



*Welcome, new families!*

## TABLE OF CONTENTS (All items are linked)

1. [Welcome to Canada – Introduction to Education](#)
2. [Grade Placement](#)
3. [SD62 ELL Pamphlet for Families](#)
4. [Contacts for New Families](#)
5. [Infographic: How to Use Google Translate](#)



# Welcome to Canada



## PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION IN CANADA



In Canada, parents and guardians must make sure their children get an education.

### TYPES OF SCHOOLS

Each of Canada's provinces and territories runs its own education system. The schools in these systems are called public schools, and they are free (funded by taxes).

Public schools are available in both English and French in many areas.

There are also private schools, which are usually not funded by governments. There are fees to send children to private schools.

### THE SCHOOL YEAR

The school year starts in late August or early September, and finishes in June, with holiday breaks during the year. Children attend school from Monday to Friday. Schools close on public (statutory) holidays.

Contact your local school or provincial ministry of education to learn how to register your child in school. A list of provincial ministries of education can be found at [www.cmec.ca](http://www.cmec.ca).

### HOW TO REGISTER A CHILD FOR SCHOOL

To register, you will need to show documents that prove

- the child's age (such as a birth certificate or passport)
- your guardianship
- where you live (your home address)
- that your child's vaccines are up to date (a record of immunizations)

### SETTLEMENT WORKERS IN SCHOOLS

Many schools have settlement workers to help children, youth and parents who are new to Canada. Ask your school about these resources.



## AT-HOME EDUCATION

Some parents choose to teach their children themselves. This is called at-home education or home schooling. If you wish to teach your children yourself, you should contact your provincial or territorial ministry of education or your local settlement service provider for more information.

## LANGUAGE OF EDUCATION – ENGLISH AND FRENCH SCHOOLS

English-language and French-language schools are available in many communities across the country. Some English-language schools also offer immersion programs in French. This means that children are taught in French for most of the school day.

For information about schools in Canada that offer courses in French, visit [www.elf-canada.ca](http://www.elf-canada.ca).



## YOU CAN GET INVOLVED IN YOUR CHILD’S EDUCATION BY

- volunteering at your child’s school
- meeting your child’s teacher(s) at parent–teacher evenings
- becoming a member of the school council (which contributes to managing the school)
- asking the school, or your child’s teacher, for more information on how you can get involved

## OTHER IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW

**Elementary or primary education:** This is the first 8 grades of school. It usually starts with kindergarten at age 4 or 5.

**High school or secondary education:** This usually runs from grades 9 to 12 in most Canadian provinces and territories, except Quebec, where it starts in grade 7 and ends in grade 11.

**Mixed classes:** In most schools, boys and girls learn together in the same classroom. Some private schools offer schooling for boys or girls only.

**Religion:** Some provinces and territories have separate Catholic public schools. Some communities also have private religious schools.



**Additional school activities:** In Canada, students can participate in additional activities at schools, outside of classes. These are called “extracurricular” activities, and they can include sports, clubs, drama, arts and music programs, and school-organized trips and special events.

For example, many schools recognize Orange Shirt Day on September 30. Participants wear orange shirts to commemorate and raise awareness about the impacts residential schools had on Indigenous children, and how they continue to affect Indigenous communities in Canada to this day.

## MORE INFORMATION



For more information about education, including a video, visit [canada.ca/newcomers-education](http://canada.ca/newcomers-education).



To find newcomer settlement services in your area, visit [canada.ca/find-newcomer-services](http://canada.ca/find-newcomer-services).



## Grade/Year Born

Grade/Sept 2023	Year Born	Grade/Sept 2024	Year Born
<i>K</i>	2018	<i>K</i>	2019
1	2017	1	2018
2	2016	2	2017
3	2015	3	2016
4	2014	4	2015
5	2013	5	2014
6	2012	6	2013
7	2011	7	2012
8	2010	8	2011
9	2009	9	2010
10	2008	10	2009
11	2007	11	2008
12	2006	12	2007

## HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD?

### Here are a few ideas to support your child at home:

Continue developing first language at home through songs, stories, and conversations. Ask what they are learning about in the classroom, and talk about it in your home language.

