

# IS MULTI LINGUAL EDUCATION AN ADVANTAGE OR DISADVANTAGE?

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## ABSTRACT:

Multilingual education in India is a disadvantage. Students get confused when they learn English through various languages. Especially students with dyslexia find it very difficult to understand. They must be taught through the colorful drawings. The attractive colors and images get registered easily in the minds of students. Bilingualism also confuses students in many ways. When students learn English through mother tongue the accent is completely lost. There is no unique usage of English among students. So English must be taught only through English. Pictorial representation and placards are very useful to make the students learn English. The black board and chalk piece can never be replaced with modern teaching hence multilingual education in India is a great disadvantage.

## INTRODUCTION:

To prove multilingual education is a disadvantage in India. Students get confused when they learn English through various languages.

## DISADVANTAGES OF MULTILINGUAL EDUCATION IN INDIA:

### BILINGUALISM:

### MERITS:

When students are taught English bilingually there is gaining of vocabulary. Children are exposed to both the languages. There is gaining of words both in English and Tamil or their mother tongue.

### DEMERITS:

When students are taught English in their mother tongue there is lot of confusion. Students get confusion between mother tongue and English. There is also problem in their accent.

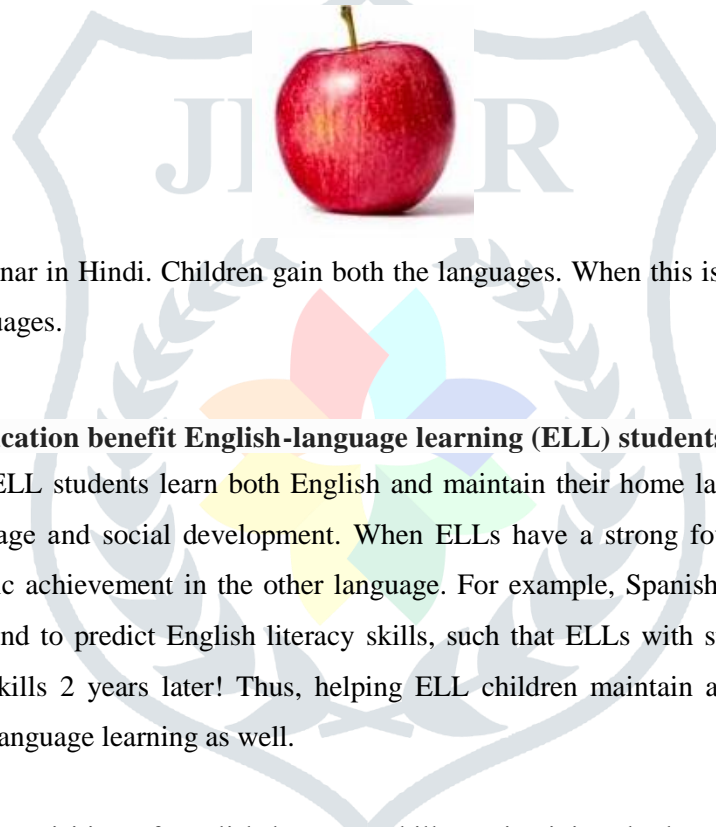
### MULTI-LINGUALISM:

When children are taught English in their mother tongue or any other secondary language there takes place a lot of confusion.

Multilingualism is when a person speaks more than three languages. These people are often called be polyglots, and are admired for their ability to speak many different languages. If you are thinking about broadening your horizons to learn a second, third, or fourth language, you may be wondering what the advantages and disadvantages of multilingualism.

### **MERITS:**

When students are taught English through many languages there is imbibing of vocabulary. Students learn mother tongue along with the foreign language. There is exposure to both the languages for example when the word apple is taught in Hindi and English, it is anar and apple. Students learn both the languages.



This is apple in English and Anar in Hindi. Children gain both the languages. When this is taught to a LKG student he or she is assured of both the languages.

