

For many IB students, their own bilingualism or multilingualism promotes an intense interest in societies where indigenous education policies need to be improved. In this essay the student, herself an émigré from Russia to Australia, was able to use her own experience to help research her work into bilingualism in an Australian context. It is clear that the insights that she expresses can be applied to many other societies whose peoples may also suffer from an inability to fully comprehend the language of the majority people.

The student has realised that the implications of the Australian education system with regards to bilingualism has repercussions for many parts of the globe. She has used her materials to present a well-argued case using her own experience, augmented by exciting research from other countries. As an extended essay it more than meets the criteria required by the IB and it makes for an inspiring read.