*Research shows students who continue to use their home language typically develop a rich vocabulary and strong academic skills in English.*

Look at these websites for a great selection of bilingual stories:

<https://worldstories.org.uk/>

<https://www.uniteforliteracy.com/>

<https://www.storybookscanada.ca/stories/de/>

Play board games, e.g. Scrabble, Bingo.

Read daily in any language. Talk about the story, then draw or write about a favourite part.

Encourage writing— grocery lists, stories, emails to friends and family, a journal etc.

For many fun, educational activities developed or vetted by our team of ELL teachers, go to <https://sites.google.com/view/sd62-ell-continuity-of-learnin>

Get involved with the school community: at-



## ELL SPECIALIST TEACHERS:

- \* have specialized education and are trained in ELL methodology
- \* assist students through the various stages of second language acquisition, in their growth toward bilingualism
- \* collaborate regularly with classroom teachers, school staff, parents and community agencies
- \* may be included at school-based team meetings that involve ELL students as needed

## ACCESS COMMUNITY SERVICES

**The Inter-Cultural Association of Victoria (ICA)** [www.icavictoria.org](http://www.icavictoria.org)

\* **Settlement Workers in Schools (SWIS) Program**

**Victoria Immigrant/Refugee Centre Society (VIRCS)** [www.vircs.bc.ca](http://www.vircs.bc.ca)

**Vancouver Island Counseling Centre for Immigrants and Refugees (VICCIR)**  
[www.viccir.org](http://www.viccir.org)

**ELL Department, SD62 Sooke**  
**200-814 Goldstream Avenue**  
**Victoria, BC V9B 2X7**



## English Language Learning (ELL) Support For Families



**The primary goal of the British Columbia school system is that of student success through intellectual, social-emotional and career development.**

**The purpose of ELL services is to support student success and inclusion in school and society.**

(MOE—ELL Policy Guidelines—2018, p.4)

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNING (ELL) DEPARTMENT

### Benefits of ELL:

SD62 schools value diversity. Schools welcome and celebrate families that speak a variety of languages. ELL services help students to reach their full, individual potential. We encourage our students to continue to develop their home language(s).

### ELL support can help...

Promote a sense of pride and understanding of various cultures and languages

Provide a safe, nurturing learning environment

Develop social and academic language skills

**Social language** that is used everyday to communicate, usually emerges quickly. It takes up to 2 years for this to develop.

**Academic language** that is found in textbooks and the curriculum, takes 5-7 years to develop. ELL support is essential for academic success.

### PROGRAM GOALS

- \* to develop social and academic English language skills
- \* to provide support for students to achieve the provincial curriculum
- \* to provide an orientation to the societies and cultures of British Columbia
- \* to bridge cultures and facilitate referrals to Settlement Workers In Schools (SWIS) through ICA as needed
- \* to value students' diverse cultural backgrounds, many languages and wealth of knowledge and experience
- \* to work to eliminate racism
- \* to welcome all students and ease their transition into Canadian life and culture
- \* to provide a safe, nurturing learning environment

### ELL service may look like:

- \* Individual or small group instruction
- \* In-class support (through consultation with the classroom teacher)

### Documents kept by ELL Specialist:







- \* Annual language assessment
- \* B.C. ELL Standards (continuums of descriptors for oral, reading, writing)
- \* AIP (Annual Instructional Plan)







### HOW CAN I GET ELL SUPPORT FOR MY CHILD?

- \* The BC Ministry of Education recognizes the important contributions of newcomer families and provides funding and support to school districts.
- \* If your child's primary or home language is not English, and you think that they may need support, please speak with your child's teacher or the English language specialist teacher at the school.
- \* English language specialist teachers will assess your child's language proficiency levels for speaking, listening, reading and writing. This will help to determine the type and frequency of support that best suits them.
- \* Language learning can take many years to develop. Every child progresses at different rates. Some students may require less time and others more. There are many factors that impact language acquisition. Some factors are:




