Family languages and origins: Student worksheet

What languages other than English are spoken at home?

Your class may have people whose families speak a language other than English at home.

Create a pie graph of the data collected. Write a brief paragraph about your findings.

How does our class data on languages compare to the data from the 2011 Australian census?

The five most common languages other than English are Mandarin, Italian, Arabic, Cantonese and Greek. The data in the table comes from the 2011 Australian census.

Language top responses (other than English)	Australia	%	2006	%
Mandarin	336 410	1.6	220 604	1.1
Italian	299 834	1.4	316 894	1.6
Arabic	287 174	1.3	243 662	1.2
Cantonese	263 673	1.2	244 558	1.2
Greek	252 217	1.2	252 227	1.3
English only spoken at home	16 509 291	76.8	15 581 334	78.5
Households where two or more languages are spoken	1 579 949	20.4	1 267 797	17.7

Construct a pie graph of these five languages. What do you notice? How does this compare to the class data?

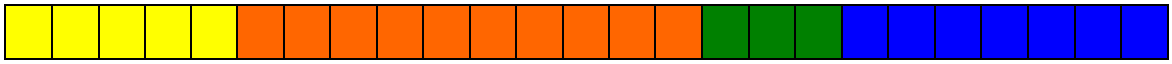
Now construct a pie graph of the five most common languages including English. What do you notice?

Where do our families come from?

Use your class results to construct a fraction bar graph.

Draw a rectangle, as many centimetres long as the number of people in your class (e.g., if there are 23 students, the rectangle would be 23 cm long). Group all the people from the same country together, and choose a colour to show that country.

Your fraction bar graph might look like this:



yellow – Vietnam, orange – Italy, green – China, blue – Australia

Write a brief paragraph about the origins of the families in your class.

How does our class data on family origins compare to the data from the 2011 Australian census?

Use the data in the table to draw a bar graph to show the ancestry of the Australian population.

Ancestry top responses	Australia	%	2006	%
English	7 238 533	25.9	6 283 647	24.7
Australian	7 098 486	25.4	7 371 823	29.0
Irish	2 087 758	7.5	1 803 736	7.1
Scottish	1 792 622	6.4	1 501 200	5.9
Italian	916 121	3.3	852 421	3.3
Country of birth	Australia	%	2006	%
Australia	15 017 847	69.8	14 072 945	70.9
England	911 593	4.2	856 939	4.3
New Zealand	483 398	2.2	389 465	2.0
China (excludes SARs and Taiwan)	318 969	1.5	206 588	1.0
India	295 362	1.4	147 106	0.7
Italy	185 402	0.9	199 124	1.0
Birthplace of parents, stated responses	Australia	%	2006	%
Both parents born overseas	6 876 586	34.3	5 868 729	32.0
Father only born overseas	1 407 270	7.0	1 299 784	7.1
Mother only born overseas	989 220	4.9	879 691	4.8
Both parents born in Australia	10 757 087	53.7	10 282 282	56.1

Imagine that the Australian population is the same as your class. Construct a fraction bar graph to show this. How many people would be in each category? How does this compare to the actual class data?

Ask your teacher how to turn your fraction bar graph into a pie graph!