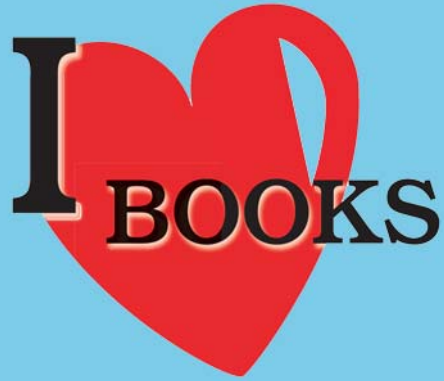




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Opening extract from
**Hello World A Celebration of
Languages and Curiosities**

Written by
Jonathan Litton

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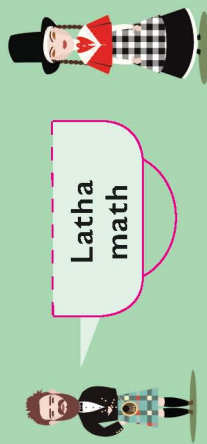


Hello Europe

Europe is home to more than 50 countries and over 100 languages. Despite being small in size, it stretches from the icy Arctic to the sunny Mediterranean, and the greetings are as varied as the landscape. Have fun learning hellos, and remember to lift the flaps to discover facts about the language and tips on pronunciation.

Hello UK and Ireland

English is the most common language here, but you may also hear Irish Gaelic in Ireland, Scottish Gaelic in Scotland, and Welsh in Wales.

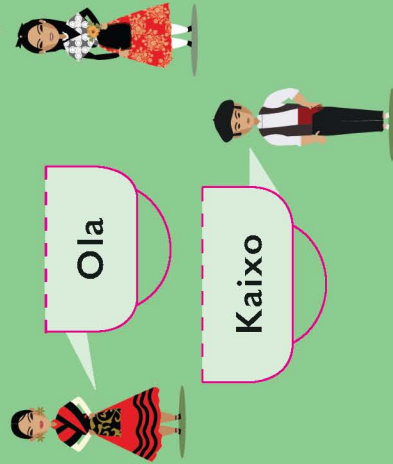


Latha math

Shwmae

¡Hola Spain!

¡Hola! will be understood throughout Spain, but you might want to use these greetings in different regions:



Bon dia

Ola

Kaixo

Hello Vatican City

Tiny Vatican City, located within Rome, uses the ancient language of Latin for official communication – *Non est mirabile?* (Isn't that wonderful?)

Salve



Hello is the same in Ukrainian and Belarusian, though most other words are different!

Привет!

Bitayo

Szia

Sveikas

Bitayo

Salut

Зарасти

Merhaba

Γεια!

Ciao

Zdravo / Zdravo

Živjo

Bok

Guten Tag

Hello

Dia dhuit

Goededag

Hei

Hei

Hej

Bures

Terve

Tere

Sveiki

Hello Caucasus

Salam Qafqaz • Арфæ Кавказ
გაუმბარჯობ ვაგვანობ
Բարեւ, Կովկաս

In the far southeastern corner of Europe lies a mountainous region with many, many languages, some of which have unusual and elegant alphabets. Come and explore the beautiful and mysterious Caucasus!

Hello Mediterranean

Islands are hotspots for languages! Try saying hi in these four languages from islands of the Mediterranean Sea:

Salute

Salutamu

Bone die

Hawn

Goodbye World

Speakers of Dakota – a Native American language in the Sioux branch – do not have a word directly meaning ‘Goodbye’. Instead, they use ‘Doka’, a phrase meaning ‘See you later’, since you are bound to meet again, whether in this life or the afterlife. So treat this as a page of ‘Dokas’, as we’d love you to come back soon to greet the world all over again.



Thank You, World

This project would not have been possible without an army of worldwide support. Special thanks go to the following:

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Keep Languages Alive!

Out of the world's 7,000 languages, it is believed that half will be lost by the end of this century. Indeed, a language is being lost every 14 days at the moment. We'd love you to learn the little languages as well as the big ones, and keep these languages alive. Happy learning!



Language experts

Myna Ishulutak (Inuktitut)
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Dr Alexandre François (Lemerig)

Hello Africa

With over a billion people and 2,000 languages, Africa has a rich variety of greetings. Versions of Arabic are mainly used north of the Sahara Desert, and a huge variety of languages from different families are used to its south. There are fascinating languages to explore within the Sahara, too. Use this map to guide you through deserts, savannahs, jungles and cities, greeting people from all corners of this colourful continent.

Hello Ancient Egypt

Lift the flap to learn about Egyptian hieroglyphs

اسلا عليكم

السلام عليكم

Bonjour

Na nga def

I ni ce

Kushe

Maakye

Bawo

Jam waali

Olá

!Gao

Halau

Ushé-ushé

Kudal

Mbote

Hishani

Sawubona

Goeie dag

السَّلامُ عَلَيْكُمْ

السلام عليكم

Sannu

ሰለም

ሰለም

Muraho

Habari

M'horro

Dumela/Lumela

Ma nabad baa?

Sopa

Manao ahoanae

Molo

Dumela

Avuxeni

Hello Sahara

The Tuareg nomads of the Sahara Desert use a writing system called Tifinagh (ⵜⴰⴳⴷⵓⴷⴰⵢⵜ).

Hello West Africa

Few regions in the world have as many languages as West Africa. Nigeria alone is home to over 500 languages – more than all of Europe put together!

Ndeewo
“ndee-woo”
Igbo
18 million speakers

M sugh
“mm sugh”
Tiv
2.2 million speakers

LIFT THE FLAP TO EXPLORE TWO LESSER-KNOWN LANGUAGES

Hello Namibia

The sparsely populated country of Namibia has many languages, including Afrikaans, Khoekhoe and English. However, perhaps the most unusual is !Kung-Ekoka which uses a series of clicks when spoken. To say hello, click first and then say “Gao” – it’s written “!Gao”.

Hello South Africa

South Africa has 11 official languages and hundreds of other ones. Have a go at these three greetings: