Enjoy Learning the six UN Official Languages on Your Devices

This package contains a list of resources that provide additional language learning assistance for those interested in self-study to further improve their language skills.

INTRODUCTION

MOBILE APPLICATIONS FOR LANGUAGE LEARNING

UN APPLICATIONS WITH AUTHENTIC LANGUAGE

DISCLAIMER AND MORE

Introduction

The Language and Communications Training Unit (LCTU) promotes the core value of multilingualism and delivers on the General Assembly request of the Secretary-General to continue delivery of linguistic training adapted to the United Nations (Resolution 73/346, para.79). To do so, the LCTU offers language learning and communication advisory services in the six oficial languages for staff members at UN Headquarters in New York and also in the Global Secretariat.

As part of our commitment to equal language learning opportunities, this package serves as a starting point to explore a variety of authentic language resources (online, audio, video, written, etc.) intended for learning experiences and materials designed for the six oficial languages of the United Nations.

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The LCTU is committed to researching and compiling language learning resources on a regular basis. However, please note that the United Nations does not endorse any of the products, websites or any other reference materials presented in this package.

More information

Language Learning Programmes across the UN

Language managers, instructors, and potential learners should refer to the website Language Learning at the United Nations.

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How to Use the Package

The resources contained in this package are targeted to:

- **Learning managers or learning focal points** who would like to know more about language learning resources for the six oficial languages.

- **Language learning specialists such as language instructors, teachers, tutors and language learning institutional partners**. The learning resources referenced here may complete or coincide with your own preferred sources and will be updated regularly. Any feedback is therefore greatly appreciated.

- **Language enthusiasts and learners of any of the UN oficial languages** who live the value of multilingualism and wish to maintain and improve their language skills on a self-study basis.

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Contact Us

Please note that more language-related information is available at:

- Language Learning Programmes across the United Nations

- Language and Communications Training Unit at UNHQ

Please do not hesitate to contact the LCTU for further information:

DOS-CDOTS-training@un.org

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General Language Learning

Five Applications for General Language Learning

Duolingo

Website: http://www.duolingo.com

Language Learning App Cost: Free

Available Language(s): Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish

This app aims at improving language skills in general. The material is broken into small units, and learners can test their knowledge after each lesson. Lessons include speaking, listening, translation, and multiple-choice activities. Additional resources include games and other fun activities for revising the material.

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Busuu

Website: http://www.busuu.com

Language Learning App Cost:

- Basic version is free
- Premium version available for a fee

Available Language(s): Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish

The basic version of Busuu allows learners to create flashcards for studying and revising vocabulary. The premium version is set up as a course and includes more features that help learners build grammar units, a vocabulary trainer, and conversations with native speakers. The course material is also available for ofline learning.
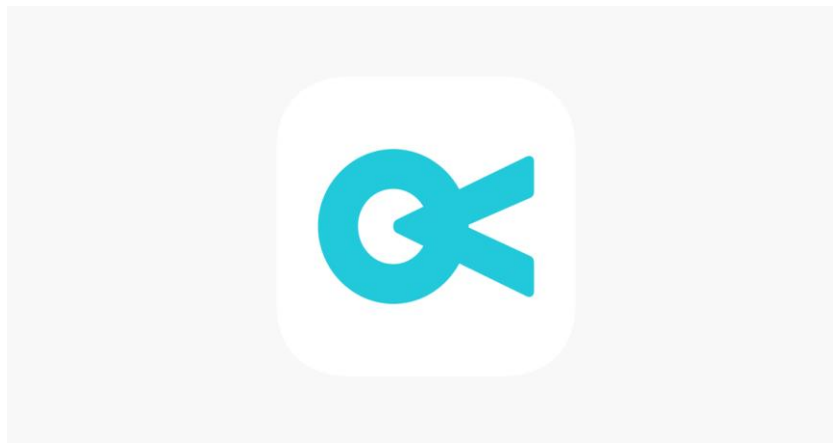
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Voxy

Website: http://www.voxy.com

Language Learning App Cost: Fees may vary

Available Language(s): English

Voxy offers personalized content based on the learner's needs. The curriculum automatically adapts to the learner's progress. A new feature is that Voxy offers distance learning, and private and group classes by certified teachers can be requested. Speakers. The course material is also available for ofline learning.

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Babbel

Website: http://www.babbel.com

Language Learning App Cost:

• First lesson is free
• Fees for accessing the whole course apply

Available Language(s): English, French, Russian, and Spanish

Focusing on speaking skills, Babbel offers conversation lessons with interactive dialogues. Review sessions reinforce the content and help learners to remember phrases that can be used in authentic situations.

