

Research Guides



LANGUAGE RESOURCES

ADULT REFERENCE – 1ST FLOOR

American Sign Language - R 419 Ste

More than 7,000 signs and 12,000 illustrations. “[T]he largest and most complete dictionary of sign language ever published,” according to the National Association of the Deaf.

Dictionary of Languages – R 420.3 Dal

Covers more than 400 languages, living and dead. Includes maps, proverbs, anecdotes, quotations, and charts of scripts.

Oxford English Dictionary - R 423 Oxf

This 20-volume set is considered the ultimate reference in English lexicology.

Oxford American Writer’s Thesaurus - R 423.1 Lin

More than 300,000 synonyms and 100,000 antonyms and over 200 short essays.

Cassell’s New Latin Dictionary - R 473 C

A thorough dictionary of Latin.

ADULT NONFICTION – 3RD FLOOR

The World’s Major Languages – 410 Wor

From English, French, Spanish and Russian to Pashto, Tagalog, and Swahili, this is the first comprehensive reference work to provide detailed information about the world's forty major languages.

Fluent Forever: How to Learn Any Language Fast and Never Forget It – 418.0071 Wyn

Presents a series of techniques for acquiring a foreign language, including new ways of training the tongue for pronunciation, use of visual imagery for connecting sounds and spelling, and spaced-repetition methods for learning new vocabulary.

Is That a Fist in Your Ear?: Translation and the Meaning of Everything – 418.02 Bel

Offers a humorous look at how translation sheds light on the human condition and why it is necessary for situations ranging from spreading religion to appreciating literature.

DVDS – 2nd Floor

The Story of Human Language – DVD 410 Sto

Lectures that explore many of the common questions about language, such as: Why isn't there just a single language? Or, How does a language change, and when it does, is that change indicative of decay or growth?

FINDING BOOKS AND OTHER LIBRARY MATERIALS

Dewey Decimal browsing numbers: 400 - 499

In addition to reference books, you may want to search for other books and materials (videos, audiobooks, etc.) on your topic. You can access the Library catalog from the Library or from home by going to www.wtpl.org. A good subject search is **language, Spanish language, French language, Polish language**, etc.

EBOOKS

Visit **EBSCOhost** (www.wtpl.org/research) or <https://wtpl.overdrive.com> to search the thousands of eBooks the Library has to offer. Library card required. Contact an Adult Services Librarian for additional details.

ARTICLES

The following sources can be used to find magazine articles dealing with your topic:

- **EBSCOhost and General OneFile** - Access from the Library or at home using your library card number at www.wtpl.org. Search for full-text articles in these online databases using your choice of keywords. You can limit the search to a certain year or even a certain magazine.

WEB SITES

BBC Languages: Tutorials for French Spanish, English, German, Urdu, and others that are very user-friendly. www.bbc.co.uk/languages

Dictionary.com: Handy dictionary and thesaurus. Scroll down for foreign language, science, medical and other dictionaries and other language links. www.dictionary.reference.com

The Ethnologue: Languages of the World: One of the best Web resources available on the languages and dialects of the world. www.ethnologue.com

Google Translate: Offers instantaneous translations of text and web pages. translate.google.com

Handspeak.com: ASL dictionary, ASL lessons, finger spelling, emoticon & bodicon and much more. www.handspeak.com

I Love Languages: iLoveLanguages lists, categorizes, and promotes Internet resources related to language learning, education, and use. www.ilovelanguages.com

For additional information, please see an Adult Services Librarian.