

West African languages

1 New words for this article - Nouveaux mots pour cet article

- | | | |
|---|----------------|--|
| 1 | lingua franca | language for speaking to people who have a different language |
| 2 | multilingual | able to speak more than one language |
| 3 | native speaker | a person born with a language, who learned it from their parents |

2 Comprehension questions

Questions de compréhension en lecture

- Which is the biggest language in Senegal?
- How many languages are spoken in Senegal?
- What is the name of the family of languages in Senegal?
- What is the 'lingua franca' in Mali?
- What is the 'lingua franca' in Cote d'Ivoire?

3 Speaking activities - Activités orales

Pratiquez vos compétences orales - répétez ces phrases.

- Cote d'Ivoire is a multilingual country. It has about 70 local languages, and Dioula is the biggest.
- It has about 2 million native speakers and many million more speak it in Cote d'Ivoire, Mali and Burkina Faso.
- Some of the languages in Cote d'Ivoire are called 'national languages' – a language that many people speak. The national languages include Baoule, Anyin, Dan, Senari,
- Dioula and French are the 'lingua franca' languages – most people can speak French and many people speak Dioula even if it is not their mother language.
- Dioula is also similar to Bambara in Mali, and speakers of each language can understand each other.

4 Speaking activities - Activités orales

Exercez-vous à parler - répondez à ces questions en anglais:

- How many languages are spoken in Mali?
- How many people speak Soninke in Mali?
- How many languages are spoken in Cote d'Ivoire?
- Where is Baoule a national language?

5 Match the sentences (A-D) and (E-H) –

Faire correspondre les phrases (A-D) et (E-H).

- | | |
|---|---|
| A | Senegal is a |
| B | It has 38 languages |
| C | It has 5 million native speakers |
| D | A 'native speaker' is a person |
| E | and millions more who can speak it as a second language |
| F | multilingual country. |
| G | who learns that language from their parents |
| H | and Wolof is the biggest |

6 True or False? - Vrai ou Faux?

- Bambara is the 'lingua franca' in Mali
- Dioula and French are the 'lingua franca' languages in Cote d'Ivoire
- Pulaar is a national language in Mali
- Senari is a national language in Mali

7 Fill in the gap - Remplir le vide

Cote d'Ivoire is a ...1... country. It has about 70 ...2... languages, and Dioula is the ...3.... It has about 2 million ...4... speakers and many millions more ...5.... it in Cote d'Ivoire, Mali and Burkina Faso.

Answers –

2 Comprehension questions

Questions de compréhension en lecture

- 1 Wolof is the biggest language
- 2 Senegal has 38 languages
- 3 the Senegambian language family
- 4 Bambara is the 'lingua franca'
- 5 Dioula and French are the 'lingua franca' languages

4 Speaking activities - Activités orales

- 1 It has 80 languages
- 2 Over 1 million people
- 3 About 70 local languages
- 4 In Cote d'Ivoire

5 Match the sentences (A-D) and (E-H) –

Faire correspondre les phrases (A-D) et (E-H).

A=F
B=H
C=E
D=G

6 True or False? - Vrai ou Faux?

- 1 True
- 2 True
- 3 False
- 4 False

7 Fill in the gap – Remplir le vide

- 1 multilingual
- 2 local
- 3 biggest
- 4 native
- 5 speak