

Title:	Indigenous language revived
First Broadcast:	7 th October, 2014
Source:	ABC's The World Today
Minutes:	4:50
Audio & Script:	http://www.abc.net.au/worldtoday/content/2014/s4101910.htm <i>Right click on the 'Click To Play' button to save the audio file</i>
Summary:	A dedicated team of linguists and teachers have revived an Indigenous language once spoken in the region around Adelaide.
Related Stories:	http://www.abc.net.au/news/2014-10-07/kaurna-language-revived-adelaide/5796282 http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kaurna_language

KEY WORDS

Below is a list of words which appear in the report - which ones don't you know or you are unsure what they mean?

- dormant** language (adj)
- revival** (n)
- resort to** (v)
- lead to** (v)
- dedicated** team (adj)
- slow **process** (n)
- promote** (v)
- high **self-esteem** (n)
- incorporate** (v)
- exceed** expectations (v)
- broad** (adj)
- identity** (n)
- track down** (v)
- conduct** a conversation (v)
- transform** (v)

DEFINITION MATCH

Can you match the words with their correct definition?

change, usually in a good way	
confidence and satisfaction in yourself	
devoted, enthusiastic, committed	
do or use something because no other choices are possible	
encourage, help develop, support	
greater or more than something, go beyond	
inactive, sleeping	
include as part of something else	
including many things or people, wide	
locate, find something through searching	
make possible, cause	
manage, do, carry on	
rebirth, restoration, growth of something after a long period of no growth or activity	
series of actions that produce something, procedure	
the qualities, beliefs, character etc., that make somebody or group of people different from others	

dormant (adj)
dedicated (adj)
incorporate (v)
track down (v)
process (n)
revival (n)
exceed (v)
conduct (v)
resort (v)
promote (v)
broad (adj)
transform (v)
lead to (v)
self-esteem (n)
identity (n)

FOCUS QUESTIONS

- What is a 'missionary'? In the past, what relationship did missionaries have with Indigenous communities in Australia?
- Why do you think a lot of Indigenous languages in Australia have become dormant?
- How is it possible to piece together and teach a language that is no longer spoken?
- Do you think it is important to revive dormant languages like Kurna?
- Dr Rob Amery, a linguist who worked on the project, says learning the language is having incredible benefits for the Kurna community. What do you think some of the benefits would be?
- Aunty Alitya Wallara Rigney, an Indigenous teacher who also worked on the project, says culture and language go together and that she wanted Kurna kids to be strong in their Kurna identity. What does she mean?
- Around the world, English is dominant in a way that no language has ever been before. How has this happened? Do you think it is a positive development?

PRE-LISTENING

Before watching the report, note down what you think the following figures from the report refer to (you could try writing a question to match the answer)

- **More than two decades –**
- **For more than a century -**
- Alitya Wallara Rigney and Dr Rob Amery didn't have any voice recordings of the language to work with. **True / False**
- There are a few Kurna men who can now speak some Kurna language but they still need to rely on English to hold a conversation. **True / False**

LISTENING

Listen to the report and check your answers

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

After listening to the report, try to answers the following questions

1. Because of the laws that existed at the time she was growing up, Alitya Wallara Rigney wasn't able to speak her own language with her mother. **True / False**
2. What is one word she uses to describe how she found the process of learning the language and then teaching it?
3. What did Alitya Wallara Rigney and Dr Rob Amery use to help them piece the language together?

Letters written in Kurna by students to missionaries in

4. What did they rely on to work out how to pronounce words?
.....
5. Dr Rob Amery says the absence of voice recordings means the results of the project were not as good as he had hoped for. **True / False**
6. Who does Jack Buckskin, one of the men who can now speak Kurna, practice speaking the language with?
7. In what ways does Dr Rob Amery think learning Kurna can benefit the lives of certain Kurna individuals? (Note down one or two things mentioned)
.....

