Chapter 4: Affirming Identity, Language and Culture





**Endangered languages (pg. 91)**

The number of languages spoken in the world declines every year. On average, one language disappears every two weeks. Language experts believe that between 6000 and 7000 languages are spoken on earth. Of these languages , 96% are spoken by only four per cent of the world’s people. More than half of these languages are endangered.

Even linguists disagree over exactly how many languages exists and how many are in danger. Why would it be hard to nail down how many and what languages are spoken in the world? Why do languages disappear?

**Dominance of English**

* Pg. 92

Q: What different will it make if the number of people who speak english as a first language declines? Consider the countries where English speakers are being born. Where in general, do these countries rate as world powers approximately? In a globalizing world, which is more influential: the number of speakers of a language or the dominance of a language group?

*CC: GLOBISH (approx. 2 classes)*

**Cultural Revitalization - Challenges and Opportunities**

* Using the chart below, read pg. 97 and write down and challenge and any opportunities you read or can think of that cultural revitalization provokes.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Challenges | Opportunities |
|  |  |

**Official Languages Act, 1971**

* Debate
* Position Paper
* Approx. 4 classes

**The CRTC**

* Cultural content laws and Netflix - Blog response (pg. 102)