

Whistled Languages

In some places, people still use the unique method of whistling to communicate over long distances.

Where in Europe are whistled language used?

- A. La Gomera, Spain
- B. Antia, Greece
- C. Aas, France
- D. All of the above

Right answer: Move forward 2 spaces

Answer D: All of the above. Each of these places has developed its own unique whistled language to help people communicate in areas with rugged mountain terrain.

Irish Language Code

Outside of Ireland, surprisingly few people are aware that the Irish speak another language besides English.

Which of the following is the official language code for Irish?

- A. ILD
- B. IRE
- C. GA

Right answer: Move forward 3 spaces

Answer C: GA is an abbreviation of 'Gaeilge' or 'an Ghaeilge' which is the official name for the Irish language.

Kerenewek

Europe has many regional languages that are spoken only by a small number of people.

Where is the Kerenewek language spoken?

- A. Cornwall, United Kingdom
- B. Cáceres, Spain
- C. Kotor, Montenegro

Right answer: Move forward 3 spaces

Answer A: Kerenewek, or Cornish, was nearly extinct but revived by dedicated activists. Now, many people in the county speak it as a second language.

A Semitic Language

Semitic languages, like Arabic and Hebrew, are a group of languages spoken in parts of the Middle East and North Africa. However, there is one semitic language that is an official language of the EU.

Which of these languages is in the same language family as Arabic?

- A. Spanish
- B. Latvian
- C. Maltese

Right answer: Move forward 3 spaces

Answer C: Fun fact: Maltese is also the only Semitic language written with the Latin alphabet.



January

The months in our calendar have fascinating name origins.

Where does the word “January” come from?

- A. Saint John
- B. A Latin word meaning “cold”
- C. The Roman god Janus

Right answer: Move forward 2 spaces

Answer C: The word “January” comes from Janus, the Roman god of beginnings, gates, transitions, and time.

The Sorbian Languages

The Sorbian languages, which include Upper Sorbian and Lower Sorbian, are spoken by a West Slavic minority group called the Sorbs.

In which country are the Sorbian languages spoken?

- A. Czechia
- B. Poland
- C. Germany

Right answer: Move forward 3 spaces

Answer C: Sorbs live in the region of “Lausitz” in the north east of Germany. Sorbian, a Slavic language related to Polish and Czech, is spoken daily by many of them.

Linguistic Detectives

There is a special field of study where experts analyse written and spoken language to assist in legal investigations, from decoding ransom notes to clarifying legal documents.

What is this field of study called?

- A. The Language Police
- B. Forensic linguistics
- C. Criminal linguistics

Right answer: Move forward 3 spaces

Answer B: “Forensic” comes from Latin “forensis”, meaning “of the forum”. It obtained the second meaning of “legal” because law courts in ancient Rome were held there.

Mama & Dada

What were your first words as a baby? Chances are they were “mama”, “ema”, “ummi”, “papa”, “dada”, “abba” or similar.

True or false: Babies’ words for parents are so similar because they come from the same ancient language.

Right answer: Move forward 3 spaces

Answer: False, these words are similar because they’re all made up of sounds that are easy for babies to make (like /p/, /b/ or /m/).



A Special Day

As languages are important to democracy, the Council of Europe decided to set up the “European Day of Languages” with many events all over the continent.

When is the European Day of languages?

- A. May 4th
- B. September 26th
- C. June 30th

Right answer: Move forward 1 space

Answer B: On September 26th.

Onomatopoeia

What is an onomatopoeia?

- A. A type of poetry in ancient Greece
- B. A word that imitates the sound it represents
- C. A traditional tomato dish in Bulgaria

Right answer: Move forward 2 spaces

Answer B: The term onomatopoeia comes from the Greek words onomat- (name) and poiein (to make). For example, in Lithuanian, a rooster says “kakariekū,” while in Argentina, it says “!quiquiri!”

Master of Languages

In today’s world, many people learn a foreign language in the course of their life, whether in school or due to migration.

What do you call a person who speaks several languages?

- A. Linguini
- B. Multilingualist
- C. Polyglot

Right answer: Move forward 2 spaces

Answer C: This word originates from Greek, “poly” = multiple and “glotta” = tongue. You could also say, someone is “multilingual”.

Space Language

The early 20th century marked the start of space exploration, with different countries launching missions to send people into space.

What was the first language spoken in outer space?

- A. Russian
- B. English
- C. Chinese

Right answer: Move forward 2 spaces

Answer A: The first human in space was Yuri Gagarin, a Soviet cosmonaut, who communicated in Russian during his space mission in 1961.



Royal Translations

Words like “table” aren’t the only words that can be translated into other languages, even proper names like “William” or “Mary” are translatable.

What is Prince Harry (of the United Kingdom) called in Spanish?

- A. Principo Harri
- B. Principio Rico
- C. Principe Enrique

Right answer: Move forward 2 spaces

Answer C: Now you know what to say if you meet him on the streets of Sevilla and want to appear local!

Europe’s Origin

We all know Europe, but where does the name come from?

True or false: The name “Europe” comes from the Latin word “Euphonia”, meaning “pleasant sound”.

Right answer: Move forward 2 spaces

Answer: False. It comes from a princess in Greek mythology. The Greek god Zeus fell in love with her and transformed into a bull to abduct her.

Language Families

Many of today’s languages have evolved from older languages. The majority of European languages belong to the Indo-European language family.

Which European language does not belong to the Indo-European language family?

- A. Slovenian
- B. Hungarian
- C. Portuguese

Right answer: Move forward 3 spaces

Answer B: Hungarian is part of the language family of Finno-Ugric languages, just like Finnish and Estonian.

German in Europe

An ‘official’ language refers to the language(s) used by the government for its everyday operations and official proceedings.

How many European countries have German as an official language?

- A. 3
- B. 5
- C. 6

Right answer: Move forward 2 spaces

Answer C: German is an official language in Austria, Belgium, Germany, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg and Switzerland.



Romanian's Family

Romania and Bulgaria are neighbours, but how similar are their languages?

True or false: Romanian is the most similar to Bulgarian

Right answer: Move forward 3 spaces

Answer: False. Romanian is actually most similar to other Romance languages, like Italian. Bulgarian is a Slavic language and is more like Serbian or Russian. Though they might have borrowed some words from each other, they belong to different language families.

Dead and Revived

Which of these languages has been revived after a long period and is now used at national level?

- A. Literary Slovak
- B. Persian
- C. Modern Hebrew

Right answer: Move forward 3 spaces

Answer C: Although Hebrew has existed since biblical times, it only started being spoken again as an everyday language since the late 19th century.

Lingua Franca

What is a lingua franca?

- A. A common language used over a larger multilingual area
- B. A language used in France during the 12th century
- C. A trading language in the Roman Empire

Right answer: Move forward 2 spaces

Answer A: Nowadays English is used as a common lingua franca, but also Pidgin languages can act as linguae francae.

Spain's Official Languages

Spain is a nation rich in cultural and linguistic heritage.

What is/are the official language(s) of Spain?

- A. Castilian (standard written and spoken Spanish in Spain)
- B. Castilian, Catalan and Galician
- C. The Spanish Constitution does not establish an official language

Right answer: Move forward 3 spaces

Answer A: Although Basque, Catalan and Galician are officially recognised in the respective Autonomous Communities, they are not official languages of the State.



Fictional Languages

Which of the following is not a fictional language?

- A. Dothraki
- B. Sindarin
- C. Asturian

Right answer: Move forward 2 spaces

Answer C: Asturian is a minority Romance language spoken in the Asturias region of northern Spain.

Germany in Finland

Deutschland, Alemania, Nemecko... Germany has many different names because different cultures interacted with this geographic area at various points in history.

What is the Finnish word for Germany?

- A. Tyskland
- B. Saksa
- C. Germania

Right answer: Move forward 3 spaces

Answer B: This name derives from the Saxon tribe, a Germanic tribe that was prominent during the early Middle Ages in what is now northern Germany.

Slovene Dialects

How many dialects does the Slovene language have?

- A. 2
- B. approximately 16
- C. approximately 50

Right answer: Move forward 3 spaces

Answer C: Believe it or not, the Slovene language features nearly fifty different dialects. As the Slovene saying goes "Every village has its own voice" (Vsaka vas ima svoj glas).

Bilingual Europeans

There are over 250 languages that are indigenous to Europe, but does everyone speak more than one?

True or False: All Europeans are bilingual.

Right answer: Move forward 2 spaces

Answer: false. Approximately one third of adults in the EU said that they could speak only one language in 2016.



Irish around the World

A **Gaeltacht** is a region where Irish is the official language. Because of the Great Famine, 1.3 million Irish emigrated, establishing a Gaeltacht outside of Ireland.

Which of these countries has a Gaeltacht?

- A. France
- B. Australia
- C. Canada

Right answer: Move forward 2 spaces

Answer C: This Gaeltacht is located in Ontario and allows Irish migrants to stay connected with their culture and language.

Can't You Tell?

What is cant?

- A. A dialect from Canterbury, UK
- B. A specialised or secret language
- C. A type of religious song

Right answer: Move forward 3 spaces

Answer B: Throughout history, secret languages have been used to protect information and foster exclusivity. De Cant (also known as de Garmmon, Sheita or Minceir Thari), still spoken by the Irish Travelling community, is one such example.

EU Languages

The EU has 27 member states, but not 27 official languages.

How many official languages are there in the European Union?

