children are designing inventions that will make everyday life more convenient and fun – things like street lights that give more light when someone walks by and a new rubbish collection robot.

Jamie Mann: So, bringing in the science and mixing it with the art, I think you really get a better understanding of each subject by knowing more about the other.

In America's schools, achievement in science and technology is low compared with other countries. Private schools are investing in their STEM programmes to help their students succeed. But these children don't go to private school.

They're from south Los Angeles – where half a million children currently live below the poverty line. Many of these children have never even been to a gallery before. The Marciano Art Foundation in Los Angeles and education organisation Genesis want to give children like them the chance to get a STEAM education. The children are programming Ozobot robots.

Child 1: Um ... We're using the Ozobots to pick up trash and put 'em in these trashcans.

Child 2: We're here to, um, make like a little 'village' for our Ozobots to pick up the ... to pick up the trash because we want to make our future better.

Child 3: Uh, we had some ups and downs, like the first time we made ours, it kept on going like off of the line. So we had to make our lines thicker.

Sheri Schlesinger says STEAM sessions like these are a great way for these children to develop the skills of the future, such as problem solving and innovative thinking. She says 70% of the jobs of the future haven't been invented yet, but there won't be many unskilled jobs like cleaning or waiting tables. It will be harder for people who don't have skills to make money. That's why it's more important than ever for children to get the right kind of education.

UNIT 3

Being a twin ... it's probably the closest relationship two people can have. But only about three percent of the population are twins, and everybody else wants to know what it's like. Twins get a lot of questions about their relationship, and that can sometimes make them feel different from other people.

Not in this school, though. At Pearce High School there are 10 sets of twins in one year. They also have a set of triplets.

Chakosa Powell: I think the best thing about having so many multiples in the same year is that the students are kind of in a group, and they take care of each other. You know, it's kind of like, they have this kind of sisterhood or brotherhood, like they're all twins and it's kind of like, oh, there are the twins. You know? They hang out together; they become friends.

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Girl: Um, we're similar in pretty much every way, I guess, except she's way more creative than I am, so she generally has to help me with art projects. And then she has a rounder face. That's apparently how most people tell us apart.

In Twinsburg, Ohio, there's a twins festival. Every year about 2,000 sets of twins come from across the USA and the world to celebrate what it means to be a twin.

Twin 1: Being twins, it's actually really awesome, because you're automatically born with a best friend that you get to experience everything growing up together with. And nobody gets – nobody gets you like your twin.

Twin 2: Yep. Couldn't have said it better myself.

Identical twins often interest other people the most. They can also cause confusion ... even to their own parents.

Man: Yeah, it happens quite often. Even, um, our parents when they were alive, especially on my mother's side. She'd call me Jack, and I'd say, 'I'm Jon!' One time, I had to show her my driver's licence because she didn't believe me.

Here in Igbo Ora, Nigeria, they are holding the World Twin Festival. The town calls itself the twin capital of the world.

Man: This town has the highest number of twin births, if not in Nigeria, in the world because out of 1,000 births, we have 158 twins.

That's a lot of twins! It's nothing new here. A British doctor studied the live births in Igbo Ora between 1972 and 1982. There were 45 to 50 sets of twins in every 1,000 live births here, compared to 33 in 1,000 births in the USA. The locals say it's the food they eat, but the scientists say local people have the gene for multiple births.

The people of Igbo Ora want to encourage twins from around the world to visit them. Any twins who come here certainly won't feel like the odd ones out!

UNIT 4

Michaela: Hi guys, and welcome back to 'Fun-Size Style.'

She has tens of thousands of YouTube subscribers, but Michaela Davert is not your average fashion and beauty vlogger.

Michaela: It's fun to put on make-up and get all glammed up and put on a nice outfit. I absolutely love it.

Eighteen-year-old Michaela is just over 76 cm tall and suffers from *osteogenesis imperfecta*. This rare condition causes her bones to break very easily. It's made her life more challenging than most people's.

Michaela: I've had probably nearly, um, 90 fractures within my lifetime and about, uh, 25 surgeries. Uh, when I was younger, I broke really easily, um, I think though that people were almost like afraid to even get near me. It was extremely hard for me to make friends sometimes, but ... I made a couple, but I'm kind of glad that that chapter in my life is over, for sure.

