

15 *Where are you from?*

Finding out about people

- 1 How many countries are working on the International Space Station project?
Who is Dino Brondolo? Read and find out.



Today, sixteen countries are members of the International Space Station project: Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Japan, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States. They have a station in space where people can live and work, and where they do research and scientific experiments. Come and meet one of the people working on the project.



This is Dino Brondolo. He's from Asti in Italy. He's a Development Manager and he builds logistics modules. When Dino isn't working, his hobby is making wine. Dino's family has a vineyard and he goes there at weekends. His other hobby is football. His favourite team is Juventus.

'The scientific research is very important, but the teamwork is the most important thing.'

- 2 Work with a partner. Take turns to ask and answer the questions about Dino.

- 1 Where's Dino from?
- 2 What's his job?
- 3 What does he do?
- 4 What does he do at weekends?
- 5 What's his favourite football team?

A Where's Dino from?

B He's from Italy.

- 3 Dino is from Italy. He's Italian. What other nationalities are there in the team?

Example

Belgium – There are Belgian people.

- 4 Here's another member of the team, but some information is missing. Think of words to complete the text. Use your own ideas.

This is Sylvie Beland and she's from¹.
Sylvie is a². She organizes hardware deliveries to the space station. Sylvie has³ children and when she isn't working, her hobbies are⁴. She likes sports too, especially⁵.



'I feel proud of this work and proud of the team.'

- 8 Imagine a new person is joining your team at work. Prepare some questions to ask them. Use these words.

What / name? *What's your name?*.....
Where / from?
What / job?
have children? *Do you have any children?*
(Yes.) How many? *How many do you have?*..
have a hobby?
(Yes.) What?
Which sports / like?
What / favourite TV channel?
.....
What / favourite football team?
.....
have a nickname?
(Yes.) What?

- 5 Here's the missing information, but it's in the wrong order. Put it in the right place in the text.

- a reading and gardening
- b two
- c Canada
- d tennis, swimming, jogging, and cycling
- e mechanical engineer

- 6 If a-e are the answers, what are the questions?

Example

reading and gardening → What are Sylvie's hobbies?

- 7 Work with a partner.

A – look at the information here.

B – look at file 28 on page 111.

A

- 1 Here's some information about Takayoshi Nishikawa, another member of the International Space Station team. Answer your partner's questions.

- 2 Ask your partner questions and complete this information about Robert Curbeam.

1


Name: Takayoshi Nishikawa
Country: Japan
Job: astronaut trainer
Hobbies: swimming, diving, running, cycling
Favourite TV channel: ESPN Sports



'Live in space? Yes! But I'd prefer to be a tourist.'

2

Name: Robert Curbeam
Country:
Nickname:
Job:
Other job:
.....



'I'm hoping that our research helps open new doors.'

Countries and nationalities

- 1 Which country are you from? What's your nationality? Which language(s) do you speak?

I'm from Switzerland. I'm Swiss.

country

nationality

I speak French, German, and Italian.

languages

- 2 Complete the table with words from the list.

Australian	German	the Netherlands
French	Japanese	Italian
Brazil	Argentina	Korean
Canadian	Sweden	the United States
Portugal	Spain	Thailand
Belgium		

Country	Nationality
France	
	Spanish
	Belgian
Korea	
	Brazilian
Italy	
Canada	
	Swedish
	Thai
	Argentinian
Australia	
Japan	
	Portuguese
	American
Germany	
	Dutch

- 3 What languages do people speak in these countries?

Statistics

- 1 Say these statistics.

1 2% 3 70% 5 1.3%

2 21% 4 79%


Example


2% two per cent

- 2 Complete the text with the numbers in 1. Use each number once.

.....¹ per cent of the earth is covered by water. The air on the planet is² per cent nitrogen and³ per cent oxygen, and carbon dioxide levels are increasing. Cities cover⁴ per cent of the world's land surface and the world's population is growing by⁵ per cent a year.



- 3  Listen and check your answers.

- 4  Listen and complete another text. This time write the fractions.



.....¹ of the world's population lives in cities. People in cities use² of the world's energy.³ of the world's energy is used for transport, and cars use half of that.⁴ of the world's cars are in Western Europe and North America.

Saying fractions

$\frac{1}{2}$ (a) half

$\frac{1}{3}$ a third

$\frac{1}{4}$ a quarter

$\frac{1}{5}$ a fifth

$\frac{1}{10}$ a tenth

$\frac{2}{3}$ two-thirds

$\frac{3}{4}$ three-quarters

$\frac{9}{10}$ nine-tenths

5 Say these percentages as fractions.

- | | | |
|-----------|-------|-----------|
| 1 25% | 4 75% | 7 20% |
| 2 50% | 5 90% | 8 66.66%* |
| 3 33.33%* | 6 10% | |

Example

25% is a quarter

* We say the number is *recurring*. Example thirty-three point three three recurring

6 What's your first language? Can you speak more than one language? (If you can, what's your second language?) Read the article.

- How many people speak your language?
- How many people speak English as a first language?
- How many people speak English as a second language?

THE WORLD'S MAJOR LANGUAGES

(first language speakers – millions)

Chinese	1,113
English	372
Hindi/Urdu	316
Spanish	304
Arabic	201
Portuguese	165
Russian	165
Bengali	125
Japanese	123
German	102
French	70
Italian	57

Chinese is the world's top language. There are about six billion people in the world and eighteen per cent speak Chinese. Around six per cent speak English as a first language. But another six per cent speak English as a second language. And millions more can speak a little English. Roughly a quarter of the world's population speaks some English. English is the international language of science and technology.



7 Find three words in the article that mean *approximately* (~).

8 Work with a partner. Practise saying these numbers exactly and approximately.

- | | |
|-----------|-----------------|
| 1 798 | 5 680,016 |
| 2 3,006 | 6 6,978,321 |
| 3 998,891 | 7 7,000,562,144 |
| 4 41,995 | |

- Seven hundred and ninety-eight.
- So that's roughly eight hundred.
- That's right.

9 Work with a partner.

A – look at the information below.

B – look at file 25 on page 110.

A

Ask your partner for the missing statistics and write them down. Answer your partner's questions. Which statistics are the most interesting?



WORLD POPULATION STATISTICS

1 How many babies are born each second?

.....

2 How many people die each second? 3

Source: Musée National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, 2001

3 How many people are: 14 or younger? %

15 to 59? 60 %

60 or older? 10 %

Source: United Nations world population prospects, 2000

4 How many people are: male? female? 3,005,616,000

Source: United Nations world population prospects, 2000

5 How many people live in:

Asia? %

Africa? 13 %

Europe %

Latin America and the Caribbean? 9%

North America? 5%

Oceania? 1%

Source: United Nations world population prospects, 2000

6 How many people are:

Christian? %

Muslim? 22%

Hindu? %

not religious? 14%

other religions? 16%

Source: adherents.com, 2001

7 How many people live on \$2 a day or less? 1/3

8 How many people have no access to clean water?

Source: United Nations, 1999