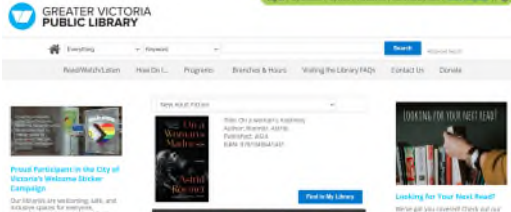
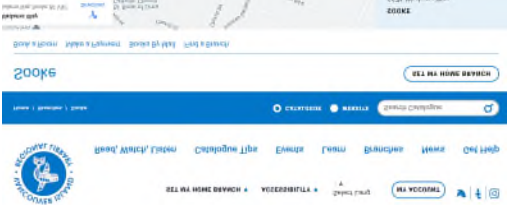
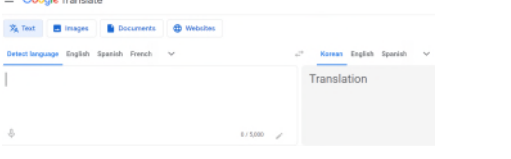
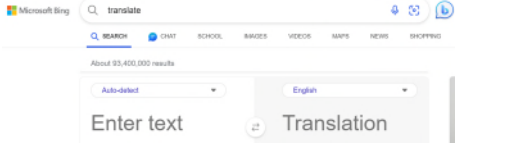
Age of arrival  
English proficiency upon arrival  
Extent of schooling in first language  
First language proficiency  
Work habits  
Motivation  
Exposure to English outside of school

## CONTACTS FOR NEWCOMER FAMILIES

	<p><a href="#">Welcome BC</a></p>
	<p><a href="#">Welcome Canada</a></p> <p><a href="#">For New Immigrants</a></p>
	<p><a href="#">SERVICE BC</a></p> <p>Phone line: 1 800 663-7867</p> <p>*translation services 140 languages</p> <p>*available 7:30am-5pm (Pacific time) M-F</p> <p><a href="#">Victoria location</a></p>
	<p><a href="#">Health Link BC – Lunches to Go</a></p>
	<p><b>SD62 SCHOOL REGISTRATION:</b></p> <p><a href="https://www.sd62.bc.ca/schools/registration">https://www.sd62.bc.ca/schools/registration</a></p>
	<p><b>SD62 CONSENTS</b> to find PEN or pupil number and sign consent. Please wait up to 48 hours after the school registration has been confirmed as the PEN and Pupil number need to be assigned in the system:</p> <p><a href="#">SD62 Online Consents</a></p>

	<p><b>SD62 TRANSPORTATION: BUS REGISTRATION.</b> You will need your PEN or Pupil #:</p> <p><a href="#">SD62 Bus Registration</a></p>
	<p>Wait 1-2 business days until you receive an email (to the same email you registered with) containing a link for SD62 SCHOOL CASH ONLINE. Attach your children to your School Cash Online account to pay for the bus.</p> <p>See <b>INSTRUCTIONS on page 9:</b></p> <p><a href="#">SD62 School Cash Online Registration Instructions</a></p>
	<p>Link for payment of bussing fee will be available 2-3 business days after online consent is signed. Once you receive the confirmation email, submit the fee per rider.</p> <p><b>Link for SD62 SCHOOL CASH ONLINE REGISTRATION:</b></p> <p><a href="#">SD62 School Cash Online Registration</a></p>
	<p><b>SETTLEMENT AGENCY:</b></p> <p><b>ICA</b></p> <p><a href="#">Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria</a></p> <p><a href="#">Settlement Worker In Schools program</a></p>
	<p><b>SETTLEMENT AGENCY:</b></p> <p><b>VIRCS</b></p> <p><a href="#">Victoria Immigrant and Refugee Centre Society</a></p>
	<p><b>COUNSELING CENTRE:</b></p> <p><b>VICCIR</b></p> <p><a href="#">Vancouver Island Counseling Centre for Immigrants and Refugees</a></p>



