

language['læŋgwɪd] *n*

1. **язык**
 - the Russian [the English] language - русский [английский] язык
 - finger language - язык жестов, язык глухонемых
 - living [dead] language - живой [мёртвый] язык
 - working language - рабочий язык (*в международных организациях*)
 - the working languages of this committee are English and Russian - рабочими языками этого комитета являются русский и английский
 - language arts - *амер.* обучение чтению, письму, литературе *и т. п.*, словесность (*школьный предмет*)
 - language shift - переключение на другой язык (*о говорящем на иностранном языке*)
 - language department - отдел переводов (*ООН*)
 - a degree in languages - диплом об окончании филологического факультета *или* института иностранных языков
 - science of language - языкознание
2. **речь**
 - spoken language - разговорный язык; устная речь
 - written language - письменность; письменный язык
 - articulate language - членораздельная речь
 - literary language - литературный язык
 - substandard language - просторечие
 - he has a great command of language - он прекрасно владеет языком, у него прекрасная речь
3. **характер языка; стиль, слог**
 - fine language - изысканный язык, цветистый стиль
 - strong language - сильные выражения
 - bad /foul/ language - сквернословие
 - language of poetry [of science] - язык поэзии [науки]
 - business language - деловая речь; язык деловой переписки
 - language of law - юридический язык
 - diplomatic language - дипломатический язык
 - the language of Shakespeare - язык Шекспира
4. **дип.** формулировка
5. **вчт.** язык программирования ЭВМ
 - ◇ not to speak the same language - совершенно не понимать друг друга
 - they don't speak the same language - они говорят на разных языках

language

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

lan·guage [language languages] *BrE* ['læŋgwɪd] *NAmE* ['læŋgwɒd]

noun

OF A COUNTRY

1. **countable** the system of communication in speech and writing that is used by people of a particular country or area
 - the Japanese language
 - It takes a long time to learn to **speak a language** well.
 - Italian is my **first language** .
 - All the children must learn a **foreign language** .
 - She **has a good command of the** Spanish **language** .
 - a qualification in **language teaching**
 - They fell in love in spite of **the language barrier** (= the difficulty of communicating when people speak different languages) .
 - Why study Latin? It's a **dead language** (= no longer spoken by anyone) .
 - Is English an **official language** in your country?
- see also** ↑modern language

COMMUNICATION

2. **uncountable** the use by humans of a system of sounds and words to communicate
 - theories about the origins of language
 - a study of **language acquisition** in two-year-olds

STYLE OF SPEAKING/WRITING

3. **uncountable** a particular style of speaking or writing
 - **bad/foul/strong language** (= words that people may consider offensive)
 - **literary/poetic language**
 - the language of the legal profession
 - Give your instructions in everyday language.
- see also** ↑bad language

MOVEMENTS/SYMBOLS/SOUND

4. **countable, uncountable** a way of expressing ideas and feelings using movements, symbols and sound
 - the language of mime

- the **language** of dolphins/bees
- see also** ↑body language, ↑sign language

COMPUTING

5. countable, uncountable a system of symbols and rules that is used to operate a computer

- a programming language

Idioms: ↑mind your language ▪ ↑talk the same language

Word Origin:

Middle English: from Old French **langage**, based on Latin **lingua** 'tongue' .

Thesaurus:

language noun

1. C, U

- Italian is my first language.

dialect • |**formal idiom** • |**literary old-fashioned tongue** •

• speak **in** a/an language/dialect/idiom/tongue

• sb's **native** language/dialect/tongue

• **speak/understand/use/learn/study** a language/dialect

2. U

- The document was written in very formal language.

wording • • **terms** • • **vocabulary** • • **terminology** • • **usage** •

• **in...** language/terms/vocabulary/terminology/usage

• **formal/informal/everyday** language/terms/vocabulary/usage

• **use** ... language/wording/terms/vocabulary/terminology

Synonyms:

language

vocabulary • terms • wording • terminology

These are all terms for the words and expressions people use when they speak or write, or for a particular style of speaking or writing.