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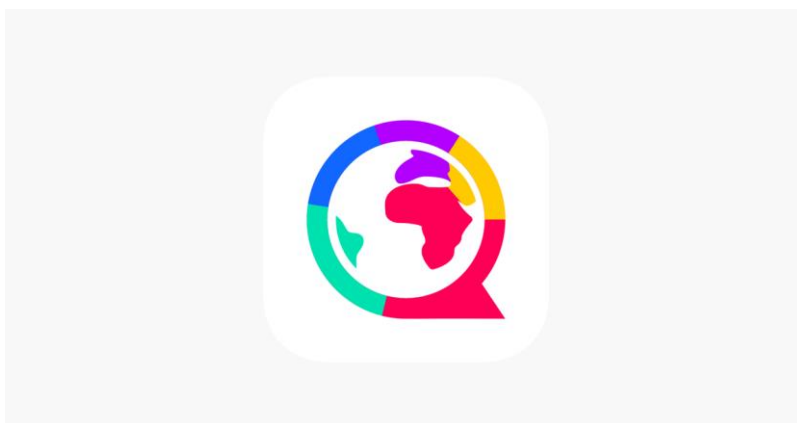
Fluentu

Website: http://www.fluentu.com

Language Learning App Cost:
- $10/month for the basic version
- $20/month for the plus version

Available Language(s): Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish

This app focuses on learning words in context and offers a large variety of authentic video material for learners. Members who subscribe to the plus version also have access to quizzes and flashcards.

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Vocabulary Learning

2 Applications for Vocabulary Learning

Memrise

Website: http://www.memrise.com

Language Learning App Cost: Free; Pro version from $4.90/month

Available Language(s): Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish

This language learning tool allows learners to sign up for beginners or advanced courses online. Its focus is on building up vocabulary through fun exercises and activities that are based on recent brain research.

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Quizlet

Website: http://www.quizlet.com

Language Learning App Cost: Free

Available Language(s): English, French, and Spanish

Creating flashcards in this online learning tool help learners to retain vocabulary, and they can practice the words through games and various other activities. Flashcards can also be shared with other learners.

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Speaking Partners

3 Applications for Finding Speaking Partners

Tandem

Website: https://www.tandem.net

Language Learning App Cost: Free

Available Language(s): Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish

Learners find an online tandem partner for practicing listening and speaking skills, and improving pronunciation. They can also find an online tutor through the app.

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HelloTalk

Website: https://www.hellotalk.com

Language Learning App Cost: Free

Available Language(s): Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish

This app allows learners to find a conversation partner to practice their English. The focus is on the chat function, which allows for giving and receiving corrective feedback.
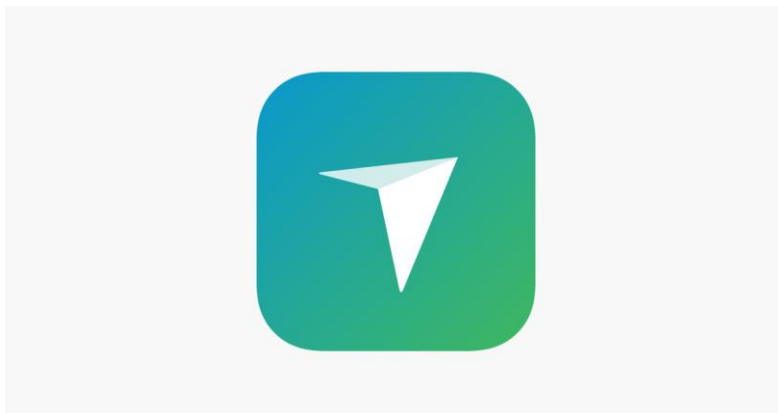

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Verbling

Website: https://www.verbling.com

Language Learning App Cost: Individual lesson prices may vary

Available Language(s): Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and

Spanish Find an online teacher who tailors classes specifically for each learner through this website.

Tutors for conversation are also available. Each teacher and tutor has their skills and availability listed online, with many offering free trials.

Student reviews are also available.

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UN Audio Channels

Available for [Android](#) and [iOS](#) platforms

The UN Audio Channels is a free app that allows you to hear live UN meetings in New York, as well as UN Radio content from anywhere in the world – including information programmes, news bulletins, feature stories and interviews in the six UN oficial languages.

