



# MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT BILINGUALISM & BILINGUAL TEACHING

#1

~~Monolingualism is~~

~~the standard and bilingualism an exception.~~

**False.** It is estimated that **40%** of the world's population speaks more than one language daily.

#2

~~To be bilingual is~~

~~to be fluent in two languages and two cultures.~~

**Are you sure?** The mastery of two languages is rarely perfect and balanced.

#3

~~You will never be bilingual if~~

~~you learn a second language too late.~~

**False.** There is no age limit to start learning another language.

#5

~~A child following bilingual education must~~

~~have at least one bilingual parent.~~

**Far from it.** Bilingual education is for all children, no matter their family language background.

#4

~~Before you can learn another language,~~

~~you must already have a perfect knowledge of one.~~

**And no!** Perfect mastery is a delusion, you keep learning all your life.

#6

~~You have to be a good student to~~

~~get bilingual education.~~

**False.** Bilingual education is for all children, without distinction.

#7

~~Avoid using~~

~~different languages in the classroom.~~

**On the contrary,** because the bilingual will develop his languages in a complementary way.

#8

~~You can't learn a~~

~~subject well in a foreign language without being fluent in that language.~~

**False.** It will depend on the strategies adopted by the teacher who will adapt to the students' language level.

#9

~~Schooling a child in two languages~~

~~increases the risk of learning difficulties.~~

**False.** Bilingual children do not have more learning difficulties than monolingual children.

#10

~~The benefits of bilingual learning~~

~~are only linguistic.~~

**False.** Bilingual education also allows for a deeper knowledge of languages and their associated cultures.