 <p><b>Child Care Services for Families</b></p> <p>Are you a parent/guardian looking for child care?</p> <p>The information on this site is provided for informational purposes only. The search is based on your criteria. We are not responsible for any information that is not accurate or for any information that is not up to date.</p>	<p><b>CHILDCARE RESOURCE &amp; REFERRAL:</b>  <a href="https://www.childcarevictoria.org/families/">https://www.childcarevictoria.org/families/</a></p>
 <p><b>WEST SHORE PARKS &amp; RECREATION</b></p> <p>10AM-2PM Sunday, October 29  <b>Mini Pumpkin Patch &amp; Fall Pottery Sale</b></p> <p>Join us for fall fun - look your own pumpkin, create, have painting, balloon and apple-bunch! JCF main entrance, admission by donation to the Westshore Food Bank.</p>	<p><b>RECREATION CENTRE (Westshore):</b>  <a href="#">Westshore Parks and Recreation (Juan de Fuca)</a></p> <p><a href="#">LIFE Program</a></p>
 <p><b>CRPD</b>    Building a Different World</p> <p>About Us   Admission &amp; Registration   Activity Schedules   Programs   Facilities</p>	<p><b>RECREATION CENTRE (Sooke):</b>  <a href="#">Seaparc Leisure Complex</a></p> <p><a href="#">LIFE Program</a></p>
 <p><b>GREATER VICTORIA PUBLIC LIBRARY</b></p> <p>Everything   Keyword   Search   My Account</p> <p>Read/Watch/Listen   How to Use   Programs   Branches &amp; Hours   Visiting the Library FAQs   Contact Us   Donate</p>	<p><b>LIBRARY (Westshore):</b>  <a href="#">Greater Victoria Public Library</a></p>
 <p><b>VANCOUVER ISLAND REGIONAL LIBRARY</b></p> <p>Home   About Us   Services   Locations   Contact Us</p>	<p><b>LIBRARY (Sooke):</b>  <a href="#">Vancouver Island Regional Library</a></p>
 <p><b>Google Translate</b></p> <p>Text   Images   Documents   Websites</p> <p>Detect language: English, Spanish, French</p> <p>Translation</p>	<p><b>TRANSLATION:</b>  <a href="#">Google Translate</a></p>
 <p><b>Microsoft Bing</b></p> <p>translate</p> <p>SEARCH   CHAT   SCHOOL   IMAGES   VIDEOS   NEWS   SHOPPING</p> <p>About 33,400,000 results</p> <p>Auto-detect   English</p> <p>Enter text   Translation</p>	<p><b>TRANSLATION:</b>  <a href="#">Microsoft Translate</a></p>

# Google Translate

## Translate emails and websites



Google Translate is a free translation service that translates text, websites, and direct speech from one language to another, in 108 languages.

Click here to try!

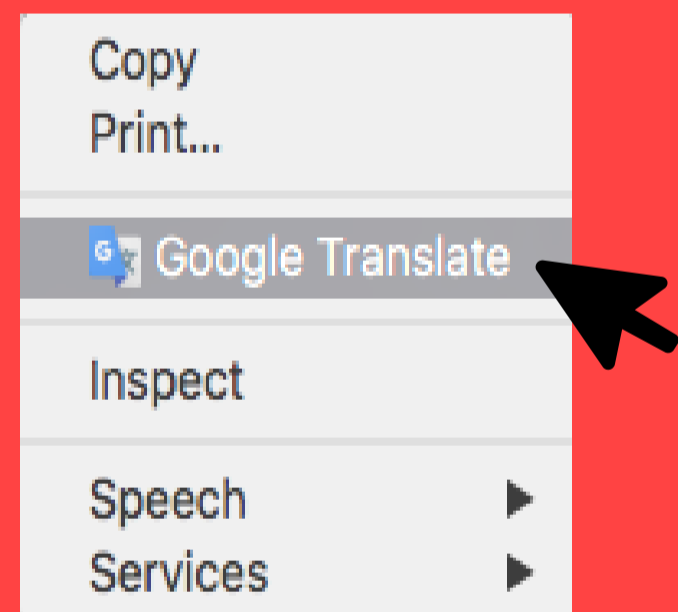
## Use speech and text features to communicate using different languages