With my arm span, I can't do the perfect Vs, but it works for me and I ... I make it work.

Michaela's positive energy despite her disability has gained her thousands of followers.

Michaela: Um, my channel 'Fun-Size Style' is mainly about make-up and fashion, um, kind of, just accepting, like, what you naturally look like. You see a lot of girls on the Internet and in magazines and how you should look, and I wanna try and change that by making these videos and telling girls that you're beautiful just the way that you naturally look.

She gets a lot of positive messages from her subscribers.

Michaela: It's just, the support is just amazing. Let's see what else we got. This girl says, 'Love you. You inspire me to do anything. Go girl!' Somebody said, 'I thought you were already wearing make-up when you first started this make-up tutorial. You have a beautiful, natural complexion. Loved this video.'

Michaela's mum also suffers from the rare condition. She's very proud of Michaela.

Mum: And, I think how Michaela inspires people is they instantly see that, 'Oh my goodness! This girl has a lot to deal with every day,' and look at her attitude! She's smiling! I mean, she's talking about make-up, she's talking about things that are important that have nothing to do with her challenges. She's overcoming those things and living a happy life.

Michaela: Don't let your medical condition or disability be the excuse, or stand in the way. You may have to do things differently than 'normal' people do, but that's OK. If there's something that you want to accomplish in this world, then definitely, go for it!

UNIT 5

Losing a flipper might be enough to slow most turtles down. But not Benjamin. This loggerhead turtle amazed his rescuers by swimming over 500 kilometres with only three flippers.

When rescuers at the nonprofit organisation Equinac found Benjamin, his right flipper was caught in fishing equipment. The flipper was almost dead, and the vets couldn't save it.

Equinac looked after Benjamin for two years until he grew bigger and stronger and learned to swim with three flippers.

Before they put him back in the ocean, they attached a tracking device to his shell. Benjamin surprised everyone by travelling through the Strait of Gibraltar and out into the Atlantic, before making his home at a beach in Cádiz, on the Atlantic coast of Spain.

Fishing boats and their equipment are just one of the many dangers for turtles, alongside hunting, climate change, pollution, and tourism. There are seven species of sea turtles, and all of their populations are getting smaller.

Turtles lay their eggs on some of the most beautiful beaches in the world, and that means they often have to share them with tourists.

Here at the Kuriat Islands in Tunisia, tourists have come to enjoy the sun and sand, but under these plastic chairs there are turtles' eggs. Instead of trying to stop the tourists from coming here, the government has made a new kind of plan.

They've asked the environmental organisation, Notre Grand Bleu, to teach people about the turtles. Many of the tourists say they didn't know Tunisia had sea turtles before they came here.

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One thing the tourists learn is that turtles can't choose where they lay their eggs. Here in Nicaragua, at La Flor beach, sea turtles have been laying their eggs for millions of years. The turtles have a special magnetic sense which brings them back to the beach they hatched on. They travel hundreds, or thousands, of kilometres for food and then return to the exact same beach to lay their own eggs. When the eggs hatch, the young turtles must run to the sea, avoiding hungry sea birds. Then they must swim for at least 24 hours in order to find food. In Guatemala, locals and tourists are helping the young turtles to make the difficult journey.

Only about one in every thousand baby sea turtles survives in the wild ... but there are hundreds of projects like this around the world, where people are giving the turtles a helping hand.

UNIT 6

At Uluru, one of Australia's most famous sights, the path to the top of the 348-metre-high landmark has closed forever. From 1930 until 2019, tourists from around the world came to climb Uluru – perhaps not realising how important the rock was to the local people, the Anangu.

But that has changed. October the 26th, 2019, was a day of celebration for the Anangu. Closing the climb was an act of respect for their ancient culture and the rock that is so important to them. Anangu, other locals, and tourists met at Uluru to celebrate closing the climb together.

Uluru stands at the heart of the Anangu's land. The Anangu have lived there for thousands of years – perhaps as many as 30,000 years.

The rock is deeply important to the Anangu. In their culture, climbing it has always been forbidden. As Anangu children grow into adults, more and more traditional stories about Uluru are told to them. The stories are special cultural knowledge that is passed from generation to generation.

And so, it is against the traditional laws of the Anangu to tell these stories to people from other cultures. That's why only adults from the Anangu culture know exactly why the rock must not be climbed.

