

Spell as you pronounce?

发音拼写要一致吗？

請注意：中文文字内容只提供簡體版

学习一门新的语言很不容易，特别是在拼写生词的时候更是如此。“根据发音来拼写的全球计划”（缩写为 SAYPU）旨在让每一个人都能根据单词的发音来拼写，并希望全球统一使用拉丁字母来进行拼写。以下是 BBC 记者 Karen Zarindast 发回的报道。

School children in English-speaking countries have difficulty spelling words such as 'people' and 'friend'. They contain the odd **vowels** which are not **pronounced**. SAYPU suggests it is about time we started spelling what we pronounced and not just in English, but in all languages. Say, for instance, the word 'oui' - or 'yes' in French - would be spelled WEE and the word 'Leute' in German - meaning 'people' - as LOITE. The director of Logos Capital, Jaber George, who is launching the programme today, insists their aim is to help raise worldwide **literacy** levels by making spelling easier.

"One of the reasons why, in some cultures and in certain languages, there is higher illiteracy rates than in others is because of the difficulty in learning how to read and write, and by having, actually, a **phonetic** alphabet, then you don't have this problem anymore; everyone will be able to read and write much more easily. So **Esperanto**, basically, is to have a single language spoken by everyone; here, what we are trying to do is just to have all these languages written using the same alphabet."

Even though there might be **linguists** out there **frowning at** the project already, Jaber insists their programme won't **undermine** the beauty and the **playfulness** of words and languages. They aim to create their own dictionary of words from around the world. And if you are **so inclined**, you could log in and add a word or two from your part of the world.

Questions:

1. What is the aim of the new project-SAYPU?
2. True or false? The proposed idea is to have all the languages written in the same alphabet.
3. True or false? All linguists like the new idea.
4. Explain the meaning of the underlined part of the following sentence: 'If you are so inclined, you could log in and add a word or two from your part of the world.'

Vocabulary 词汇

vowels	元音
pronounced	发音, 读音
literacy	读写能力
phonetic	语音的, 按照拼写的读音
Esperanto	世界语
linguists	语言学家
frowning at	(对某事) 不赞同
undermine	削弱
playfulness	嬉闹, 乐趣
so inclined	愿意 (做某事)

Answers to the questions:

1. What is the aim of the new project-SAYPU?

Answer: To help raise worldwide literacy levels by making spelling easier.

2. True or false: The proposed idea is to have all the languages written in the same alphabet.

Answer: True.

3. True or false? All linguists like the new idea.

Answer: False, because the report said that there might be linguists out there frowning at the project already.

4. Explain the meaning of the underlined part of the following sentence: 'If you are so inclined, you could log in and add a word or two from your part of the world.'

Answer: If you like, you could log in and add a word or two from your part of the world.