

Living in a country where you have to speak a foreign language can cause serious social problems, as well as practical problems. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement?

There is a notion that expatriates are faced with the language barriers such as social interactions and everyday situations. In my opinion, although language barriers are more likely to create many issues, there are not so serious that they cannot be resolved.

On the one hand, it is beyond doubt, if a person could not speak the language of the country that she wants to live in, he/she would be faced with some problems. Not only could this cause social problems, but it also leads to practical problems. For instance, people are more likely to be unable to deal with daily simple activities such as talking with neighbors, going shopping, and doing bank affairs/contacting banks. In addition, as a practical problem, not knowing the language could be the main reason for the high unemployment rate among immigrants and many of them cannot apply for suitable and lucrative jobs because most of these jobs require language skills.

On the other hand, the modern lifestyle obviates the need to speak with others especially in daily tasks. That is to say, today, it is no more required to have face-to-face contact with the people in charge of what we want. Take online shopping as an example, regardless of the language, people could provide their basics without even talking to anyone. Today's practical issues like working; firstly, fluency is more important than accuracy which enables non-native speakers to communicate with the others in their job ambience without major problems. Secondly, if you would be a diligent person, people are more likely to help you in your workplace when you face language problems.

In conclusion, from my point of view, not speaking another language in a foreign country is unlikely to create severe problems.

Although such a person might encounter certain minor issues, the challenges are not that severe to cause debilitating problems.