- A. 12
- B. 24
- C. 40

Right answer: Move forward 2 spaces

Answer B: The European Union recognises 24 official languages. All official documents and communication are translated into those languages.

Written Norwegian

How many official written versions are there of the Norwegian language?

- A. 1
- B. 2
- C. 4

Right answer: Move forward 3 spaces

Answer B: Norwegian has two official versions for written language: Nynorsk and Bokmål. Both versions originate from Old Norse, but Bokmål ('book language') is more similar to Danish, whereas Nynorsk ('new Norwegian') comes from rural dialects within Norway.



Sign Language(s)?

All over the world, people who are deaf or hard of hearing use sign language to communicate, but does everyone use the same sign language?

True or false: Sign language is the same everywhere in the world

Right answer: Move forward 3 spaces

Answer: False. Each country or region usually has its own sign language, and those also have their own regional dialects. For example, British Sign Language is different from American Sign Language.

Sign Dialects?

Spoken languages have many regional variants, but what about a sign language?

True or False: Sign languages have dialects.

Right answer: Move forward 2 spaces

Answer: True. Sign languages, like spoken languages, have dialects. Different regions or communities may use slightly different signs for the same words or ideas. Even within a single country, multiple regional variations exist.

Hands-On Reading

Braille helps people who are blind or have trouble seeing to read and write.

True or false: Braille is a language used by people who are blind.

Right answer: Move forward 2 spaces

Answer: False. Braille is not a language, it's a writing system! It uses raised dots that you can feel with your fingers and can be written in different languages.

Braille Beyond Borders?

Braille allows people all over the world who are blind or visually impaired to read and write, but is braille the same all over the world?

True or false: There are different versions of Braille for different languages.

Right answer: Move forward 3 spaces

Answer: True. Languages have different sounds and different letters or symbols to represent them, therefore, there are also different versions of Braille.



International Friendship

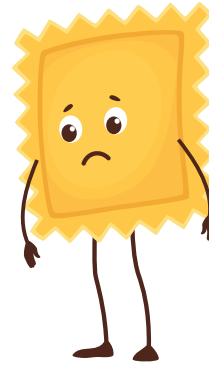
You are visiting your pen pal from a different country!



Move forward 4 spaces

Lost in Translation

A translation error caused a major misunderstanding.



Go back 3 spaces

Erasmus Experience

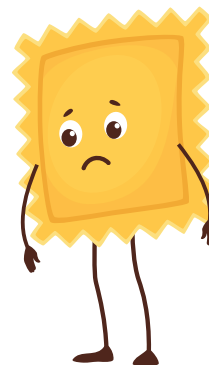
You participated in an Erasmus Exchange programme and learned a new language!



Move forward 2 spaces

Bulgararian Blunder

During your vacation in Bulgaria, you forgot that people shake their head for yes and nod for no, which caused confusion during your visit.



Go back 3 spaces



Eurail Adventure

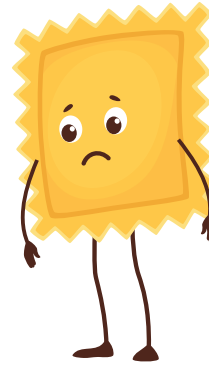
You used a Eurail Pass to travel across Europe by train, picking up new languages along the way.



Move forward 3 spaces

Lost in the City

You got lost in a foreign European city and had difficulty asking for directions.



Go back 2 spaces

Courtroom Clarity

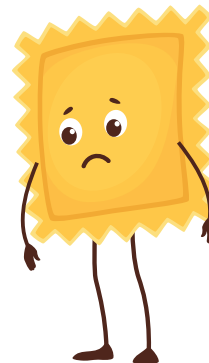
Due to a misunderstanding, you end up in a Slovakian court. Thankfully, there is an interpreter there to help you.



Move forward 4 spaces

Zabranjeno kupanje

While on holiday in Bosnia, you went swimming in a beautiful river. Too bad that you couldn't read the sign that read "No swimming!".



Go back 2 spaces



Greek Guide

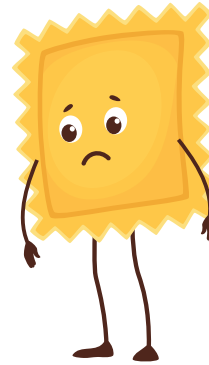
In Greece, your friend uses her Greek skills to translate a local guide's stories about ancient myths and legends.



Move forward 3 spaces

Čevapčići

You decide to order an unknown dish in a Bosnian restaurant. They bring you meaty Čevapčići, but you are vegetarian...



Go back 2 spaces

Bilingual Blessing

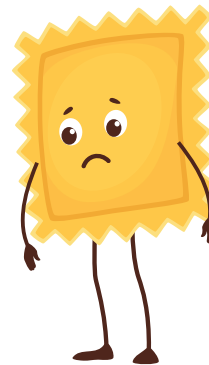
While on vacation in Latvia, your friend uses her Latvian skills, learned from her parents, to help you order food.



Move forward 2 spaces

Abrupt Awakening

You fell asleep on the train and crossed the border into another country - oops! Now, you can't understand the locals when asking for the next connection home.



Go back 4 spaces



Give Me a Sign

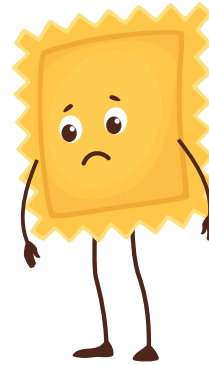
At a café, the cashier is deaf and uses sign language. You impress everyone by signing your order.



Move forward 3 spaces

Down Under Detour

You book your dream trip to Austria for some alpine skiing but end up in sunny Australia instead! Looks like it's time for a map — or maybe some new reading glasses...



Go back 4 spaces

¡Dios mío!

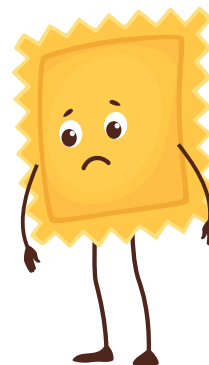
You bingewatched a Telenovela and learned some Spanish words!



Move forward 2 spaces

Regional Differences

After learning French in Belgium, you use “nonante” for 90 in a conversation, but your French friend only knows “quatre-vingt-dix”. Oops!



Go back 2 spaces



Grazie nonna!

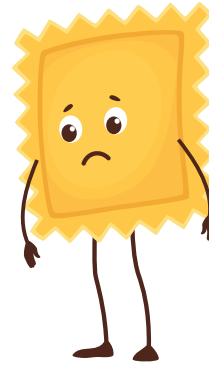
While practicing your Italian in a small village, a kind old lady is so charmed by your effort that she insists you try her homemade tiramisu.



Move forward 2 spaces

The Moutza Mistake

You try to greet someone in Greece but accidentally do a moutza — a rude hand gesture! The shocked look on their face tells you it didn't go well.



Go back 3 spaces

Schuhplattler Showdown

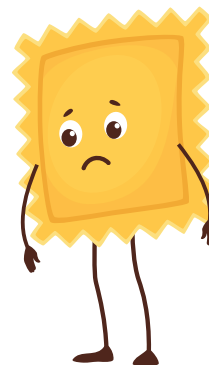
You join a lively group in Bavaria and get invited to dance the Schuhplattler. They cheer you on as you kick and clap your way through the dance!



Move forward 2 spaces

Currency Crisis

While shopping in Prague, you confidently hand over a Swedish krona instead of a Czech koruna. The cashier looks confused.



Go back 2 spaces



Body Language

Use gestures to describe an action or object to your team without speaking. Let every team guess what you are saying.



If they guess correctly, move 3 spaces

Foreign Tongues

Say something in another language you can speak. Let the teams guess what you're saying.



If they guess correctly, move 3 spaces

Homonym Hunt

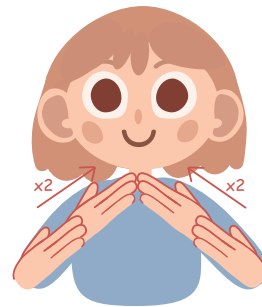
Homonyms are words that have the same sound and/or spelling but have a different meaning. For example: Flour (for bread) and flower (a plant).

