

HOW POLYGLOTS LEARN LANGUAGES (INCLUDING SLOVAK!)

Links to websites

1. **Benny Lewis** (IR): www.fluentin3months.com
 - the biggest blog on learning languages
 - Great sources, tips and videos
 - TED-talk proving Benny has no talent: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0x2_kWRB8-A
2. **Steve Kaufmann** (CAN): www.thelinguist.com
 - You have to start with reading and listening
 - Website www.lingq.com: a great amount of texts with recordings for various levels
3. **Lucas Bighetti** (Brazil): www.languageboost.biz
 - Lists of words based on their frequency (500 most frequent)
 - Video with Lucas speaking Slovak after 3 hours: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8WtfSwztAhY>
 - Video with Lucas speaking Slovak after a week: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HijtysaaRgk>
4. **Gabriel Wyner** (USA): www.fluent-forever.com
 - Flashcards via Anki without translation, just with pictures
5. **Richard Simcott** (UK): www.speakingfluently.com
 - The polyglot hero :), speaks more than 30 languages
 - YouTube (speaking 16 languages, including Czech): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SAtWuQmdexs>
6. **Robin MacPherson** (UK): www.polylingualsolutions.com
 - As a kid, he was told he had absolutely no talent for languages
 - He made an 18-minute-long film about himself: The Life of Rob (I strongly recommend you to watch it) (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RiN1Qdk2o0o>)
7. **Emanuele Marini** (IT): (I don't know about his website)
 - They didn't believe him that he isn't Romanian :)
 - A video where he's being tested in his languages by other polyglots: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ngJMPJa2Aoo>
8. **Luca Lampariello** (IT): www.thepolyglotdream.com
 - Great videos about language learning on YouTube; I strongly recommend them
 - The back-translation method
9. **David James** (Uncle Davey) (UK): www.huliganov.tv
 - The Goldlist-Method: you can receive my video explaining this method upon subscribing for a set of three language-learning videos on my website: <http://jazykovymentoring.sk/3-tipy>
10. **Idahosa Ness**: www.themimicmethod.com
 - Learning through mimicking of the rhythm
 - Video of Idahosa rapping in 8 languages: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p9hij0H8jp0>

What do polyglots have in common?

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|---|---|
| 1. They have no talent for languages! | 5. They practice listening and speaking a lot |
| 2. They learn using their own methods | 6. They are not afraid of making mistakes |
| 3. They mostly learn by themselves | 7. They learn every day in small chunks |
| 4. They learn languages one after another | 8. They enjoy learning languages |

Additional tips for interesting sources:

- An excellent **podcast featuring interviews with polyglots** [EN]: **Actual Fluency** (<http://actualfluency.com/actual-fluency-language-learning-podcast/>)
There's a recent episode with me as the guest: <http://actualfluency.com/afp-105-lydia-machova/>
- **An app for learning vocabulary**, used by many polyglots: Anki (www.ankisrs.net, an app for Android: AnkiDroid, a free alternative for iPhones: Brainscape) - you have to put there the vocabulary by yourself
- Free **websites for language learning** and with information on language learning:
 - www.lingvo.info: Information on 28 European languages in 22 languages; very interesting
 - www.lernu.net: A free website for learning of Esperanto
 - www.slovake.eu: multi-lingual website for learning of Slovak
 - www.deutsch.info: A website for learning German (A1-B1); I strongly recommend it!
- **Websites for streaming TV shows** for free(no downloading):
EN: www.solarmovie.sc (including EN subtitles)
DE: www.bs.to (you have to click the same thing twice sometimes and close the newly-opened tab/window with an advert)
FR: <https://streamay.bz/>
RU: <http://hdrezka.me/>, but I recommend an excellent TV show called Kuhnya (<http://hdrezka.me/series/comedy/1404-kuhnya-2014-11-06.html#:~:0-s:1-e:1>)
SK: TV JOJ archives: <https://www.joj.sk/archiv> (tip from Cecile: Profesionáli)
- Do you find regular TV shows too difficult? Try **the TV show EXTRA on YouTube** made specifically for language learners. It's available in [German](#), [French](#), [Spanish](#), [English](#), and it always includes subtitles in the respective language.
- Still too difficult? Get **a bilingual book** and start reading. Even one page a day (including the translation) is enough. However, it's important to do it every day! You can find a blogpost on bilingual books on my website (in Slovak). Foreigners: you can use the same books to practise your Slovak written on the right side of the book. Just make sure it's not Czech.
- Use **podcasts** to improve your comprehension. Podcasts are free recordings in any language on any topic. How to use them? You can find out in a video on my blog (in Slovak): <http://jazykovymentoring.sk/kazdy-den-pocuvat-nahravky-cudzom-jazyku/>
- A free game-based app for maintaining your language: **Duolingo**. Your task is to make exercises for 5-10 minutes a day and keep a streak of as many days without interruption as possible. There's a possibility to learn English via Czech and many languages (including Esperanto :)) via English. Just give it a go for 5 minutes a day and you will see how much you will learn.
- The website to create fun quizzes that I used is www.getkahoot.com.

LANGUAGE-RELATED EVENTS IN BRATISLAVA (at the University of Economics)

- Polyglot Gathering: 31st May - 4th June 2017: www.polyglotbratislava.com
- Polyglots' Best Tips (Jazyky očami polyglotov): 4th June 2017
- The international festival Lingva Fest: www.lingvafest.sk

Did you like my advice on language learning?

Let's stay in touch!

1. Like my Facebook page and you'll get many great tips for language learning for free: /
 - www.facebook.com/language mentoring. (in English)
 - www.facebook.com/jazykovy mentoring (in Slovak)
2. You can also add me as your friend on Facebook: [Lydia Machova](#)
3. Subscribe to 3 videos with tips for language learning for free here: <http://www.language mentoring.com/video-tips-sign-up/> and now and then you will receive more tips and information on language learning as well as my seminars and talks. The first video is about the Goldlist Method for learning vocabulary. If you prefer it in Slovak, here it is: www.jazykovy mentoring.sk/3-tipy
4. Would you like to give me your feedback for the talk?
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/16_7G7BgLtaHU61F-lyowEuL2bF4eG69qLUXe381svHM/edit?c=0&w=1&edit_requested=true#responses I would be very grateful if you could fill out a little survey (only available in Slovak but feel free to write it in English if you understand the questions :))

Have a nice day!

Lýdia :)