Listen to the latest news bulletins and features stories, daily radio programs, interviews, daily press briefings and live coverage of many UN General Assembly and Security Council meetings.
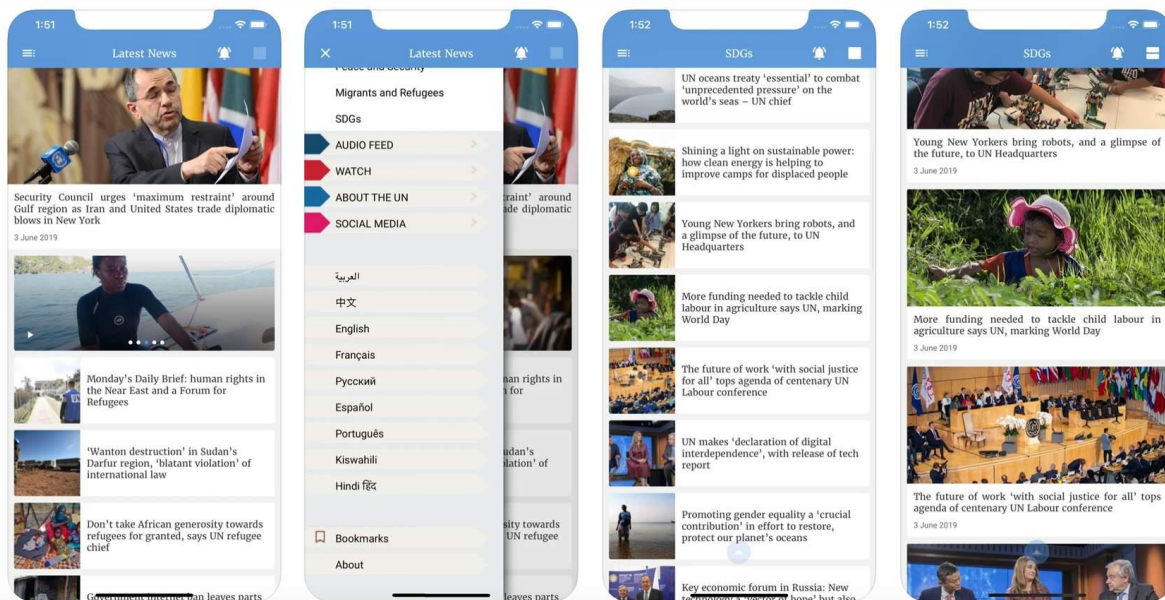
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Other UN Applications

Here are more UN applications with authentic language resources without charge:

UN News Reader

Available for [Android](#) and [iOS](#) platforms

The UN News Reader app connects you directly with the latest UN news feeds, in all six UN oficial languages. In addition, the app offers compact information about the UN through links to the UN main web site, Events Calendar, Calendar of Observances, Basic Facts about the United Nations (English version only), UN Multimedia, UN Radio, Twitter, Facebook and Weibo.
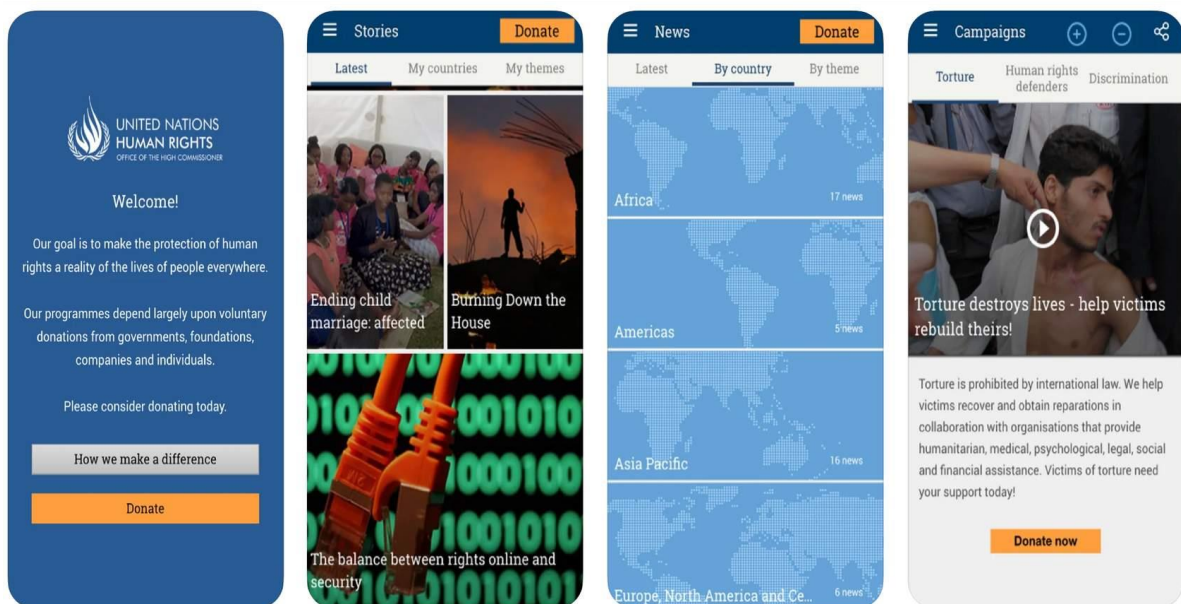

