Abstract

At a time when globalization, is no longer a novel word and has become a common expression in everyday conversation, the probability of an individual coming into contact with a foreign language is higher than ever before. Today, the need to learn a foreign language is emphasized in almost all domains of human interaction.

In the secondary school context of a Greek minority, in the Southern part of Albanian region, in which this survey was carried out, the decision to learn a particular foreign language is still closely tied to the language's perceived utilitarian value, both in the present and also in the prospected future.

In this survey, potential relationships between linguistic theory and second language acquisition will be analyzed. The fundamental concern is considered to be on three issues: What constitutes knowledge of language? How is such knowledge acquired?

How is such language put to use? These questions are concerned with adult native speaker knowledge and use of language, and with child first language acquisition.

An aim of this survey is to suggest that if these questions are posed about second language knowledge and acquisition, the same answers that current linguistic theory offers for first language knowledge and acquisition may prove to be relevant.