Tourists are still welcomed to the Anangu's lands in Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park. The Anangu say they want to teach others about their lifestyle and traditions, and show tourists how the Anangu's lives connect to this wide-open country.

Today tourists can walk, cycle, Segway, or even take a camel ride around the 9.1 kilometre base of Uluru. There are guided walks to special places near the rock, and tourists can hear some of the Anangu's stories about these places. There's also a huge variety of cultural sights and wildlife here. However, some parts of Uluru are so important to the Anangu that tourists are not allowed to photograph them.

Traditional dot painting classes are a great way to create memories ... or tourists can photograph the night skies over Uluru in an astrophotography class.

The Anangu hope that tourists will continue to visit the area, but they say that they don't care about money. They are happy that Uluru will never be open to climbers again.

UNIT 7

This is Rob Greenfield, environmental activist and now urban forager. He's learning to survive only on what he can find in nature in one of America's big cities: Orlando, Florida.

Rob: So when I moved here, this abundant garden was just a lawn, like that.

For the past year, Rob hasn't spent a cent on food. Instead, he finds what he needs in the city around him and grows the rest in this garden. Rob wants to teach people that it is possible to live in an urban area without eating food from a shop.

Rob: All of my food has either come from my garden, or that I've foraged from nature, which could be going to the ocean to collect my own salt, going fishing or collecting fruit from trees.

Until the age of 25, Rob's only ambition was to be a millionaire by the time he was 30. But his life changed when he learned about the environmental issues facing his generation.

Today, Rob's breakfast bowl contains venison, sauerkraut, green papaya, turmeric, red pepper, coriander, garlic, dill and sea salt, all cooked up in coconut milk.

The venison comes from a dead deer that Rob found on a road in Wisconsin during his summer vacation. The Florida climate is too warm to collect roadkill, but otherwise, it's a great place to find or grow fruit and vegetables.

Rob: Really good.

Rob doesn't own property in Florida, and he doesn't want to. He's made his tiny home in a friend's back yard. It has everything he needs. There's an open-air kitchen, where he stores and cooks his food, and even free running water.

Rob: So, this is rainwater, and that's what I drink when I'm in Orlando.

Nature is not only Rob's grocer, it's his pharmacy, too!

Rob: So, growing and foraging 100% of my food for a year also includes growing and foraging 100% of my medicine. I mean, my favourite way to get my medicine is directly from the earth. Ooh! That's good, fresh stuff.

I don't take any vitamins or supplements at all. I grow my vitamins as well.

Rob grows his food and medicine here and at three other gardens around the neighbourhood. He keeps four beehives, which provide him with honey.

He hopes that other people will learn something from him.

Rob: I want to inspire them to question their food and then to change their diets, to start to grow their own food, to support local farmers and eat in a way that's better for the earth, our communities and ourselves.

UNIT 8

Meet Cuba's first Internet stars. These young YouTubers have reached thousands of people around the world – despite the challenges of the island's Internet services.

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When Frank Camallerys first started his YouTube channel, he had to walk to Havana's seafront, the Malecon, to upload his videos. The Malecon was one of the few places with wi-fi until late 2018, and like most Cubans, Frank had no Internet at home.

Internet cafés didn't open on the island of Cuba until 2013, and people weren't able to get home Internet or use public wi-fi until 2017.

Frank Camallerys: The act of creating a video and having to walk two or three kilometres to upload it for 30 or 40 minutes for it to be on the Internet shows how much value we give to what we're doing.

Frank's videos of the beautiful country of Cuba attracted many international followers – and today his channel has many thousands of subscribers. He's just one of about 50 YouTubers from Cuba who started out this way.

Pedro Veitia's 'Pedrito el Paketero' channel has also been very successful, but very few of his first subscribers were from Cuba. Internet access for most Cubans is only possible over a pay-by-the-hour wi-fi system, so it's too slow for watching things like YouTube videos.

Pedro Veitia: Normally when a YouTuber starts out, he hopes to have the support of the population. But among my followers, only a small percentage lives in Cuba.

Emma Lopez's channel, 'Emma Style,' has thousands of followers. Her fashion and make-up vlogs are for Cubans who want to get a high-fashion look, but may not be able to buy all of the products. Emma says only three people watched her first video, but now, thanks to improvements in Internet connections to towns outside of Havana, she has subscribers all around the country. And she doesn't want people to feel bad for Cuban YouTubers.

