



Be a part of South Africa's future!

USE

YOUR

LANGUAGES!



Did you know that it is a universal human right to speak our mother tongues?



Don't lose it

All of the languages that we speak are important for our future development, including for our friendships, our families, our jobs and even for our brains and our health! So, don't lose the languages you speak at home - you'll certainly regret it later in life if you do!



Mother tongues matter

Our mother tongues play a very important part in our lives - they are not only a badge of belonging, but also a resource for creativity, for mental health, and for career prospects.



Get a great job

African language speakers have a crucial role to play in the future. Speaking indigenous languages brings lots of career opportunities in technology, research, business, the creative arts, journalism and much more!



Use it if you don't want to lose it!
#AfricanLanguages



BAQONDE
Learn in Your Language

Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union



Be a part of South Africa's future!

DID YOU

KNOW?



Did you know that it is a universal human right to speak our mother tongues?

LOTS of languages

SOUTH AFRICA HAS 12 OFFICIAL LANGUAGES, 9 OF THESE ARE AFRICAN LANGUAGES. THE MOST RECENTLY ADDED OFFICIAL LANGUAGE IS SOUTH AFRICAN SIGN LANGUAGE! BUT IN FACT, THERE ARE SOME 30 INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES SPOKEN IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Language families

Linguists group languages into 'families' to study them. In South Africa, there are two main language groups:
Nguni-Tsonga languages (isiNdebele, isiXhosa, isiZulu, siSwati, Xitsonga) and
Sotho-Makua-Venda languages (Sesotho, Sesotho sa Leboa, Setswana, Tshivenda).

Endangered languages

Some languages that used to be spoken in South Africa have sadly become extinct, these were part of the Khoisan language family. Let's make sure that ALL of our languages continue to thrive!



Use it if you don't want to lose it!
#AfricanLanguages



BAQONDE
Learn in Your Language



Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union



Be a part of South Africa's future!

DID YOU

KNOW?



Did you know that it is a universal human right to speak our mother tongues?

Language & maths

Using all the languages we speak - being bilingual or multilingual - is linked to better mathematical ability and higher levels of creativity. So don't give up the languages of your parents or grandparents, use them for your own future.

Languages are GOLD

SPEAKING DIFFERENT LANGUAGES IS A REAL ASSET, LEADING TO INCREASED SALARIES AND BETTER CAREER PROSPECTS. THIS INCLUDES AFRICAN LANGUAGES!

Your brain

Did you know that being a bilingual or multilingual person delays the onset of dementia in later life? Speaking different languages enhances brain activity!



Use it if you don't want to lose it!
#AfricanLanguages



BAQONDE
Learn in Your Language



Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union



Be a part of South Africa's future!

OUR African

Languages



Did you know that it is a universal human right to speak our mother tongues?

African Languages are unique

PEOPLE WHO STUDY LANGUAGES DESCRIBE HOW THE LANGUAGES SPOKEN IN AFRICA ARE UNIQUE. SOUTH AFRICA IS VERY SPECIAL, WITH 12 OFFICIAL LANGUAGES.

Kaaps

Kaaps is a unique language that evolved in the Western Cape of South Africa. It emerged as a new language following on from contact between the Khoi and San languages, South-East Asian languages, Dutch, Portuguese and English. Isn't that amazing?

Language & culture

African languages contain really important and specific information about cultural practices, beliefs and knowledge. When we lose those languages, we lose that knowledge and our identity too.



Use it if you don't want to lose it!
#AfricanLanguages



BAQONDE
Learn in Your Language



Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union



Be a part of South Africa's future!

OUR African

Languages



Did you know that it is a universal human right to speak our mother tongues?

South African Sign Language (SASL)