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UN HumanRights

Available for [Android](#) and [iOS](#) platforms

- Know your rights: this will make you better equipped to claim your rights whether civil and political or social and economic no matter where in the world you are

- Get the latest human rights updates: this will make you aware of human rights violations taking place around the world and the injustices that some populations face in their daily lives

- Share updates on social media: this will allow your friends to like and comment on videos, stories and news

- Support a worthy cause: make a donation in support of victims of torture, to combat discrimination (racial or against women, migrants and LGBTI); to ensure that human rights defenders are safe and secure; or to report on human rights violations, bring perpetrators to justice and provide victims with protection and reparations.

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United Nations Visitor Centre

Available for [Android](#) and [iOS](#) platforms

The United Nations Visitor Centre – NY application is presented to you by the UN Department of Public Information - UN Visitor Services. It offers visitors an exciting opportunity to discover and get to know more about some artworks and gifts at the UN Headquarters in New York.

This App is an addition to the guided tour programme and covers over 65 works of art and architectural elements in the Plaza, Visitors´ Lobby and Visitor Centre of the GA building.
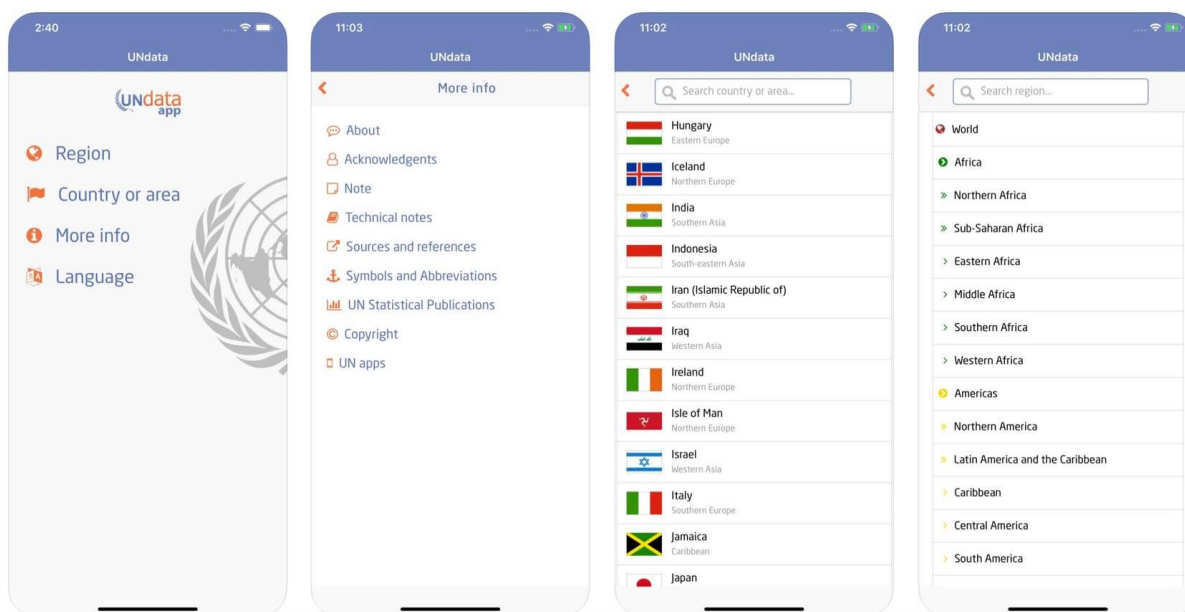

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UNdata

Available for [Android](#) and [iOS](#) platforms

UNdata app is produced by the United Nations and gives users portable access to a compilation of key statistical indicators organised into 4 sections; general information, economic indicators, social indicators, environmental and infrastructure indicators for 30 geographical regions and over 200 countries and areas of the world.

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Disclaimer

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DISCLAIMER

This package has been compiled for informational purposes only and does not constitute an endorsement of any of the products described.

As with all online services and products, safe practices are advised.

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Your Suggestions

Have a comment?

Please contact us at dos-cdots-training@un.org to let us know about any possible typos, missing information, and to add recommendations to the list of resources. Thank you.

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Thank You

Thank you for using this package.

We hope you enjoy the resources and find them useful.

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