language • a particular style of speaking or writing: ▪ Give your instructions in everyday language. ◇▪ the language of the legal profession

vocabulary • all the words that a person knows or uses, or all the words in a particular language; the words that people use when they are talking about a particular subject: ▪ to have a wide/limited vocabulary ◇▪ The word has become part of advertising vocabulary.

terms • a way of expressing yourself or of saying sth: ▪ I'll try to explain in simple terms.

wording • [usually sing.] the words that are used in a piece of writing or speech, especially when they have been carefully chosen: ▪ It was the standard form of wording for a consent letter.

terminology • (**rather formal**) the set of technical words or expressions used in a particular subject; words used with particular meanings: ▪ medical terminology ◇▪ Scientists are constantly developing new terminologies.

Literary/poetic terminology is used for talking about literature or poetry. **Literary/poetic language** is used for writing in a literary or poetic style.

formal/informal/everyday language/vocabulary/terms

business/scientific/technical/specialized language/vocabulary/terminology

A word **enters** the language/the vocabulary.

Example Bank:

- Computers will never be able to understand natural language.
- Her command of language is very advanced for a six-year-old.
- His letter was couched in very formal language.
- His strength is that he addresses his readers in plain language.
- How many foreign languages does she speak?
- I got by with broken Chinese and sign language.
- Latin is a dead language.
- Most local cinemas show films in the original language, with German subtitles.
- Not all deaf people use sign language.
- Portuguese is the national language of Brazil.
- She could speak some Chinese, but never studied the written language.
- She grew up in Mexico, so her first language is Spanish.
- She reserved her harshest language for those she believed had betrayed her.
- Some minority languages are dying out.
- The referee told the players to mind their language.
- The writer's use of language reflects the personality of each character.
- You could tell from his body language that he was very embarrassed.
- idiomatic expressions that enrich the language
- manuscripts written in an unknown language
- new methods of language learning
- people using foul language

- the teaching of English as a second language
- Have you got a qualification in language teaching?
- He has a good command of the Spanish language.
- Italian is my first language.
- She's got a degree in modern languages.
- The following programme contains strong language.
- They fell in love in spite of the language barrier.
- They were shouting and using bad/foul language.
- Why study Latin? It's a dead language.

language

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

lan **gʌ** **ʒ** **l** **W1** /'læŋgʌɪʒ/ *BrE* *AmE* *noun*

[Date: 1200-1300; Language: Old French; Origin: langue 'tongue, language', from Latin lingua]

1. ENGLISH/FRENCH/ARABIC ETC [uncountable and countable] a system of communication by written or spoken words, which is used by the people of a particular country or area:

- " How many languages do you speak?
- " one of the best-known poems in the English language

2. COMMUNICATION [uncountable] the use of written or spoken words to communicate:

- " the origins of language

3. STYLE/TYPE OF WORDS [uncountable] a particular style or type of words

legal/medical/technical etc language

- " The letter was written in complicated legal language.

spoken/written language

- " The expression is mainly used in written language.

ordinary/everyday language

- " He is able to explain complicated ideas in simple everyday language.

literary/poetic language

- " The plays are full of old-fashioned poetic language.

language of

- " the language of science

4. SWEARING [uncountable] *informal* words that most people think are offensive

mind/watch your language spoken (=stop swearing)

bad/foul/abusive language

5. strong language

a) angry words used to tell people exactly what you mean

b) words that most people think are offensive **SYN** swearing

6. COMPUTERS [uncountable and countable] *technical* a system of instructions for operating a computer:

- " a programming language for the web

7. SIGNS/ACTIONS/SOUNDS [uncountable and countable] signs, movements, or sounds that express ideas or feelings

language of

- " the language of bees
- " the language of dolphins

⇒ **↑body language, ↑sign language, ⇒ speak the same language** at **↑speak(11)**

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COLLOCATIONS

■ verbs

- **speak a language** Can you speak a foreign language?
- **use a language** The children use their native language at home.
- **learn a language** Immigrants are expected to learn the language of their new country.
- **master a language** (=succeed in learning a language well) She had had a long struggle to master the Russian language.
- **know a language** He had lived in Japan, but did not know the language.

