Stories from Morocco

A film by Daniel Emmerson presented by EnglishClub.com

Activity 1

How much do you know about Morocco? Test yourself with this 'true or false' quiz!

- 1. Morocco is in Africa.
- 2. Casablanca is the capital city of Morocco.
- 3. Morocco has a population of 50 million people.
- 4. Morocco has coastlines on both the Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea.
- 5. The official language of Morocco is Arabic.

Activity 2

You are going to watch a video about learning English in Morocco. The interviewees in the video answer the following four questions. Read the questions below and discuss what you think they might say in response. Then watch the video once to find out if your ideas were right.

- 1. Why are people in Morocco learning English?
- 2. How do students in an international school in Morocco learn English?
- 3. What different experiences have students had in learning English?
- 4. What tips and advice can learners offer?

Activity 3

Watch the video again and answer the following questions. Read through all the exercises below first.

Watch the interviewees answering the first question and tick the answers you hear on the list below. Be careful: there are two answers on the list below which are not mentioned in the video!

- 1. The Moroccan system says everyone has to learn English from the age of 12.
- 2. Foreign companies are opening up headquarters and branches in Morocco.
- 3. English is important for using the Internet.
- 4. English is important in many trades and jobs.
- 5. Most of the programmes on Moroccan television are in English.
- 6. English is the most important language in the world.

Watch the interviewees answering the second question and answer the following true or false questions.

- 7. Students graduate with two languages: Arabic and English.
- 8. All classes are taught in English, except French and Arabic lessons.
- 9. All teachers are available to help students improve their level of English.
- 10. Having students of different English levels in class is never a problem.

Watch the interviewees answering the third question and circle the speaker or speakers in each case.

11. Who has studied in America?	Salma Ali Anour Fiona Michel
12. Who says it is difficult to find books in English?	Salma Ali Anour Fiona Michel
13. Whose father helps with learning English?	Salma Ali Anour Fiona Michel
14. Who says that knowing French helps with learning English?	Salma Ali Anour Fiona Michel

Watch the interviewees answering the last question and correct the following statements.

- 15. Michel thinks that reading and listening to music a lot helped him to learn English.
- 16. It took Salma six years to learn English.
- 17. Ali says that having a multi-lingual upbringing makes it difficult to learn another language later on.



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Activity 4

Discuss the following questions.

- 1. To what extent do you agree with Ali Gharbi that 'everything is possible if you put your mind to it'?
- 2. Do you agree with Michel that reading and writing a lot helps students to learn English?
- 3. What did you learn from the film about the challenges faced by Moroccan students of English?
- 4. In what ways is learning English in Morocco different from learning English in your country?
- 5. What other questions do you think the film should have asked?
- 6. What interested you most about the video?

Activity 5

Imagine you are making a film like 'Stories from Morocco'. Interview your partner, using the questions below.

- 1. Why are people in your country learning English?
- 2. How do students in your school/company learn English?
- 3. What different experiences have you had in learning English (e.g. intensive courses, reading books)?
- 4. How useful is the Internet for learning English?
- 5. What tips and advice can you offer to other learners?

The information, statements and answers used in this worksheet are taken from the film in question and interviewees' responses. They are not necessarily true for the whole country, nor do they necessarily reflect the views of the filmmaker or of EnglishClub.com.