### On the Computer

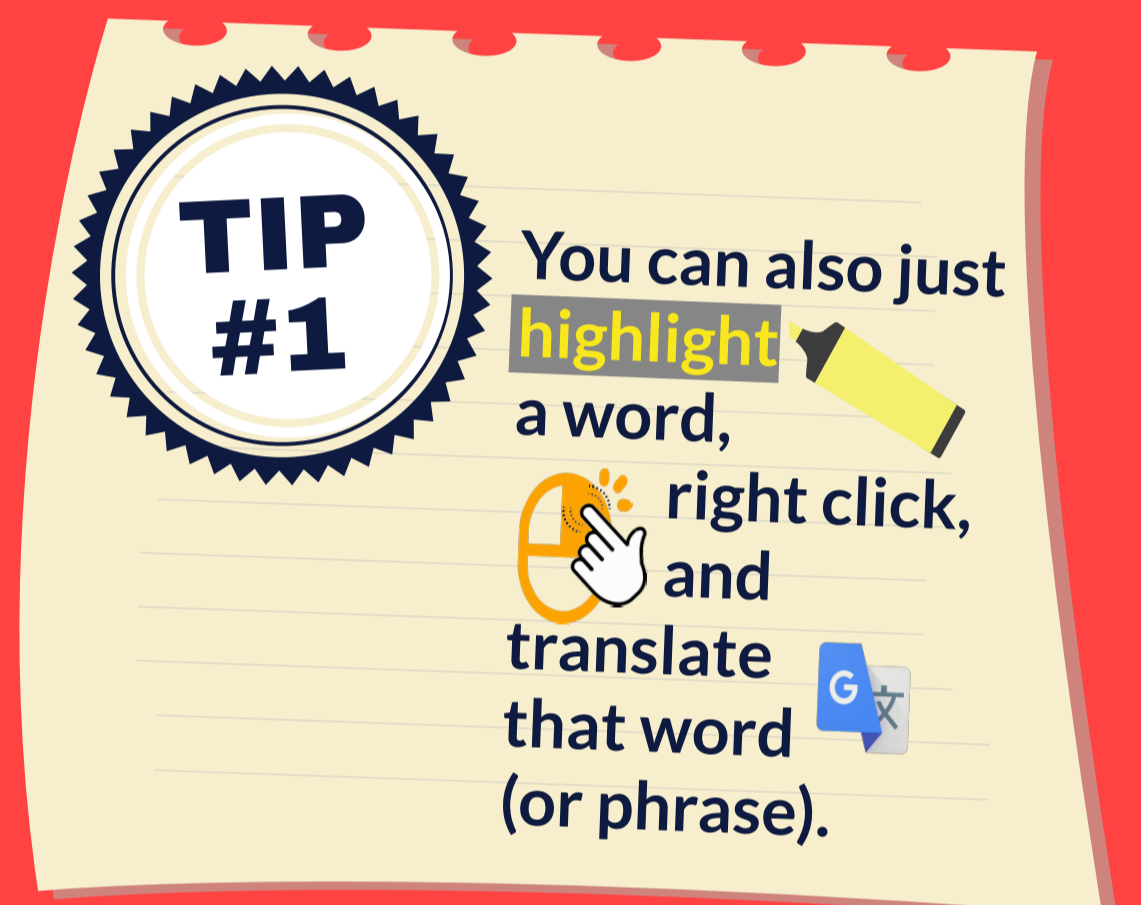
