

Question: Living in a country where you have to speak a foreign language can cause serious social problems, as well as practical problems.

To what ~~extend~~extent ~~you do~~ you agree or disagree with this statement.

My essay:

The language barrier is one of the critical impediments (challenges) to successful communication for people who tend to apply to go abroad to study and work. Some people argue that illiteracy in the dominant local language in a foreign country may lead to social as well as practical challenges for individuals who live overseas. I totally agree with this statement.

To begin with, migrants who do not speak or understand the widely used language in a country are likely to face ~~with~~ problems in adapting to the new environment. They may find themselves unable to deal with daily simple activities such as going shopping and contacting banks. Moreover, the misunderstanding and cultural conflicts due to the lack of foreign languages ability may marginalize them from the local society. In some cases, they even violate the local regulations because of illiteracy which makes them unable to understand the rules to follow.

~~Furthermore~~However, immigrants with high potential for both verbal and written communication skills in the foreign languages may have a better chance of getting a well-paid job. As an example, last year, I lost a postdoctoral fellowship offered by a university in Netherlands due to illiteracy in Dutch which is the official language of the country. In addition, misunderstanding cultural conflicts between immigrants and local individuals may lead to mental health problems such as stress and depression. However, the advent of voice-to-voice translator apps these days helps people solve such kinds of problems.

To sum up, immigrants should learn the language spoken by most of the people of the foreign country they want to live in. So, they are able to communicate well and integrate into the new environment with troubles.