Name 2 homonyms



Every team that can name one pair of homonyms can move 2 spaces

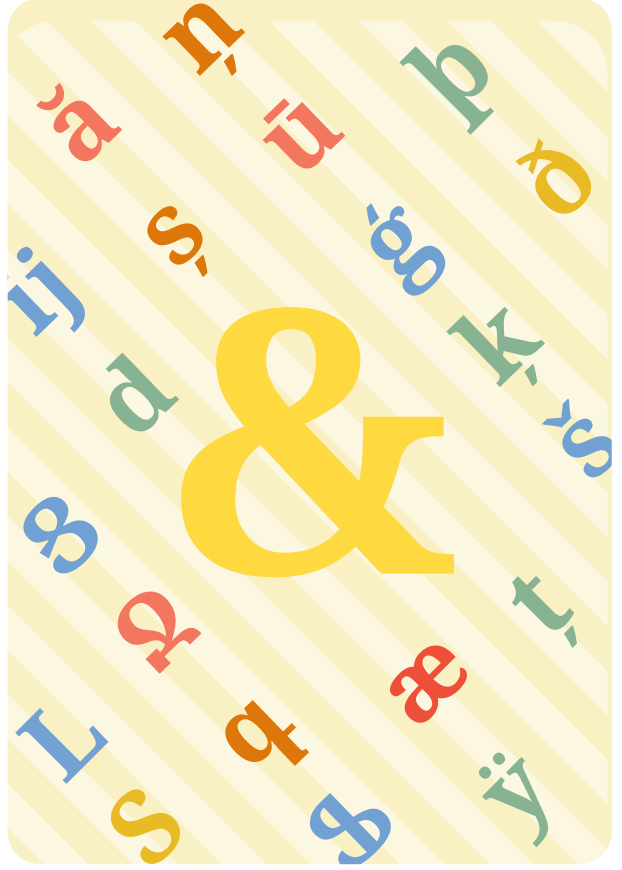
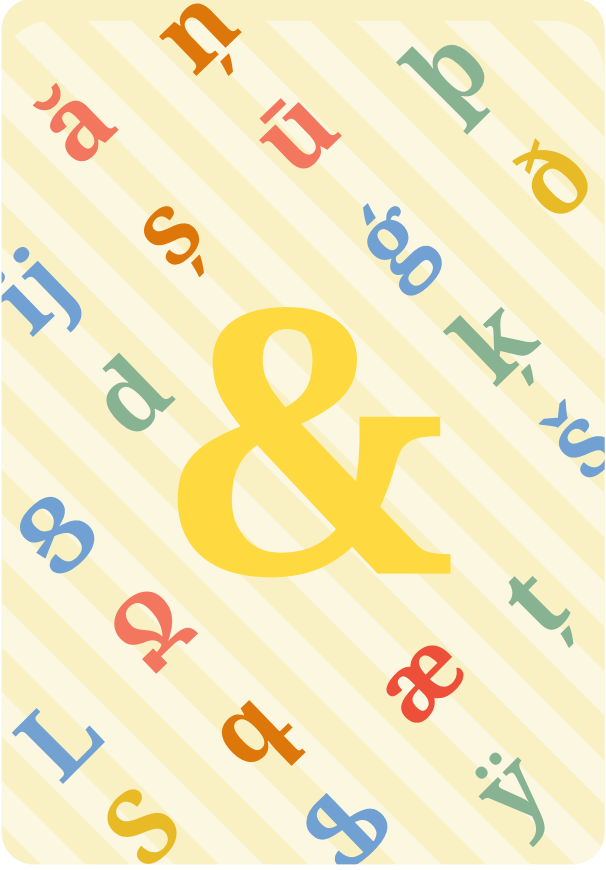
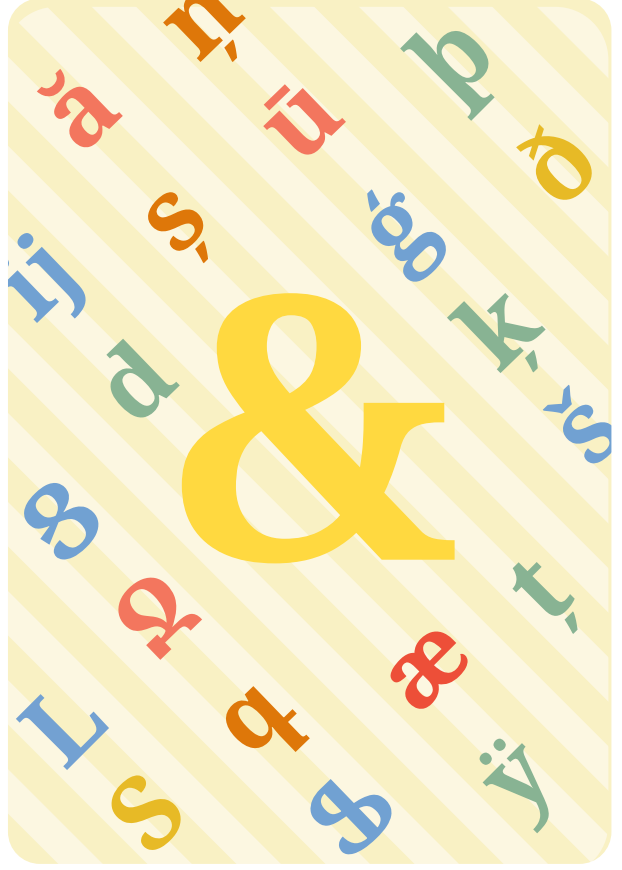
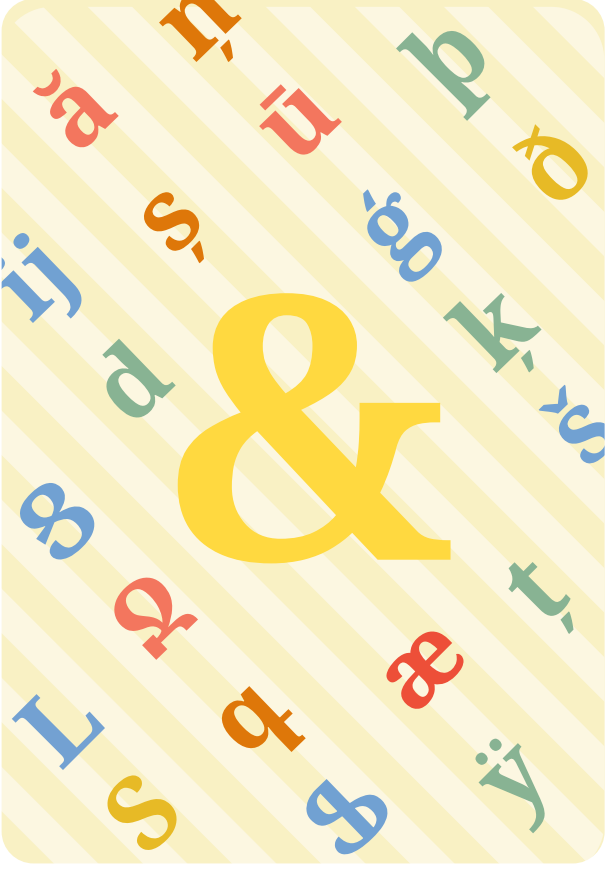
Sign Challenge



Here is a sign from French Sign Language. Demonstrate the sign to all teams and let them guess its meaning.

Every team that guesses correctly can move 5 spaces

Answer: house



One, Two, Five

Count to 5 in any language you prefer.



After completion, move 2 spaces

Onomatopoeia

An **onomatopoeia** is a word that sounds like the thing it describes.
For example: Flipflops, hiss...

Name an onomatopoeia



Every team that can name one can move 2 spaces

Translanguaging

In many multilingual communities, people naturally mix different languages fluidly: they “translanguage”. For example: *Je ne sais pas dónde están your socks.*

Say a translanguage sentence!