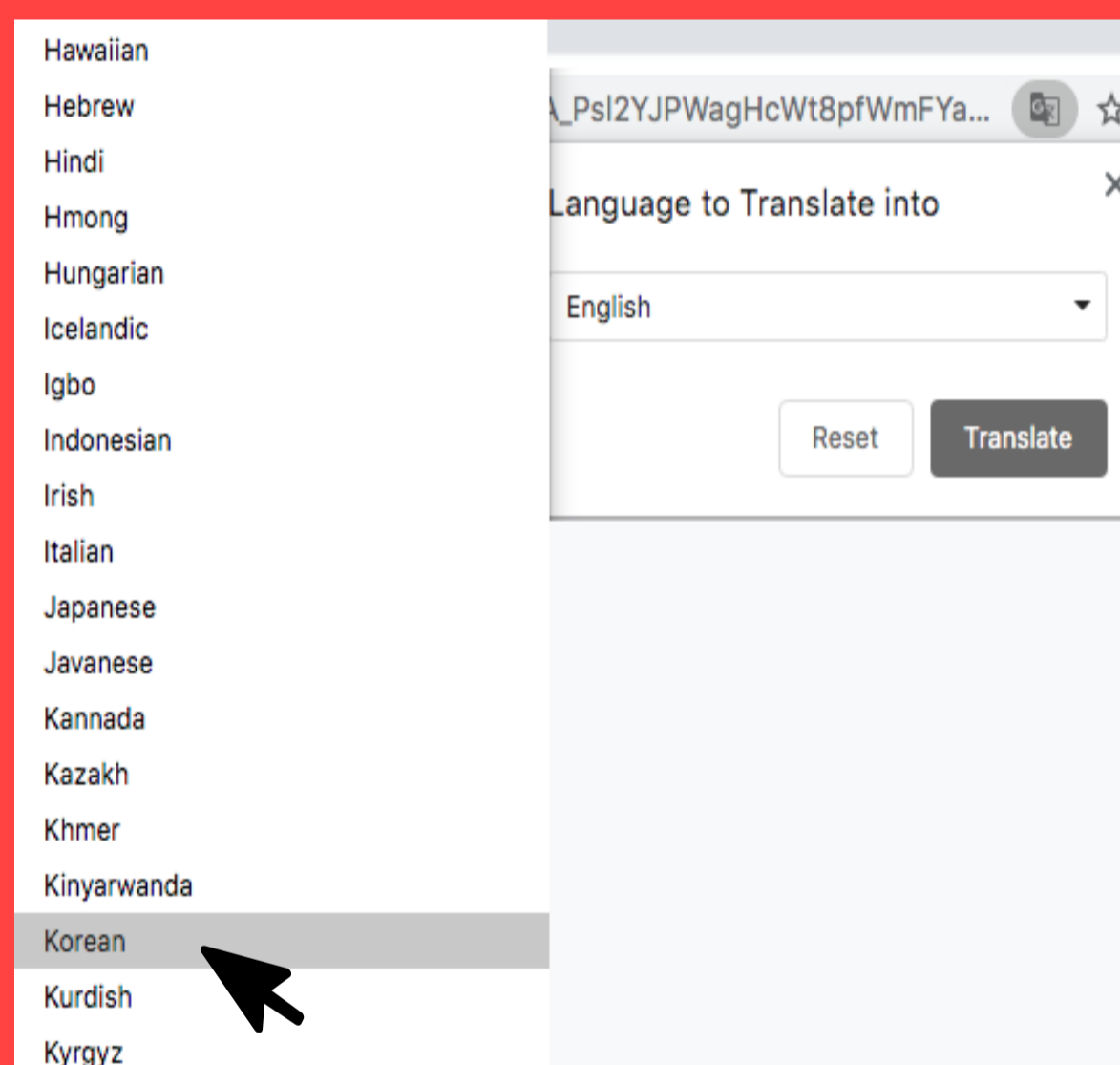
**1** You must use the Google Chrome internet browser