Emma Lopez: We don't want people to know us as Cuban YouTubers, as people for whom everything is more difficult. We don't want that. We want to be recognised for our work.

They're the first generation of Cuba's Internet stars, but more will follow as the islanders get access to cheaper and faster Internet. The government has big plans to upgrade Cuban Internet services. But for now, USB drives and public wi-fi are the way for this generation of YouTubers to reach audiences around the world.

UNIT 9

Pop music festivals are the highlight of the summer for people around the world. And perhaps the mother of them all is Glastonbury Festival of the Performing Arts, which takes place on a working dairy farm in Somerset, England. Since 1970, the cows have been moving aside to let thousands of music lovers camp in their fields.

Glastonbury Festival is organised by Michael Eavis, the farmer who owns the site. Since the first festival, when people paid just one pound for a ticket and drank free milk from Eavis's cows, Glastonbury has grown into an international event.

Crowd: 3 ... 2 ... 1 ... Woo!

On the last weekend in June, 135,000 lucky ticket holders are welcomed to the site – Glastonbury is the largest greenfield music festival in the world, so it's a long walk to the campsite. But nobody seems to mind!

The farm is transformed with colour and art. And the festivalgoers add their own colour, too. Dressing up is all part of the Glastonbury fun. Friends and family often choose a theme for their costumes. Their creations get more amazing every year.

Around 30% of the audience is here for the first time. The festival, with over 60 stages of music and entertainment, is like a magical city for them to explore. The largest stage is the Pyramid Stage, where the biggest international rock and pop stars play to crowds of more than 100,000 people.

There's something for everybody at Glastonbury: every possible kind of music, circus, comedy, fun and games. And if that's all too much, you can always relax at the Stone Circle. At night, huge sculptures come to life to the sounds of famous DJs.

Perfect festival weather is not guaranteed here in the English countryside. Rain can make the site extremely muddy and difficult to get around. Experienced festivalgoers come prepared with boots and waterproofs. And it doesn't seem to affect the fun!

Family: Oh Mr. Sun, Sun! Mr. Golden Sun! Hiding behind the tree!

Very hot weather is also a possibility, and it's important that people stay hydrated. Free water is available all around the site. They stopped selling plastic bottles here in 2019. People fill up their own water bottles here instead.

Glastonbury Festival is over 50 years old now, and it's more popular than ever. The 135,000 camping tickets are sold within 30 minutes of going on sale in October, so if you want one, you'll have to be fast!

UNIT 10

Joan Harding is 89 years old. But for people like Joan, age is just a number. It's not about what you can't do anymore. It's about doing everything you can with the time you have. That's why she's celebrating her 90th birthday by doing her first skydive.

Joan: I imagine it's going to be a swish of air to begin with and then that lovely feeling of floating.

Instructor: So, er, as we said, yeah, arms in nice and tight, head back a little bit ...

Joan is preparing to parachute from a plane more than two miles up. She'll then fall through the air for 45 seconds before landing back on solid ground. Joan's not worried, though. She'll be jumping with an instructor, and her doctor has said she's fit enough.

In fact, you don't need to be a fit young athlete to skydive. There are only two things that matter. Are you a healthy weight for your height, and can you lift your legs high enough that you can land safely? If you can answer both these questions with a 'yes,' then your age is not important.

Joan: The first bit out the plane was a bit surprising. It took my breath away. But, er, after that it was smashing. I just floated.

Joan's jump raised £900 for charity, and she's not the only elderly person willing to jump out of a plane to help others.

Ted: I'm ready to go, yeah! I've been ready to go since 6:30 this morning.

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Instructor: What we're going to do then, Ted, is try your goggles on over your glasses.

Ted and Fred are both 91 years old. They're raising money for a charity that helps war veterans.

Fred: We're doing this today for the Taxi Charity, who do such a lot for the veterans and the disabled. And, er, they're a great bunch of people.

Despite his brave comments, Fred is a bit worried about an old injury. He was shot in the leg during the Second World War.

Both men are war veterans, but only Fred has parachuted before.

Interviewer: Feeling good?

Fred: It was great, great! Cold up there.

At a time in their lives when we might expect these elderly people to need help from others, they are challenging themselves and, at the same time, helping others.