

Student speaks from the heart in several languages

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LOUISVILLE, KY (WAVE) - For some of us learning another language is on our bucket list. One young man already has several languages under his belt.

It can be tough to make new friends at a new school, but 11-year-old Mohamed Naseem Mohamed Nashazdeen, who goes by Nashaz, has seven tricks up his sleeve to help.



Mohamed Naseem Mohamed Nashazdeen (Source: WAVE 3 News)

"I speak Tamil, Sinhala, Malay, English, Spanish," he listed. You can add Italian and Arabic to the list for a total of seven languages.

Nashaz is a refugee from Sri Lanka. He's traveled around the world to places like Brazil, Ecuador,

Panama, Dubai and Bangkok.

"He's like a little piece of magic I think at our school," said Newcomer Academy Principal Gwen Snow.

Nashaz is in the 6th grade at the school where more than 20 languages are spoken.



"I'm sure he'll pick up just about every language we have in this building the more kids he gets to interact with," Snow said.

Newcomer Academy Principal Gwen Snow (Source: WAVE 3 News)

Some students barely speak English, but they can count on Nashaz for a hand.

Our cameras witnessed as a student struggled to read a question off a worksheet during a group project. Nashaz jumped right in, translating the question to the student in Spanish, along with an explanation of how rain forms.

"He puts them at ease and says, 'Let's focus on this. And I'll be your friend and I'll help you out,'" Snow said.

Nashaz is a fast learner. He said he learned Spanish in two weeks. He's only been in the United States for one month.

As if seven languages weren't enough, Nashaz said he's already planning to learn Bosnian.

"I want to speak all the language of the world," he said.

Nashaz said it's easy for him to learn a new language. He said he loves it because he's able to help his parents and his friends understand others.

Video Omitted

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