■ ADJECTIVES/NOUN + language

- **a foreign language** He found learning a foreign language extremely difficult.
- **the English/Japanese/Spanish etc language** She had some knowledge of the Spanish language.
- **sb's first/native language** (=the language someone first learned as a child) His first language was Polish.
- **a second language** (=a language you speak that is not your first language) Most of the students learned English as their second language.
- **modern languages** (=languages that are spoken now) The school has a good modern languages department.
- **a dead language** (=a language that is no longer spoken) She didn't see the point of learning a dead language.
- **an official language** (=the language used for official business in a country) Canada has two official languages: English and French.
- **a common language** (=a language that more than one person or group speaks, so that they can understand each other) Most of the countries of South America share a common language: Spanish.

■ language + NOUN

- **the language barrier** (=the problem of communicating with someone when you do not speak the same language) Because of the language barrier, it was hard for doctors to give good advice to patients.
- **a language student/learner** Language learners often have problems with tenses.
- **a language teacher** a book for language teachers
- **language teaching** recent developments in language teaching

phrases

- **sb's command of a language** (=someone's ability to speak a language) Does he have a good command of the language?

• • •

THESAURUS

different kinds of language

- **dialect** a form of a language that is spoken in one area of a country, with different words, grammar, or pronunciation from other areas: Cantonese is only one of many Chinese dialects. | the local dialect
- **accent** the way that someone pronounces words, because of where they were born or live, or their social class: Karen has a strong New Jersey accent. | an upper class accent
- **slang** very informal spoken language, used especially by people who belong to a particular group, for example young people or criminals: Teenage slang changes all the time. | 'Dosh' is slang for 'money'.
- **terminology** *formal* the technical words or expressions that are used in a particular subject: musical terminology | Patients are often unfamiliar with medical terminology.
- **jargon** *especially disapproving* words and phrases used in a particular profession or subject and which are difficult for other people to understand: The instructions were written in complicated technical jargon. | 'Outsourcing' is business jargon for sending work to people outside a company to do. | The letter was full of legal jargon.

techniques used in language

- **metaphor** a way of describing something by referring to it as something different and suggesting that it has similar qualities to that thing: The beehive is a metaphor for human society.
- **simile** an expression that describes something by comparing it with something else, using the words **as** or **like**, for example 'as white as snow': The poet uses the simile 'soft like clay'.
- **irony** the use of words that are the opposite of what you really mean, often in order to be amusing: 'I'm so happy to hear that,' he said, with more than a trace of irony in his voice.
- **bathos** a sudden change from a subject that is beautiful, moral, or serious to something that is ordinary, silly, or not important: The play is too sentimental and full of bathos.
- **hyperbole** a way of describing something by saying that it is much bigger, smaller, worse etc than it actually is – used especially to excite people's feelings: In his speeches, he used a lot of hyperbole. | journalistic hyperbole
- **alliteration** the use of several words together that all begin with the same sound, in order to make a special effect, especially in poetry: the alliteration of the 's' sound in 'sweet birds sang softly'
- **imagery** the use of words to describe ideas or actions in a way that makes the reader connect the ideas with pictures in their mind: the use of water imagery in Fitzgerald's novel 'The Great Gatsby' | She uses the imagery of a bird's song to represent eternal hope.
- **rhetorical question** a question that you ask as a way of making a statement, without expecting an answer: When he said 'how can these attitudes still exist in a civilized society?', he was asking a rhetorical question.

language

Freakuency Pack

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