A. Can you speak a foreign language?

B. 🔊 CD2 34 Listen and repeat.

C. 🔊 CD2 35 Listen and read.

Did you know that more people speak Mandarin Chinese than any other language? 15% of the world's population speaks Mandarin, but English is the world's international language. Maybe that's because people speak English as their native language on many different continents.

People speak English differently in different parts of the world. The words aren't always the same. For example, if you ask for a biscuit in America, you'll get a kind of bread. In England, Ireland, or Australia, you'll get a cookie. People in America and Canada say they live in apartments but people in England call them flats. In England, 'color' is spelled 'colour' and 'favorite' is spelled 'favourite'.

The pronunciation of words and the grammar are also sometimes different. It's important to listen to the accents of native speakers from around the world so you can understand all of them.

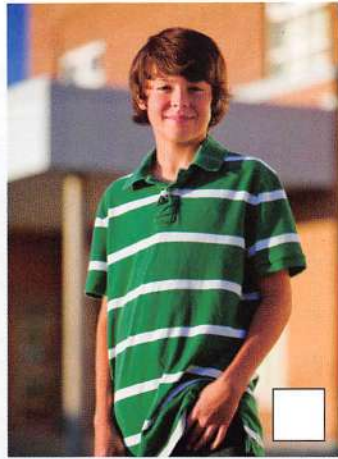| New Words		
Mandarin Chinese	international	Ireland
native language	grammar	Canada
native speaker	pronunciation	accent

D. Is it true? Write ✓ or ✗.

1. Mandarin Chinese is the world's international language. ☐

2. More people speak English than any other language. ☐

3. People speak English on many continents. ☐

4. People speak English in the same way everywhere in the world. ☐

5. English is people's native language in America, England, Ireland, Australia, and Canada. ☐

6. It is important to listen to people from lots of different countries. ☐

A. 🔊 CD2 36 Listen and number in order.

Ireland   Australia   England   America

B. Make a poster about your native language or a different language.

1. Think of the language. Find out about it.
   - How many people speak it as their native language?
   - Where do they live in the world?
   - Are there different accents?
   - Can you understand the different accents?

2. Draw or find pictures or maps. Write.

English

I live in the United States and my native language is English. More than 80% of people in the United States speak English as their native language. People have different accents in every part of the country. For example, people in the south have a very strong accent, but I can still understand them. Over 300 million people in the world speak English as their native language.

ALASKA

CANADA

HAWAII

MEXICO

C. What do you think? Ask a partner.

1. What's your native language?

2. How many languages can you speak?

3. What language would you like to learn? Why?