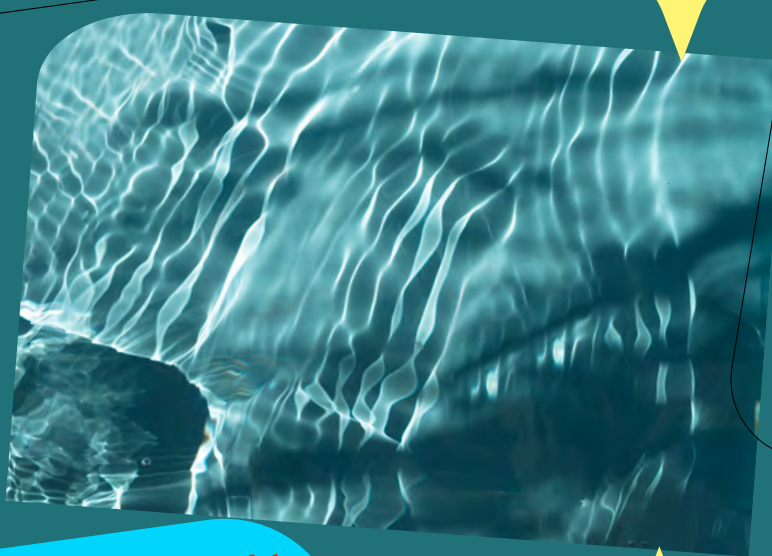
SASL IS ONLY ONE OF MANY DIFFERENT SIGN LANGUAGES USED BY DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING COMMUNITIES IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Nguni languages

Nguni languages are part of the bigger Bantu language family. Nguni languages include Xhosa, Zulu, Ndebele, and Swati. These languages are special because of their clicks. These clicks were introduced a very long time ago due to contact with Khoisan language speakers. Languages change due to contact between people!

Languages are fluid

Languages are more like a liquid than a solid. They change all the time when speakers are in contact with each other. People switch between languages for different purposes and mix their languages. This is all a normal part of human life!



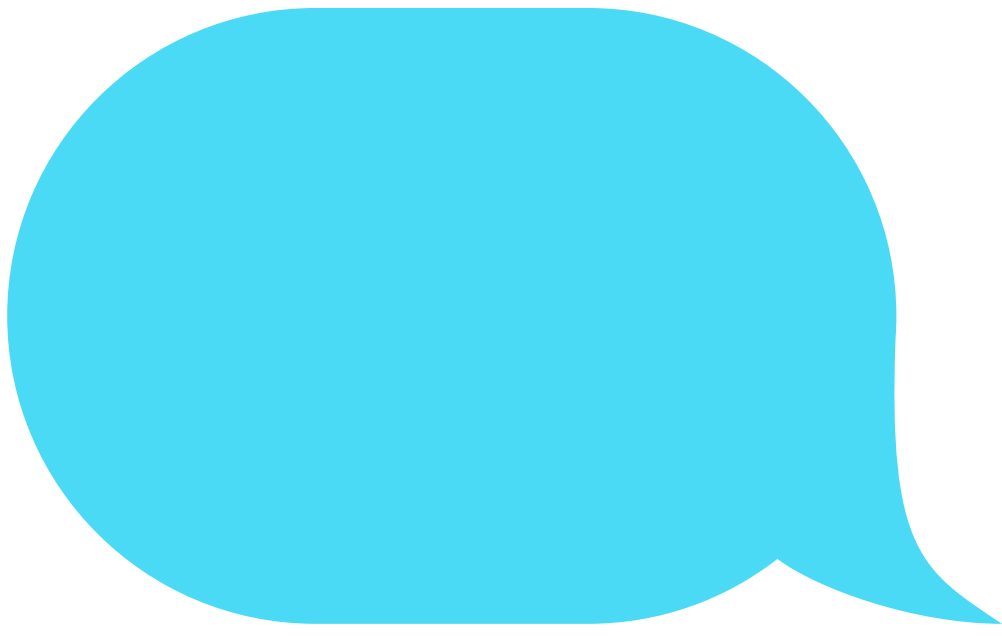
Use it if you don't want to lose it!
#AfricanLanguages



BAQONDE
Learn in Your Language



Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union



Make a language portrait by colouring in this picture to represent all the languages that are important to you. You can choose colours that fit the different languages that you speak and use parts of the body (like head, heart, hands, feet) to represent different things about your languages.



BAQONDE LANGUAGE CHAMPION CERTIFICATE

This certificate is proudly presented
for honourable achievements in
championing African languages to

_____ ◻ _____

Awarded This Day Of

SCHOOL NAME

TEACHER NAME



BAQONDE
Learn in Your Language



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



My FAVOURITE WORDS

1

2

3

4

5

in



Quiz true or false?



-
1. South Africa now has 12 official languages **true** **false**
 2. South African Sign Language is not an official language **true** **false**
 3. The official languages include 5 African languages **true** **false**
 4. Some languages in South African are now extinct **true** **false**
 5. There are about 20 indigenous languages spoken in South Africa **true** **false**
-