### **How would multilingual education benefit English-language learning (ELL) students?**

Multilingual education helps ELL students learn both English and maintain their home language—both of which benefit these children’s overall language and social development. When ELLs have a strong foundation in one language, also supports learning and academic achievement in the other language. For example, Spanish-speaking ELLs’ oral language skills in Spanish has been found to predict English literacy skills, such that ELLs with stronger Spanish-speaking skills have better English literacy skills 2 years later! Thus, helping ELL children maintain and further develop their home language can support English language learning as well.

In addition to supporting the acquisition of English language skills, maintaining the home language is critical to ELLs’ ability to communicate with their families and communities. Many ELL children lose their oral language skills in the home language when they are placed in English-only monolingual classrooms. Aiding ELLs in maintaining their home language not only supports ELLs’ English-language learning, but also ensures that ELLs do not become disconnected or driven apart from their families and communities. Multilingual education can help ELLs learn English while simultaneously maintain their home language and have good communication with their families and communities.

### **How would multilingual education benefit monolingual English-speaking students?**

Multilingual education provides monolingual students with an opportunity to learn a second language and become bilingual. A large body of research shows that bilingualism benefits various cognitive and social-linguistic

skills, throughout the lifespan. Infants raised in a bilingual environment are more flexible than infants raised in monolingual environments. For example, when infants are shown silent videos of two people speaking in different languages, bilingually-raised infants—compared to mono-lingually-raised infants—are not able to differentiate that the two people are speaking in different languages. On top of this flexibility, bilingual children have a better understanding of the communicative functions and grammatical conventions of language. Bilingual children develop an understanding of grammatical rules and structures earlier than monolingual children, and bilingual preschoolers. Bilingual preschoolers have also been found to be better able to name the language that they speak.

Aside from language-related skills, learning to speak two languages benefits cognitive skills like attention, inhibition, and switching as well. Bilingual children develop these kinds of cognitive skills earlier than their monolingual peers. The reason why researchers think bilingual children develop these kinds of cognitive skills faster is because bilingual children are constantly exercising their cognitive skills each time they speak: bilingual children need to pay attention to what language they're speaking, inhibit speaking in the other language, and switch from one language to the next depending on who they're talking to. And this also seems to have lifelong consequences; bilingual older adults show behavioral symptoms of Alzheimer's about 5 years later than monolingual older adults, even though images of their brains will show similar progression of the disease. In other words, bilingual older adults' brains are able to compensate for beginning Alzheimer's symptoms through the cognitive skills they've been exercising throughout their life.

### **DEMERITS:**

There is problem in their accent. They have difficulty in learning English through all languages.

There is use of lot of time. There IS Difficulty in learning the culture along with their language. Students are tortured for translation. Students get anger when people commit error in their language. We cannot make the listeners understand language in a proper way. We can't make them understand all languages. There cannot be translation for all words. Illegal words are unavoidable. There is head weight among people when they learn all languages. The words are more powerful and they hurt people. There is a difference in both meanings which is the real meaning and contextual meaning. Both meanings disturb people.

### **CONFUSION:**

One disadvantage of multilingual leads to some confusion. Keeping track of so many different languages in your head may confuse the words of the language with another. This can be further dealt if the two languages are similar – such as with Spanish and Italian.

### **POSSIBLE LACK OF PROFICIENCY:**

Although it's a possibility you can obtain native fluency in multiple languages, it is very hard to accomplish. Multilingualism cause to lack high levels of proficiency in some languages, whereas you learned second or third language to native proficiency. For many, students this isn't much of a disadvantage. If planning to travel extensively are move to another country, or translate documents, however, this can be a very large problem.

**TIME:**

The largest disadvantage of multilingualism is the amount of time that takes to accomplish. Learning even one new language makes upwards of two years and that's only to reach an advanced level of understanding, not a native one. Some studies say reaching native fluency can take as long as seven years. If you aren't fully immersed in the culture it is difficult when you move to a country where that language is the native tongue.

**Reference:**

1. <https://www.quora.com/>
2. <https://connectusfund.org>

