**Language WebQuest**

**Part 1: The History of the English Language Infographic**

**Directions:** Go to <http://www.avatargeneration.com/2013/02/the-history-of-the-english-language-infographic/>

1. The beginnings of the European languages developed where? Around what time?
2. In the ‘Post Proto Germanic’ branch, the 4 weekdays were named after what? Do these days have any similarities to our current names for weekdays? If so, how?
3. What group added 2,000 more words to the Indo-European language around the 700 and 800’s?
4. Has the official language in England always been English? If not, what other language was the ‘language of the law’ and why did this change occur?
5. What war caused the change in language in England?
6. What contributions did William Shakespeare give to the English language?
7. What was the King James bible? Why is it important?
8. The English Language now has words taken or derived from how many languages?

**Part 2: Now watch this:**

[**https://youtu.be/iWDKsHm6gTA**](https://youtu.be/iWDKsHm6gTA)

**and answer these questions:**

1. What geographic process creates language dialects?

2. What techniques do linguists use to compare and contrast languages?

3. What are two main problems linguist face in their work to classify languages?

**Part 3: Endangered Languages**

**Directions:** Go to: <http://www.endangeredlanguages.com/>

1. Before exploring the website, read the article (Button on Readings webpage); *Endangered Languages, Why so Important?*
   1. Read the article and write down three reasons why endangered languages are so important.
2. Go back to main page and click ‘Explore Languages’ tab located on the blue world map.
   1. Play around with the map a bit
      1. Zoom in and out
      2. Find the ‘Classification’ link and change the classification of languages you are looking at.
3. Using the map, make 3 observations about the endangered languages map.
4. Next, change the classification to just show ‘severely endangered’ languages.
   1. What languages do you think are ‘severely endangered’ in the U.S.?
   2. Why do you think there are less ‘severely endangered’ languages in Europe?
   3. What area of the world have the highest density and concentration of ‘severely endangered’ languages?
5. Go back to the main page and search for a language (any language). Write down the language and 1 interesting fact about that language.