

Random Ethnicity Generator

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d100	Ethnicity	First Language	Second Language
01–14	Chinese (Han)	ZH-CMN	EN
15		ZH-WUU	ZH-CMN
16		ZH-HAK	ZH-CMN
17		ZH-YUE	ZH-CMN
18–20	Chinese (non-Han) or Mongolian	*	ZH-CMN
21	Japanese	JP	EN
22	Korean	KO	EN
23–25	Indonesian	MS	EN
26	Filipino	TL	EN
27	Vietnamese	VI	EN
28	Thai	TH	MS
29–30	Burmese, Cambodian, Laotian or Malay	*	MS
31	Nepali	NE	HI
32–38	Indian (Hindi)	HI	EN
39	Indian (Bengali)	BN	EN
40	Indian (Telugu)	TE	EN
41	Indian (Marathi)	MR	EN
42	Indian (Tamil)	TA	EN
43	Indian (Gujarati)	GU	EN
44	Indian (Kannada)	KN	EN
45	Indian (Malayalam)	ML	EN
46	Indian (Oriya)	OR	EN
47	Indian (Punjabi)	PA	EN
48	Indian (Kashmiri)	KS	EN
49–51	Bangladeshi	BN	EN
52–54	Pakistani	UR	EN
55	Central Asian	*	AR
56	Iranian	FA	AR
57	Georgian, Armenian or Azerbaijani	*	RU
58–59	Middle Eastern Arab	AR	EN
60	Turkish	TR	AR
61–62	Russian	RU	EN
63	Polish, Ukrainian or Belarusian	*	RU
64	Other Eastern European	*	EN

d100	Ethnicity	First Language	Second Language
65	German, Austrian or Swiss	DE	EN
66	British or Irish	EN	—
67	Other Northern European	*	EN
68	French	FR	EN/AR
69	Italian	IT	EN
70	Spanish or Portuguese	ES/PT	EN/ES
71	Egyptian	AR	EN
72–73	North African Arab	AR	FR
74–75	Nigerian	EN	*
76–77	Other West African	*	FR
78	Ethiopian	AM	AR
79	Congolese	FR	LN/*
80	Tanzanian or Kenyan	SW	EN
81	South African	EN	*
82–84	Other Sub-Sahel African	*	SW
85–86	American or Canadian (White)	EN	—/ES/FR
87	American (White Southern)	EN	—
88	American or Canadian (Black)	EN	—
89	American (Latino)	EN	ES
90	Mexican	ES	EN
91	Central American	ES	EN
92–94	Brazilian	PT	ES
95–96	Colombian, Venezuelan, Ecuadorian or Peruvian	ES	EN
97	Argentinian, Chilean or Uruguayan	ES	EN
98	Australian or New Zealander	EN	ZH-CMN/MI
99	Polynesian	*	
00	Impossible to determine	any	

Language Key

AM	Amharic
AR	Arabic
BN	Bengali
DE	German
EN	English
ES	Spanish
FA	Farsi
FR	French
GU	Gujarati
HI	Hindi
IT	Italian
JP	Japanese
KN	Kannada
KO	Korean
KS	Kashmiri
LN	Lingala
MI	Māori
ML	Malayalam
MR	Marathi
MS	Malay
NE	Nepali
OR	Oriya
PA	Punjabi
PT	Portuguese
RU	Russian
SW	Swahili
TA	Tamil
TE	Telugu
TH	Thai
TL	Tagalog
TR	Turkish
UR	Urdu
VI	Vietnamese
ZH	Chinese
CMN	Mandarin
HAK	Hakka
MIN	Min (Hokkien)
WUU	Wu (Shanghainese)
YUE	Yue (Cantonese)

* One of a number of local languages

— No second language (monolingual)

How to Use This Table

This table, for use in modern and science fiction roleplaying, is based on the actual population distribution of today's world. It presumes that this distribution remains approximately constant into the future.

The simplest way to use this table is to ignore the First Language and Second Language columns and assume that all your characters speak the same language, whatever that language may be. It may be a hypothetical future monolanguage or a shared creole of some kind, or the fact that all the characters speak the same language may be a matter of happenstance.

However, if you want to take a more organic approach, you can choose or roll the ethnicity or nationality of a single character (say, the captain of a ship) and then require all other characters (say, the ship's crew) to speak one of the captain's languages as their own first or second language. Sometimes this will result in a very diverse group of characters. Other times, it will limit the options considerably. For the greatest flexibility, your key character should speak English, Spanish, or Arabic as their first or second language.

First Language is the language that a character is most fluent in and defaults to in everyday conversation. **Second Language** is the most typical secondary language of characters of this ethnicity/nationality, often hegemonic, indigenous, or the primary language of a neighboring country.