After completion, move 3 spaces

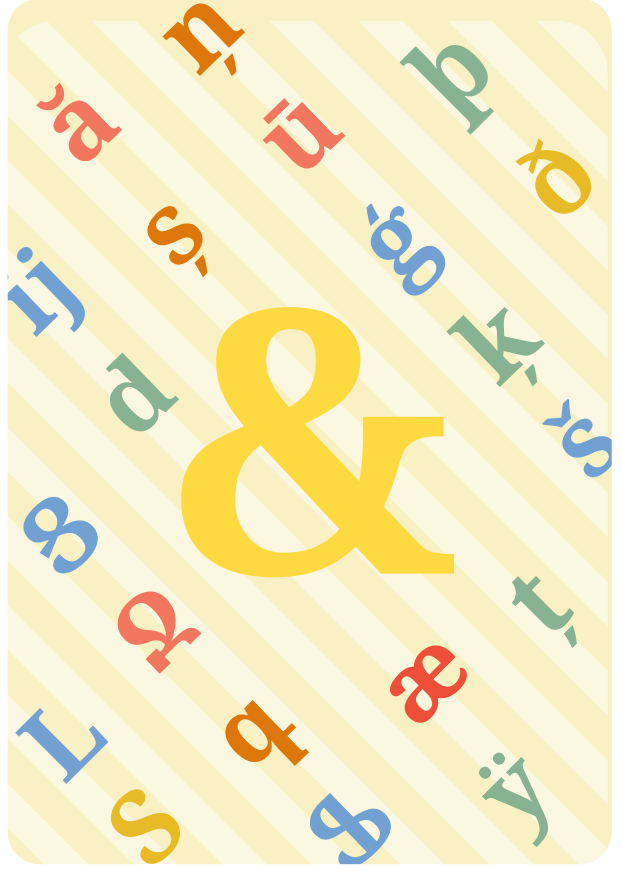
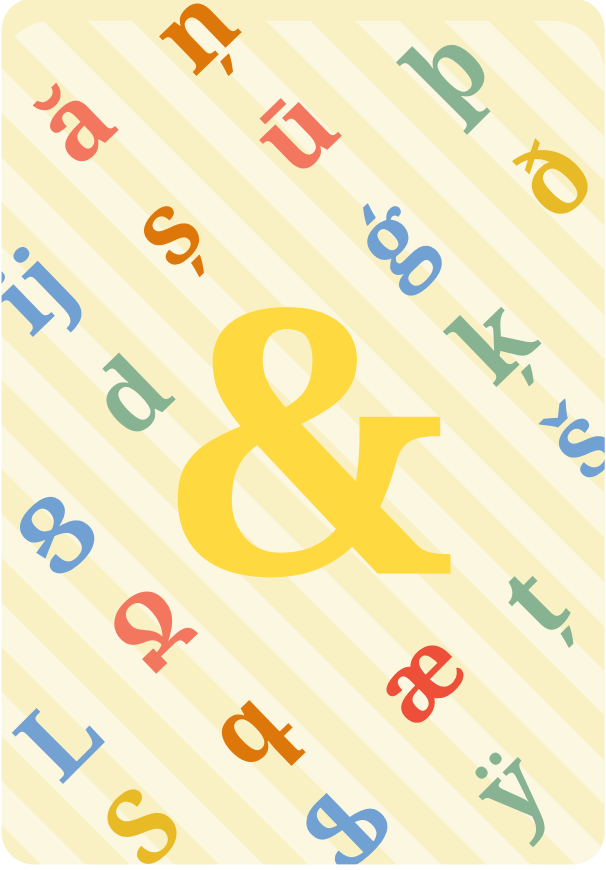
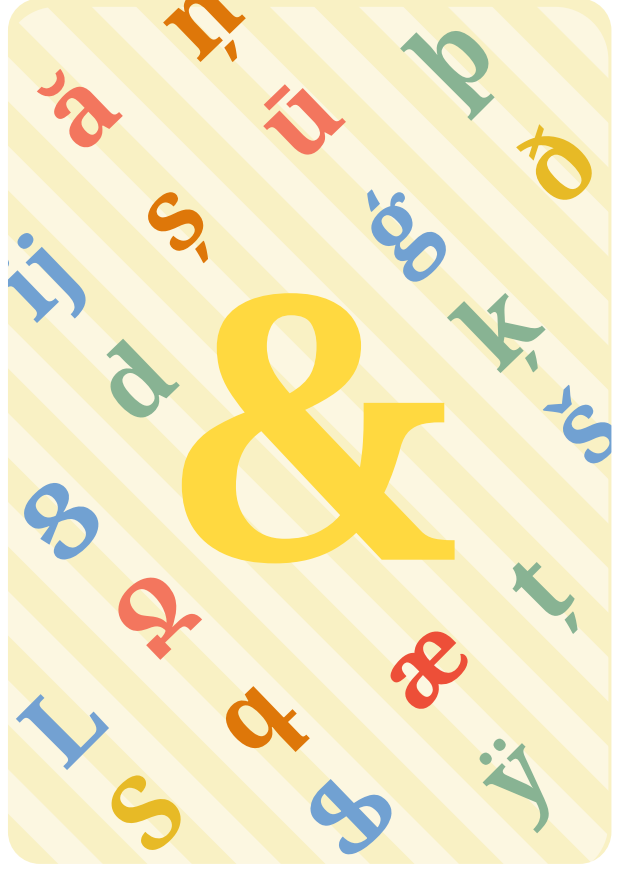
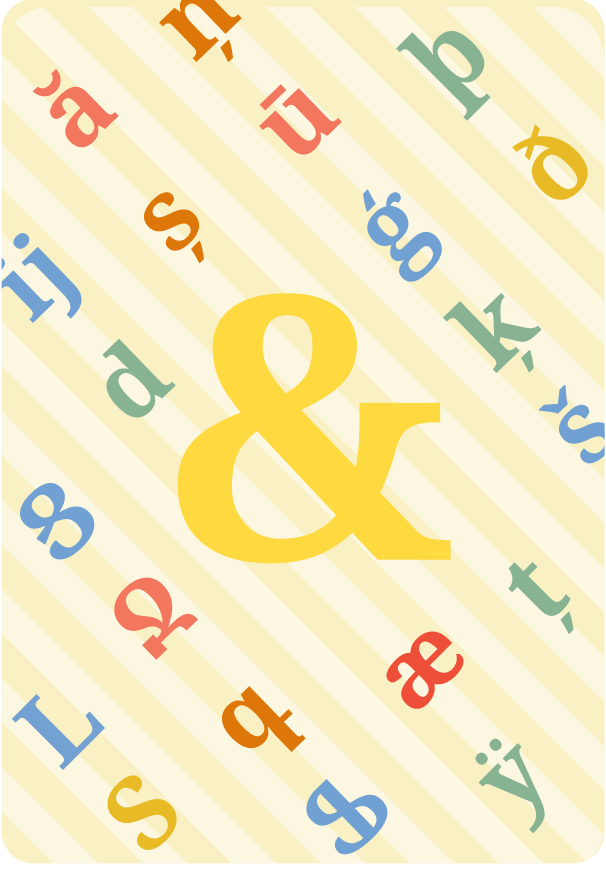
Sing a Song

Do you know any songs in another language?

Sing at least one full line!



If at least one person of the team sings a line, move 4 spaces



Language Room



How many different languages can your group speak?

Groups that speak more than 3 languages move 2 spaces

Language of Schooling



Use a language you have learnt in school to say what you think of this game so far!

If at least one team member can complete the challenge, move 3 spaces

Name a Loanword

A **loanword** is a word that was adopted from another language. For example: Déjà vu (from French) or Espresso (from Italian).

Name a loanword that was adopted by your native language!



Every team that names at least one loanword can move 1 space

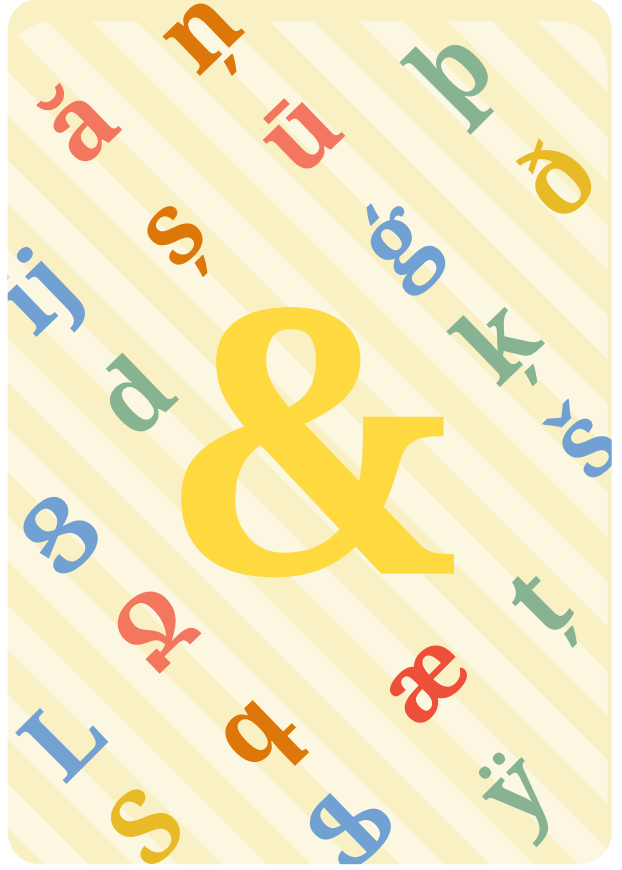
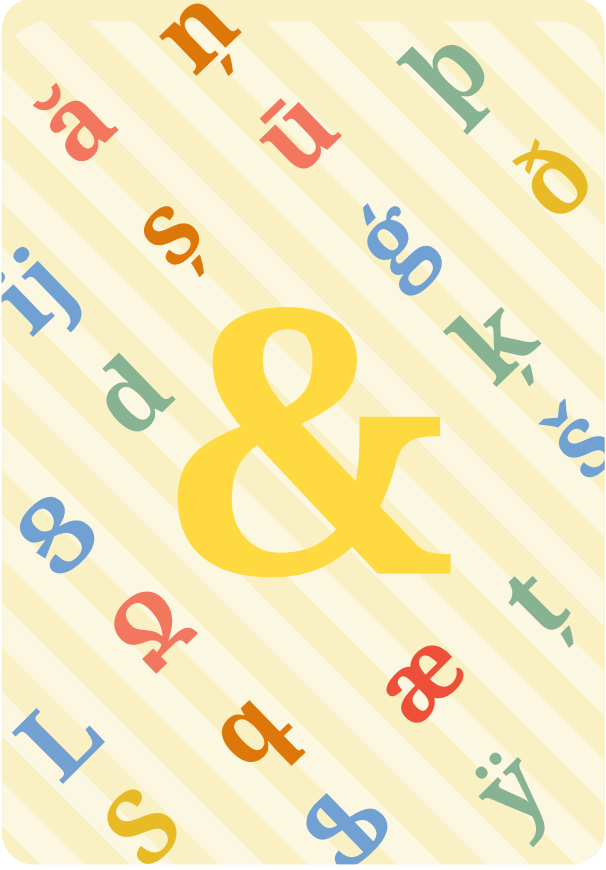
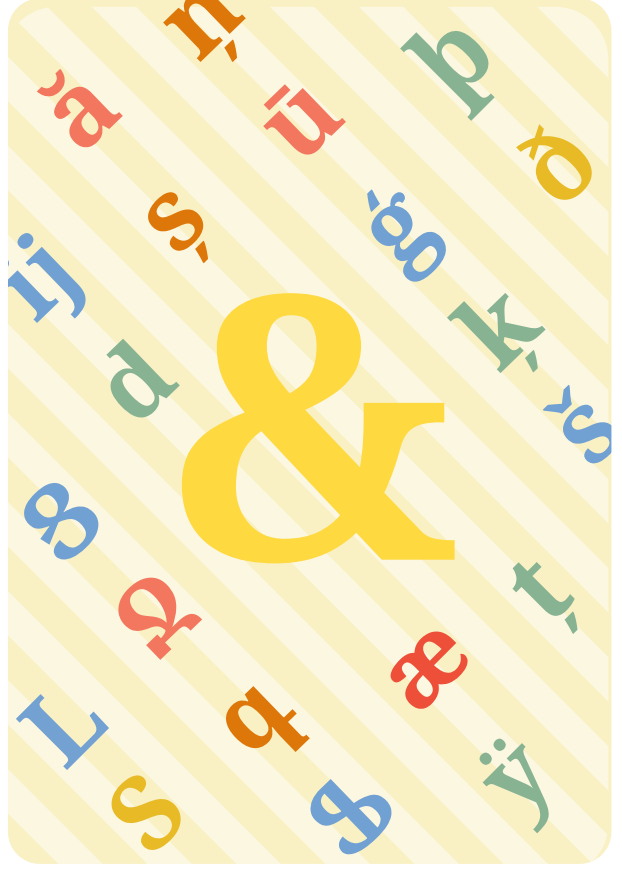
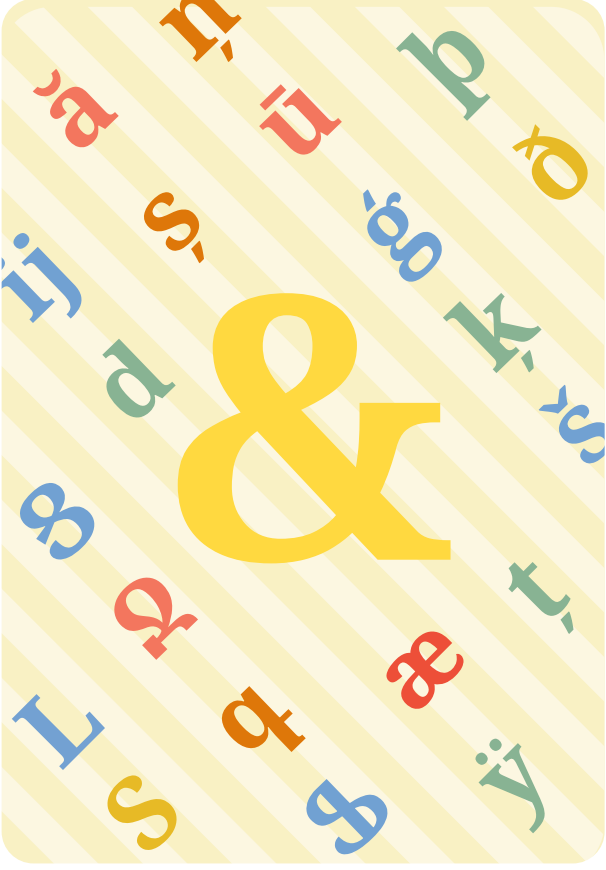
What Language is this?