CLOZE

Use the words to complete the sentences – you may have to change the form of the word

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> dormant | <input type="checkbox"/> revival | <input type="checkbox"/> resort | <input type="checkbox"/> lead to |
| <input type="checkbox"/> dedicated | <input type="checkbox"/> process | <input type="checkbox"/> promote | <input type="checkbox"/> self-esteem |
| <input type="checkbox"/> incorporate | <input type="checkbox"/> exceed | <input type="checkbox"/> broad | <input type="checkbox"/> identity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> track down | <input type="checkbox"/> conduct | <input type="checkbox"/> transform | |

- By the mid-20th century there were concerns the Maori language in New Zealand was dying out. But major initiatives launched from the 1980s have brought about a and now more than 130,000 people can speak and understand it.
- Frequent exposure to new vocabulary is very important in theof mastering a foreign language. Studies suggest that most learners need at least 5 'meetings' with a word in order to retain it.
- IELTSaround 2 million English language tests around the world each year.
- It has often been argued that the spread of English as an international language right around the world has resulted in the loss of culturalin some societies.
- Johnson-Sirleaf, Africa's first elected female head of state and a Nobel Prize winner, once said "the size of your dreams must alwaysyour current capacity to achieve them. If your dreams do not scare you, they are not big enough."
- Many young adults in non-English speaking countries, who are working in international business related fields, learn English as it canbetter job opportunities.
- Over the centuries, a large number of foreign words have beeninto the English language. Linguists often refer to them as 'loanwords'.
- People often use Facebook these days toold friends who they might not have heard from for many years.
- The American man had worked in China for 2 years and in that time he had only learned a few phrases of Mandarin. But he eventually started studying the language and after a year was almost fluent. He said it had completelythe experience of living in the country and he wished he had begun earlier.
- The British Councilthe UK's education sector as well as its culture through a wide range of activities and events.
- The football club has a number offans who attend every single one of their matches, even if it means travelling to the other side of the country.
- The protest leaders said the demonstrations had been peaceful and that they onlyto violence after police attacked them with their batons.
- The volcano had beenfor more than 100 years. When it last erupted, it destroyed hundreds of homes in nearby villages and over 300 people died.
- When he was learning German, the man read arange of materials including novels, newspapers, magazines, poems and even comic books which he found especially useful for studying spoken language.
- When learning a foreign language, personality variables such as confidence and..... can have big impact on oral proficiency levels.

ANSWERS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ How long did it take to piece the language together? ○ No-one has been able to speak Karnua fluently for how long? ▪ T ▪ F 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. T 2. exciting 3. Germany 4. Neighbouring languages 5. F – exceeded his expectations 6. His children 7. can lead to employment, much higher self-esteem (as an individual and as a group) and that has health and well-being benefits
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change, usually in a good way	transform
confidence and satisfaction in yourself	self-esteem
devoted, enthusiastic, committed	dedicated
do or use something because no other choices are possible	resort
encourage, help develop, support	promote
greater or more than something, go beyond	exceed
inactive, sleeping	dormant
include as part of something else	incorporate
including many things or people, wide	broad
locate, find something through searching	track down
make possible, cause	lead to
manage, do, carry on	conduct
rebirth, restoration, growth of something after a long period of no growth or activity	revival
series of actions that produce something, procedure	process
the qualities, beliefs, character etc., that make somebody or group of people different from others	identity

1. By the mid-20th century there were concerns the Maori language in New Zealand was dying out. But major initiatives launched from the 1980s have brought about a **revival** and now more than 130,000 people can speak and understand it.
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6. Many young adults in non-English speaking countries, who are working in international business related fields, learn English as it can **lead to** better job opportunities.
7. Over the centuries, a large number of foreign words have been **incorporated** into the English language. Linguists often refer to them as 'loanwords'.
8. People often use Facebook these days to **track down** old friends who they might not have heard from for many years.
9. The American man had worked in China for 2 years and in that time he had only learned a few phrases of Mandarin. But he eventually started studying the language and after a year was almost fluent. He said it had completely **transformed** the experience of living in the country and he wished he had begun earlier.
10. The British Council **promotes** the UK's education sector as well as its culture through a wide range of activities and events.
11. The football club has a number of **dedicated** fans who attend every single one of their matches, even if it means travelling to the other side of the country.
12. The protest leaders said the demonstrations had been peaceful and that they only **resorted** to violence after police attacked them with their batons.
13. The volcano had been **dormant** for more than 100 years. When it last erupted, it destroyed hundreds of homes in nearby villages and over 300 people died.
14. When he was learning German, the man read a **broad** range of materials including novels, newspapers, magazines, poems and even comic books which he found especially useful for studying spoken language.
15. When learning a foreign language, personality variables such as confidence and **self-esteem** can have big impact on oral proficiency levels.