

# Why do people preserve local languages?

1. Why do languages become extinct?
  
2. Evaluate the policies of the European Bureau of Lesser Used Languages ([http://ec.europa.eu/languages/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/languages/index_en.htm)). What kind of policies would you expect this office to pursue? Who might be the intended audience of these policies? How successful can such policies be? What factors might contribute, what factors might deter the success of such policies?
  
3. Which policies helped the successful revival of Hebrew?
  
4. Discuss the problems that confront efforts in Wales and in Cornwall to revive Gaelic languages?
  - a. <http://thelanguageguy.blogspot.com/2007/02/reviving-dead-languages.html>
  - b. <http://www.nytimes.com/2006/12/08/world/europe/08iht-gaelic.3836425.html>
  - c. <http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2002/dec/22/scotland>
  
5. Explain the differences in approaches to multi-lingual nationalism between Belgium and Switzerland. Why might the latter country have fewer political and cultural problems than the former? Could the Swiss be a model to other multi-lingual states like India or Nigeria?