Ciao! Come stai?



Cover the answer and show all teams. Those who guess correctly can move 3 spaces

Answer: Italian



What language is this?

Živjo! Kako si?



Cover the answer and show all teams.
Those who guess correctly can move
3 spaces

Answer: Slovene

What language is this?

Hoi! Hoe giet it mei dy?



Cover the answer and show all teams.
Those who guess correctly can move
3 spaces

Answer: Frisian

What language is this?

Bonjour! Ça va?



Cover the answer and show all teams.
Those who guess correctly can move
3 spaces

Answer: French

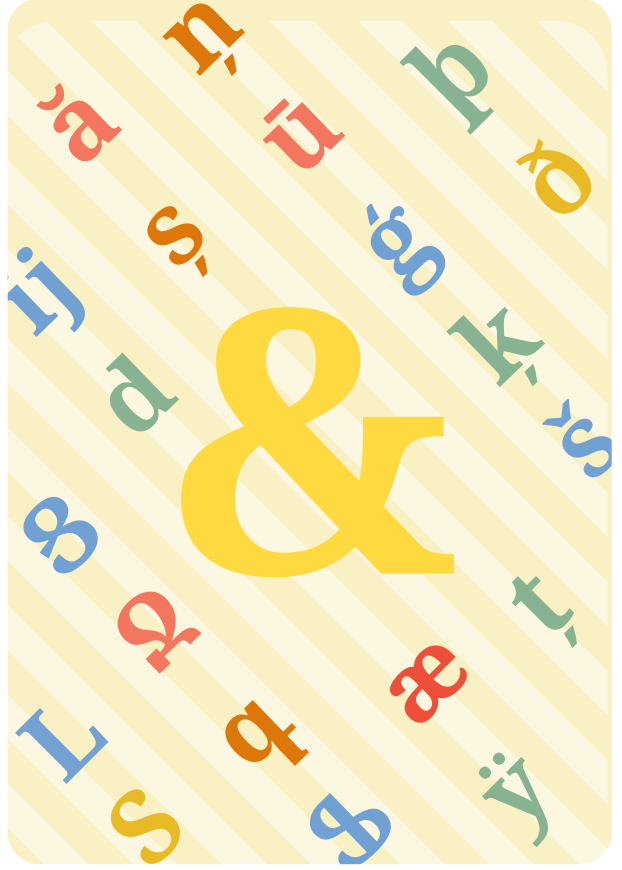
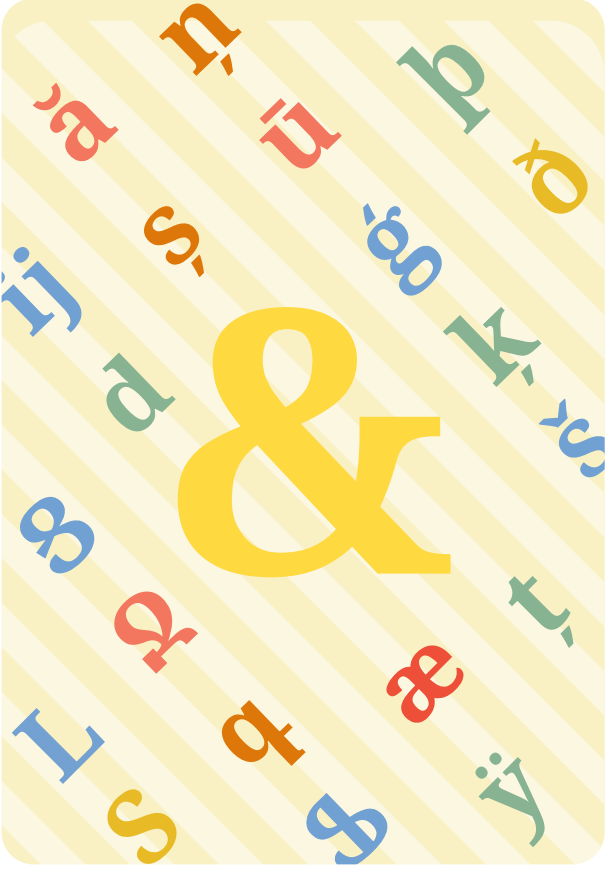
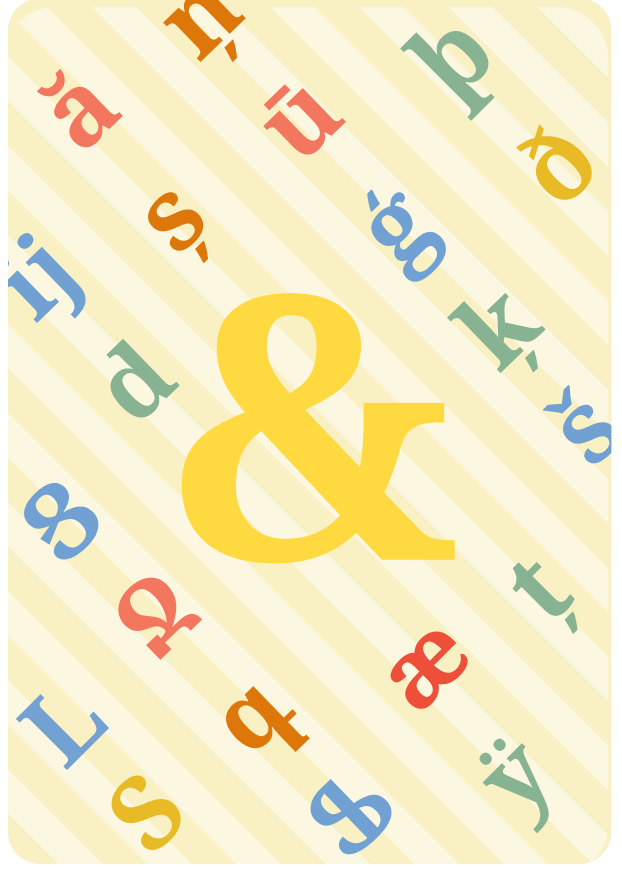
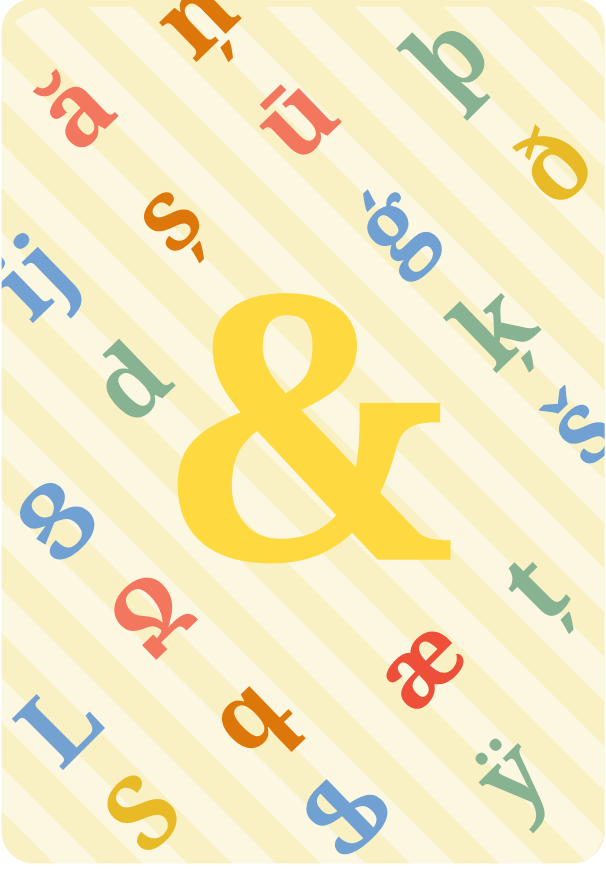
What language is this?

