

## ELT POLL:

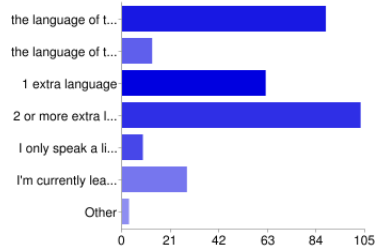
# ARE FLASHCARDS AN EFFECTIVE LANGUAGE LEARNING TOOL?

MAY 16 – MAY 21, 2011

**175** RESPONSES

### LEARNING LANGUAGES

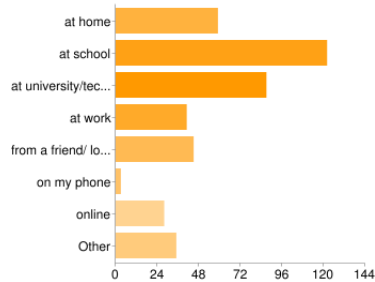
#### I speak /have learned...



the language of the country I was born in	<b>88</b>	51%
the language of the country my parents were born in	<b>13</b>	8%
1 extra language	<b>62</b>	36%
2 or more extra languages	<b>103</b>	60%
I only speak a little of another language... I learned a few phrases when I was at school	<b>9</b>	5%
I'm currently learning one or more foreign languages at the moment	<b>28</b>	16%
Other	<b>3</b>	2%

People may select more than one checkbox, so percentages may add up to more than 100%.

#### Did/Do you learn your "other" language(s)...

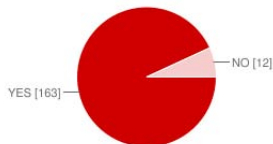


at home	<b>59</b>	35%
at school	<b>122</b>	72%
at university/technical college - further Ed	<b>87</b>	51%
at work	<b>41</b>	24%
from a friend/ lover/ spouse	<b>45</b>	26%
on my phone	<b>3</b>	2%
online	<b>28</b>	16%
Other	<b>35</b>	21%

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### FLASHCARDS

#### In your opinion, do flashcards help students learn languages?

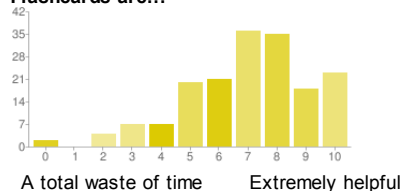


YES	<b>163</b>	93%
NO	<b>12</b>	7%

#### Did you want to say "Yes, but..." or "No, unless..."

Some learners are visual. Hopefully teachers will think of some interesting ways to use flashcards, though. Just flashing the card before students' faces is not an effective use of them. I like Leah's ideas: <http://earlyefl.blogspot.com/2010/12/recycling-vocabulary-in-primary-elt.html> Real images or photographs are most likely better than flashcards, but it can take teachers time to collect the ones they need. It really depends on the learning style of the students. Yes, but only if you make or edit them yourself Yes, up to a point - but I think there are better ways of learning languages I t ...

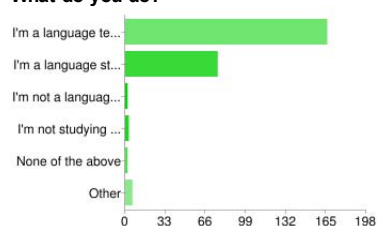
### Flashcards are...



0 - A total waste of time	<b>2</b>	1%
1	<b>0</b>	0%
2	<b>4</b>	2%
3	<b>7</b>	4%
4	<b>7</b>	4%
5	<b>20</b>	11%
6	<b>21</b>	12%
7	<b>36</b>	21%
8	<b>35</b>	20%
9	<b>18</b>	10%
10 - Extremely helpful	<b>23</b>	13%

### YOU

### What do you do?



I'm a language teacher (or have been)	<b>166</b>	95%
I'm a language student (or have been)	<b>76</b>	44%
I'm not a language teacher, but I am in Education (or was)	<b>2</b>	1%
I'm not studying a language, but I am a student (or was)	<b>3</b>	2%
None of the above	<b>2</b>	1%
Other	<b>6</b>	3%

People may select more than one checkbox, so percentages may add up to more than 100%.

### Where are you from?

Australia Norway Canada Idaho, USA Washington Ukraine Uk Dorchester, Canada Germany tunisia Singapore Dublin, Ireland good question! Korea Usa Buenos Aires, Argentina türkiye UK UK Greece Moscow, Russia Australia south ...

### Anything else you'd like to say?

I've been working on a resource about how teachers can use ESL-Library's flashcards in more interesting ways, and am very excited to learn more about your study! Maybe we should change the name of the resource to "images" rather than "flashcards". In fact the site used to be called ESL Images until it started adding lesson plans. I went to a really interesting IATEFL session on using Images in the classroom by Ceri.

<http://cerij.wordpress.com/2011/04/17/broken-umbrellas/> Flashcards are interesting not just as learning tools, but also as instruments to use in playing games. I think flashcards ...

### Number of daily responses