**2** Right click anywhere on your screen

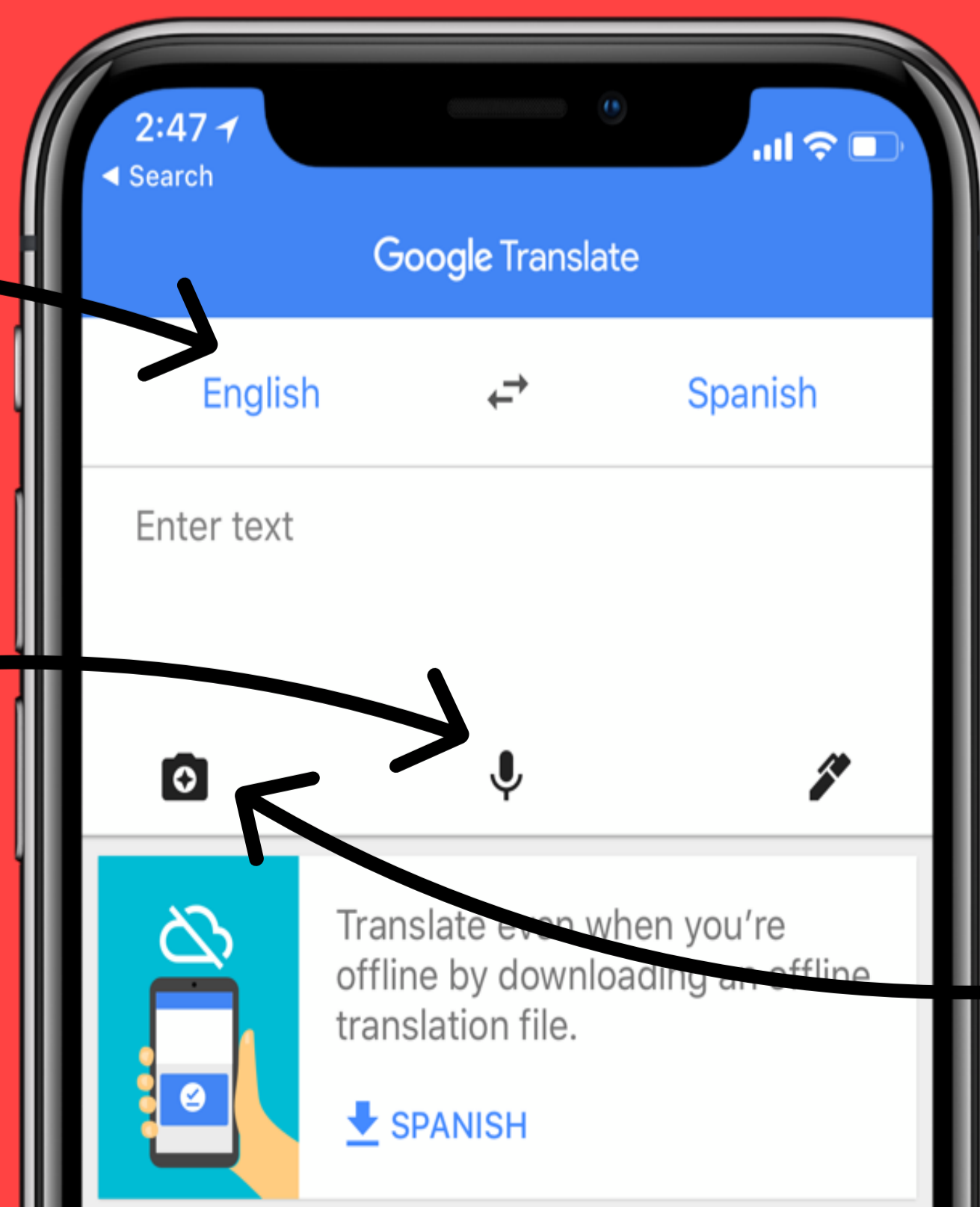


**3** Choose your language and translate the entire webpage



### On a Cellphone

- Choose which language is the input language as well as the output translation language
- Type text or speak using the microphone feature and the language will be translated to your chosen translation



- Download from app store onto phone or tablet
- You can also use the camera feature to view text and change it to your desired language translation