Γεια! Πώς είστε;



Cover the answer and show all teams.
Those who guess correctly can move
3 spaces

Answer: Greek



What language is this?

Hæ! Hvernig hefurðu það?



Cover the answer and show all teams.
Those who guess correctly can move
3 spaces

Answer: Icelandic

What language is this?

Merhaba! Nasılsın?



Cover the answer and show all teams.
Those who guess correctly can move
3 spaces

Answer: Turkish

What language is this?

Bongu! Kif int?



Cover the answer and show all teams.
Those who guess correctly can move
3 spaces

Answer: Maltese

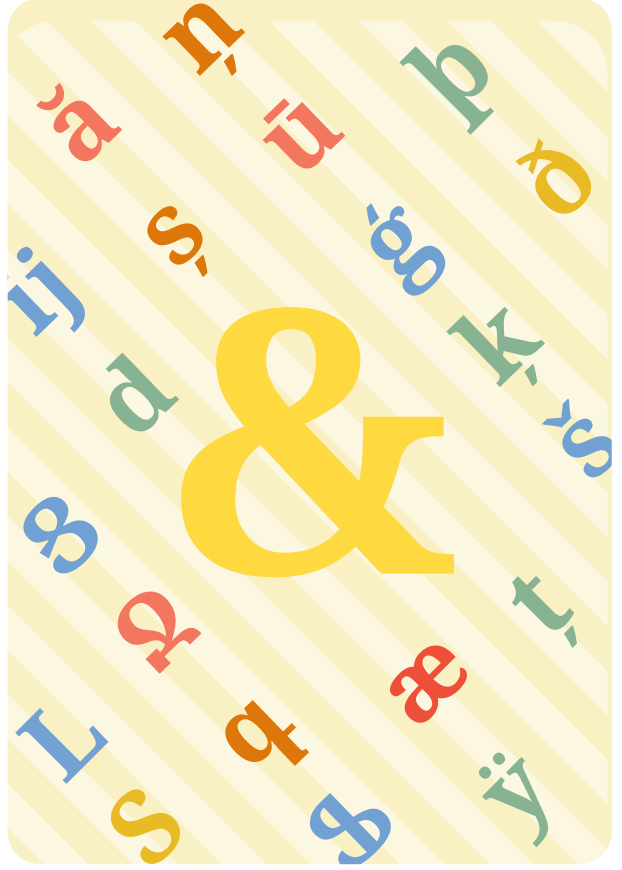
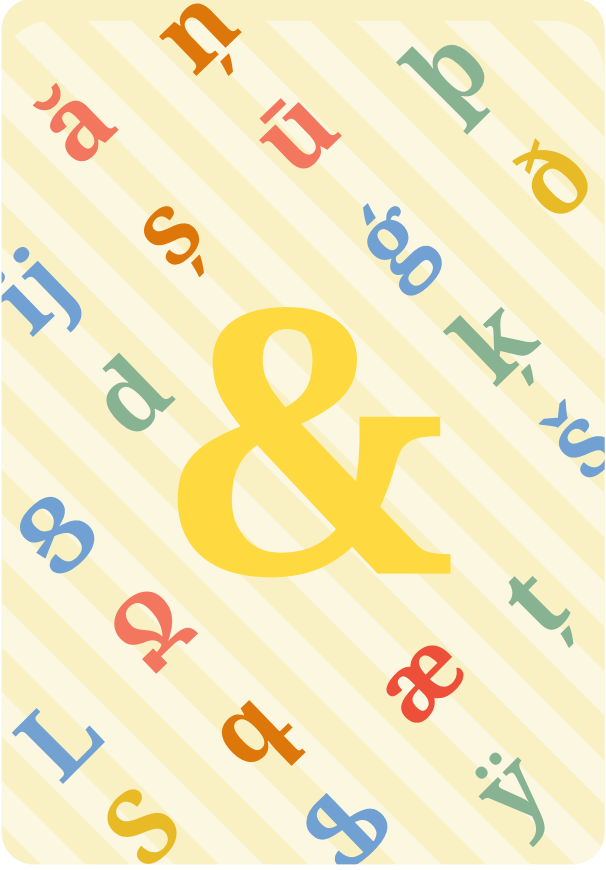
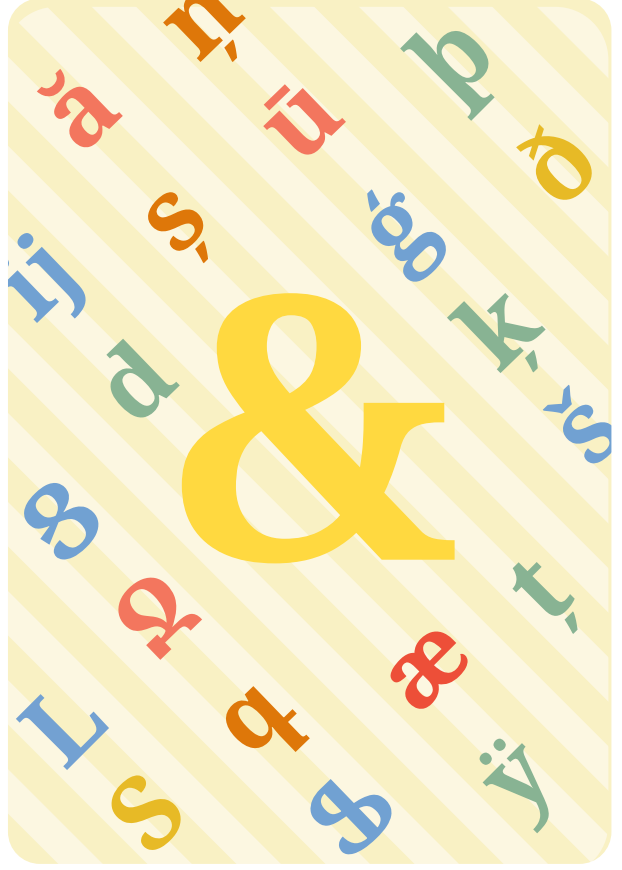
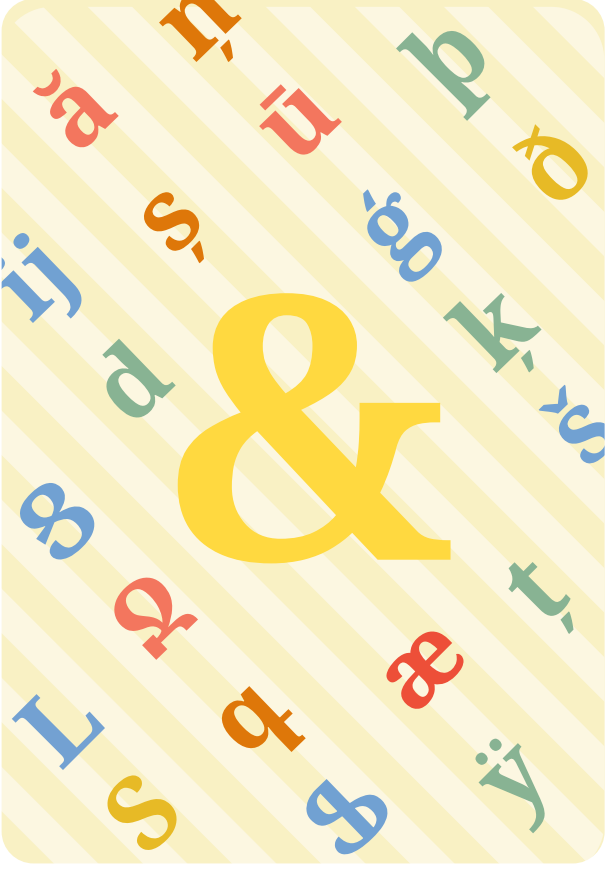
What language is this?

Tere! kuidas sul läheb?



Cover the answer and show all teams.
Those who guess correctly can move
3 spaces

Answer: Estonian



What language is this?

Bună ziua! Ce faci?



Cover the answer and show all teams.
Those who guess correctly can move
3 spaces

Answer: Romanian

What language is this?

Dobrý den! Jak se máš?



Cover the answer and show all teams.
Those who guess correctly can move
3 spaces

Answer: Czech

What language is this?

Ahoj! ako sa máš?



