

that she must seek diplomatic support.

expand, expansion, extend, extension, extent, extensively)

1. _____ of the British Empire fell on the 19th century.
2. The EU has _____ its borders to the East to a great _____.
3. They offer an _____ summer course to English learners.
4. The English vocabulary _____ due to borrowings and productive word-building.
5. Do you happen to know the _____ of the rivers in Russia?
6. All states have been to some _____ affected by these events.
7. The members of the committee are being more _____ consulted *in* their areas of expertise.
8. This way of activity will _____ the role of private actors.
9. Regional conflicts ended an _____ peace.
10. There are opponents to the _____ of the free-trading regime.
11. The civilization of ancient Greece and Rome had _____ its political dominance into North Western Europe.
12. The press usually refers just to newspapers, but the term can be _____ to include magazines.

Exercise 3

Before you read the text below, answer the following questions.

1. How long have you been learning the English language?
2. Is **English** your first, second or third language?
3. Why are you learning it?
4. In what countries is English spoken as the first language?
5. How much is English spread in other countries? Why?

Exercise 4

Now read the text, study the note and do the tasks that follow.

English Invasion No-One Can Stop by Jeremy Geelan

The English language is now the first or the second language of more sovereign states than any other language in the world. In terms of ex-

ports and investments, in terms of technological development, one *had* to learn English to join the 21st century-.

In this context it is not difficult to see why Toyota provides six-month in-service English courses to 1,000 of its employees. In Italy, English is a must for many technical jobs. In Brazil job-hunters are investing their last savings in English lessons because so many prospective employers recruit only workers with a knowledge of English. In China English is the top priority foreign language to be learned at school.

Today's search for information and need for global communication have already promoted English to being the international language. English is considered to be spoken now by 400 million people as the native language in twelve nations and approximately by 800 million people as an official or semi-official language of forty-four countries more.

But why is English rising so far above the world's other tongues? First of all, it has proved to be, up to a certain level of fluency, easier to learn than other languages because of its relatively simple and flexible forms and open vocabulary.

Over the centuries English words have been simplified. Verbs now have very few inflections, and adjectives do not **change according** to the noun. The trend towards simplicity is believed to be a strength of English.

Another strength is the flexibility of function of **individual Words**. As a result of the loss of inflections, English has become a very flexible language. Without inflections, the same word can operate as **many** different parts of speech. Verbs and nouns may have the same form, for example, *spread, answer, demand*, etc. Adjectives can be used as verbs: *warm - to warm; narrow - to narrow*. Prepositions too are flexible: *near - to near; round-a round* (of talks, elections).

Openness of the vocabulary implies that English is a very accepting language. It accepts words from other languages and easily creates compounds and derivatives.

Most world languages seem to have contributed some words to English at certain periods. And it is, above all, a two-way street, absorbing vernacular (local) words and phrases from the very countries into which it expands. The greatest contributors were such languages