Cover the answer and show all teams.
Those who guess correctly can move
3 spaces

Answer: Slovak

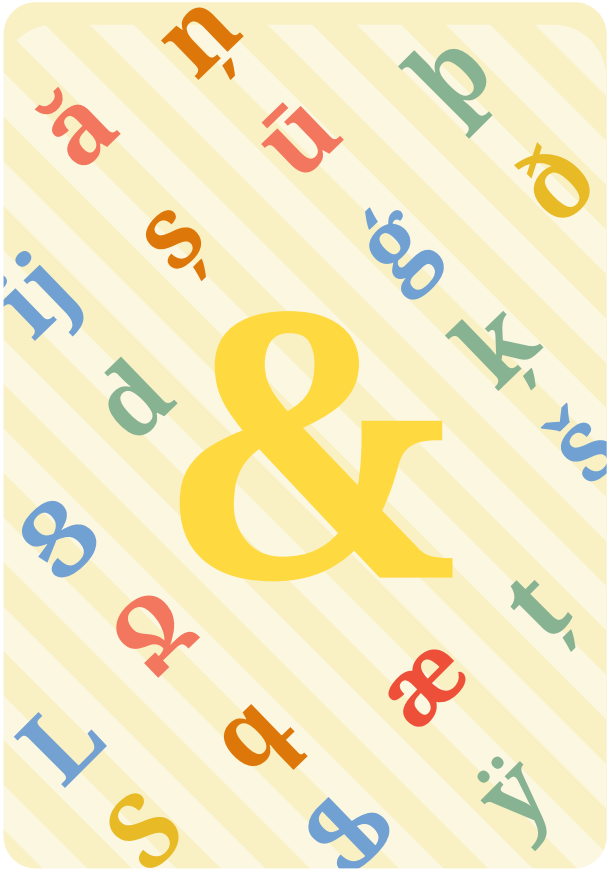
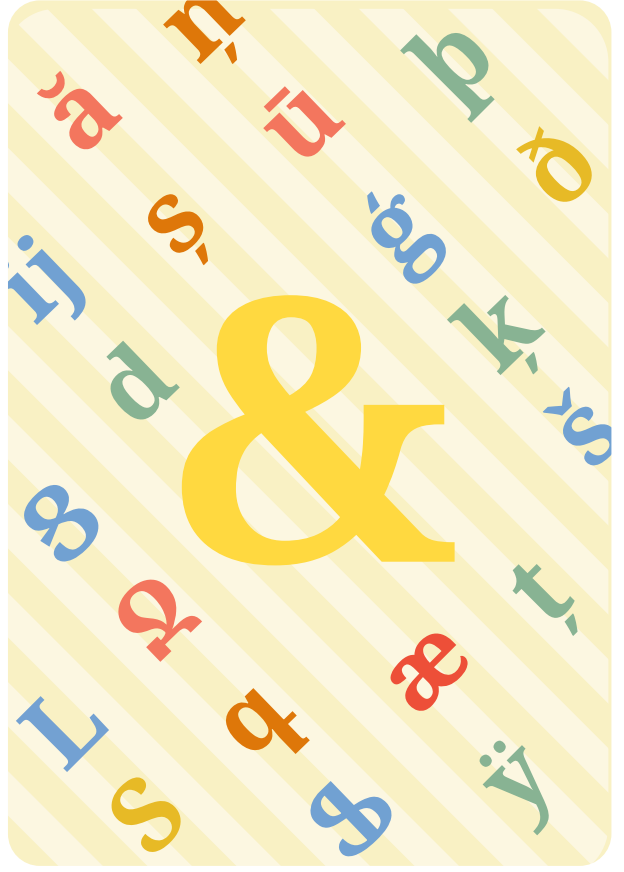
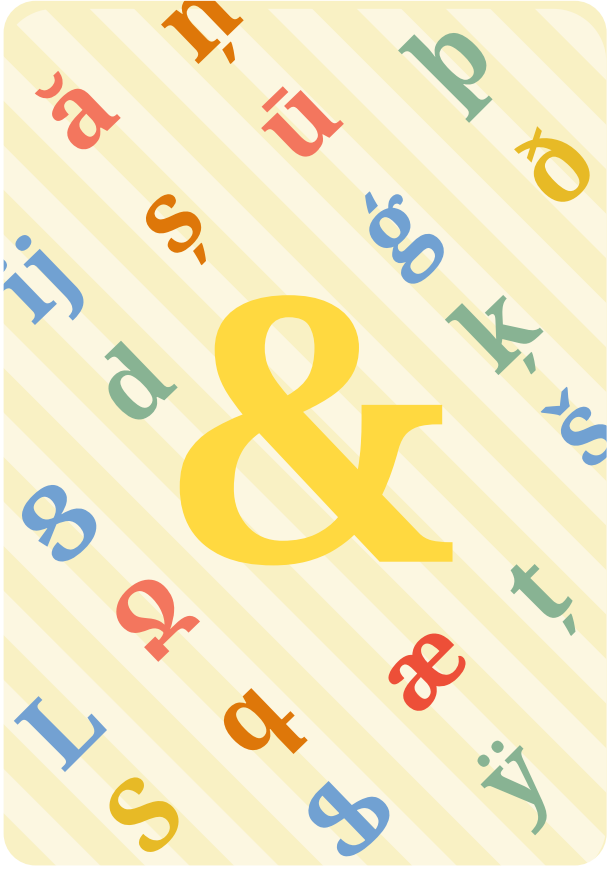
What language is this?

Hei! Mitä kuuluu?



Cover the answer and show all teams.
Those who guess correctly can move
3 spaces

Answer: Finnish



What language is this?

Hallo! Wie geht's?



Cover the answer and show all teams.
Those who guess correctly can move
3 spaces

Answer: German

What language is this?

Labas! Kaip sekasi?



Cover the answer and show all teams.
Those who guess correctly can move
3 spaces

Answer: Lithuanian

What language is this?

Moien! Wéi geet et?



Cover the answer and show all teams.
Those who guess correctly can move
3 spaces

Answer: Luxembourgish

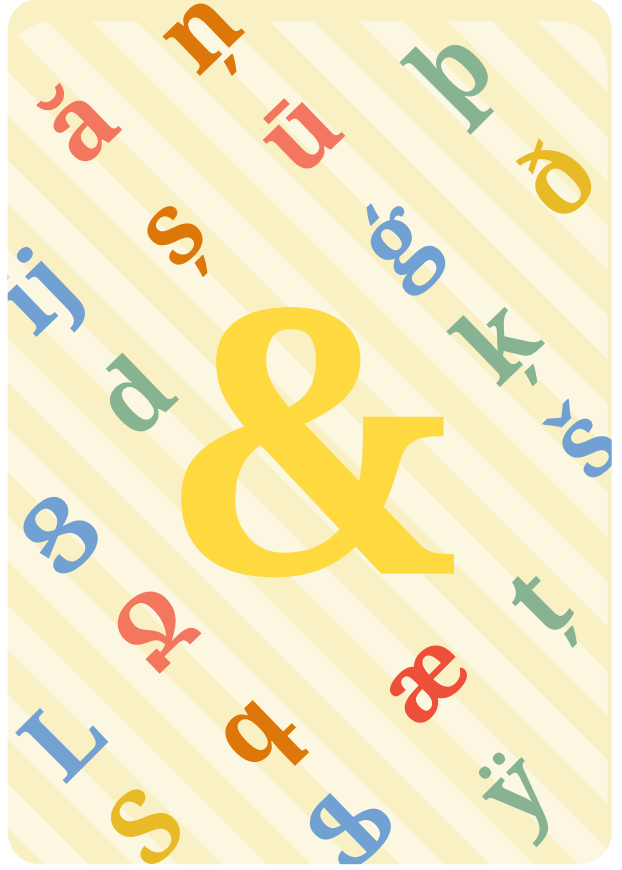
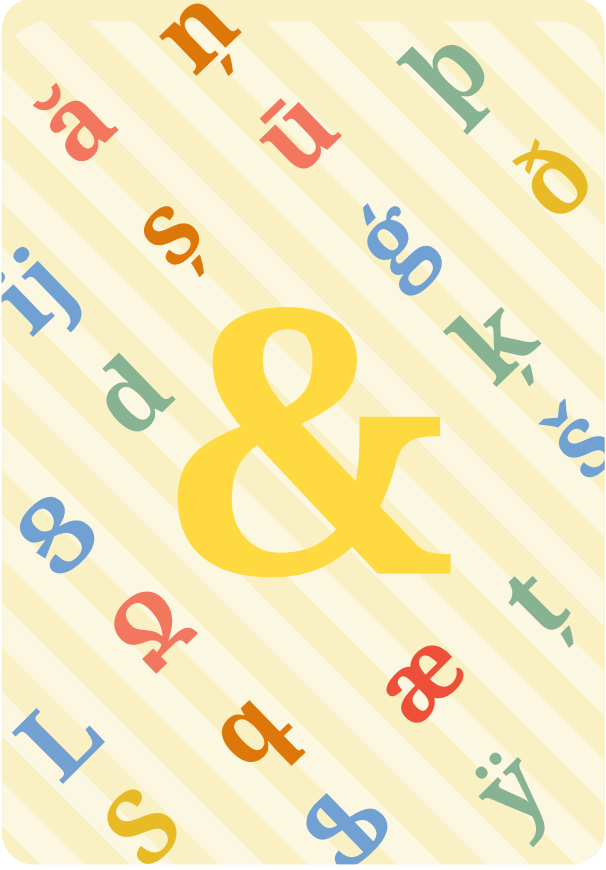
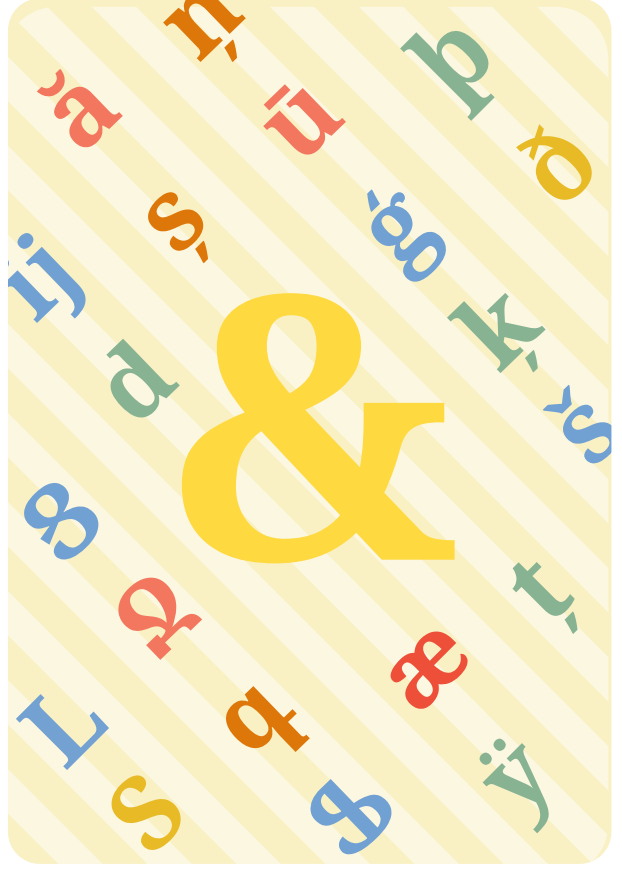
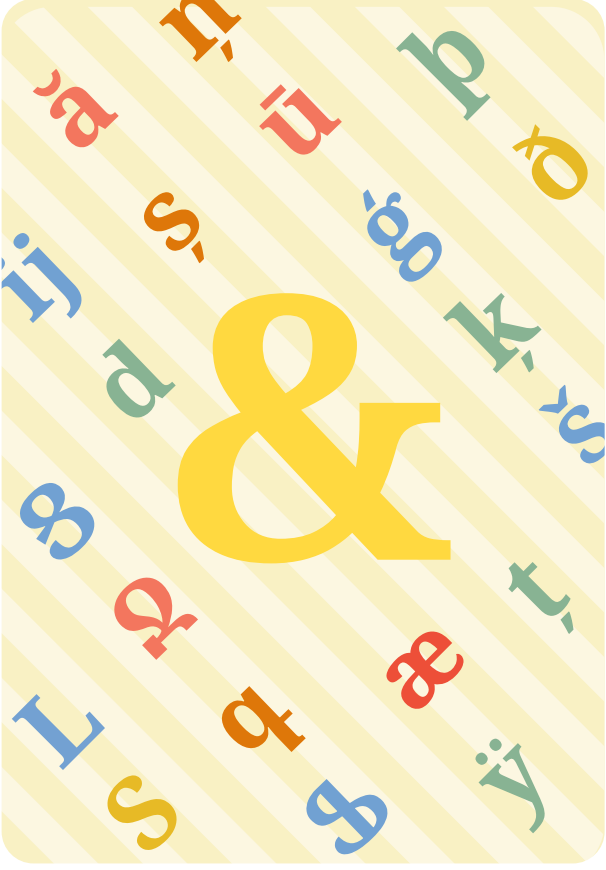
What language is this?

Përshëndetje! Si jeni?



Cover the answer and show all teams.
Those who guess correctly can move
3 spaces

Answer: Albanian



What language is this?

Здравей! Как си?



Cover the answer and show all teams.
Those who guess correctly can move
3 spaces

Answer: Bulgarian

What language is this?

Dia dhuit! Conas atá tú?



Cover the answer and show all teams.
Those who guess correctly can move
3 spaces

Answer: Irish

What language is this?

Szia! Hogy vagy?



Cover the answer and show all teams.
Those who guess correctly can move
3 spaces

Answer: Hungarian

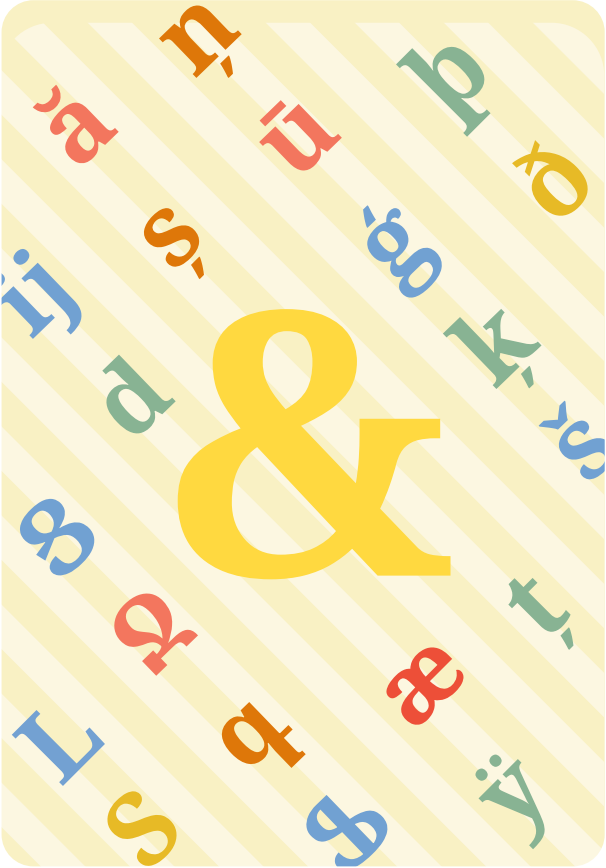
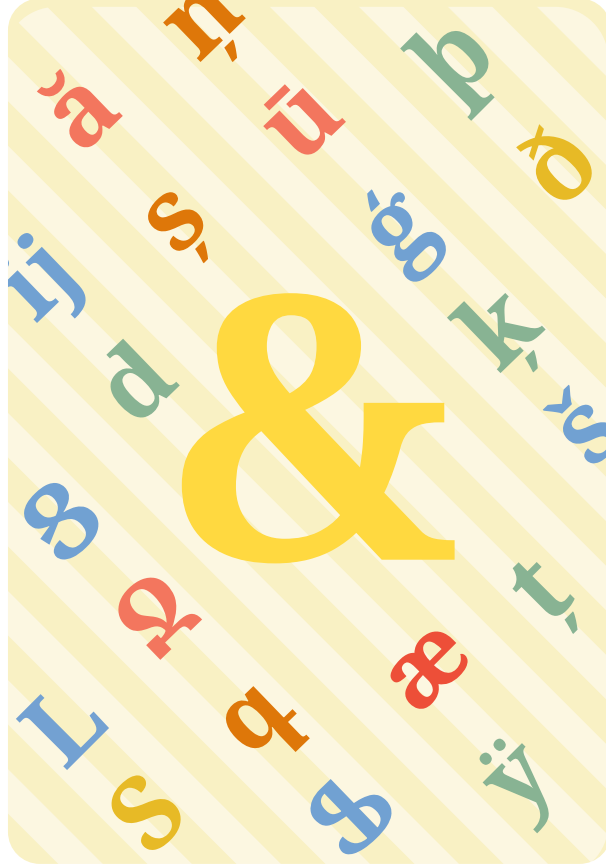
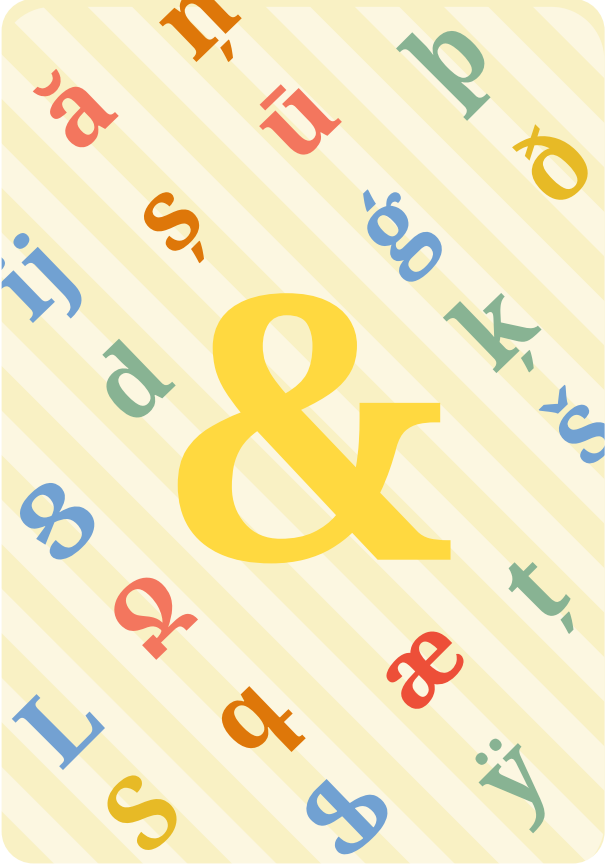
What language is this?

Hallo! Hoe gaat het?



Cover the answer and show all teams.
Those who guess correctly can move
3 spaces

Answer: Nederlands



What language is this?

Hej! Hur mår du?



Cover the answer and show all teams.
Those who guess correctly can move
3 spaces

Answer: Swedish

What language is this?

Cześć! Jak się masz?



Cover the answer and show all teams.
Those who guess correctly can move
3 spaces

Answer: Polish

What language is this?

¡Hola! ¿Cómo estás?



Cover the answer and show all teams.
Those who guess correctly can move
3 spaces

Answer: Spanish

What language is this?

Olá! Como estás?



Cover the answer and show all teams.
Those who guess correctly can move
3 spaces

Answer: Portuguese

