PROFICIENCY IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND GLOBAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP: A PATHWAY TO SUCCESS

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ABSTRACT

This systematic review explores the complex connection between global entrepreneurship as a means of attaining success and English language proficiency. It emphasizes the importance of English as a worldwide language and how it helps facilitate global communication. English proficiency is becoming increasingly important for success because of the continued internationalization of trade, the globalization of markets, and the convergence of professionals from different linguistic backgrounds. The review delves into how English language competency affects entrepreneurs, including cultural adaptation, negotiating across borders, and managing the intricacies of international marketplaces. A comprehensive exploration of academic databases and scholarly repositories was undertaken to execute this systematic review. Utilizing search engines such as Google Scholar, Science Direct, and Scopus, the aim was to identify academic papers and peer-reviewed studies published from 2014 to 2023. A thorough systematic review process is described in the methodology section, along with methods for searching the literature, inclusion, and exclusion criteria, research selection, quality evaluation, data extraction, and synthesis. Fifteen research papers that fulfilled the inclusion criteria were found, all of which examined the connection between business performance and language competency. All these research results add up to a thorough knowledge of how important it is to speak English fluently to succeed in the global entrepreneurial scene. The review recommends future research on the impact of technology on English competency for entrepreneurs, the efficacy of new language skill approaches, challenges in multilingual settings for business owners, and the role of linguistic ability and cultural intelligence in entrepreneurial success.

Keywords: English Language Proficiency; Entrepreneurship; English as a Foreign Language (EFL) Learner; Systematic Review.

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INTRODUCTION

Language is the primary medium of communication (Ilyosovna, 2020). It gives us a way to communicate with one another about our opinions and ideas. There are thousands of different languages spoken throughout the world. Every country has a common language that all its residents can understand and use several regional dialects. According to Getie (2020), English is the most widely spoken language in the world, so its importance must be recognized. The most widely spoken language in the world now is English. Many people believe that English is the universal language. Despite being a foreign language, it is essential to everyone. Most people can read, write, speak, and understand English. People worldwide can converse and feel a part of the global community because this language exists. One billion individuals worldwide are thought to use English as a second language. English is the official language of sixty-seven countries, with another twentyseven countries using it as a secondary official language.

The term "global language" is frequently used to describe English. English is spoken in most countries, with more than 350 million people using it as their first language and more than 430 million as a second language (Ilyosovna,2020). According to Rao (2019), English is a valuable language for communication. Regarding business, trade, commerce, the internet, and employment, English is the only language widely used to communicate in almost every industry, including science, technology, engineering, medicine, pharmacy, education, tourism, and entertainment. Numerous studies have been conducted that show how important English is on a global scale. Nearly all nations now consider English to be a necessity. By developing good proficiency in the English language, one can embark on a journey of success in every field.

According to Rogerson-Revell (2007), professionals from various organizations, including large multinational corporations and small to medium-sized enterprises, are increasingly converging to conduct business in the global workplace, particularly in meetings, because of the ongoing globalization of markets and internationalization of trade. People from various linguistic and sociocultural backgrounds typically come together at such international events, leading to the adoption of a common language of communication. Mastery of languages has emerged as a critical success factor in unprecedented globalization, with English competence leading the way as the foundation for global involvement (Brannen et al., 2017). Practical English communication skills have advanced from merely advantageous to essential for people and businesspeople

entering the global market. This universal language crosses geographical boundaries, enabling accessible communication between people, organizations, and cultures from various origins. It promotes international cooperation and opens doors to vast resources and markets worldwide.

Moreover, English language proficiency is essential for entrepreneurs in ways that go beyond simple linguistics. This includes recognizing fundamental cultural differences and adjusting to them, conducting fruitful cross-border negotiations, and negotiating the complexity of global markets. As a result, an entrepreneur's English proficiency level can significantly impact the development and success of their business operations. This systematic review explores the complex connections between pursuing international entrepreneurship and the growth of English language ability. We aim to demonstrate how language ability, particularly in English, may be a powerful catalyst for business success by carefully analyzing existing literature and illuminating recurring patterns, new trends, and important discoveries. Markets and resources.

In the current economic environment characterized by the rise of global entrepreneurship, people and organizations are bridging national boundaries to seize global possibilities. It becomes strategically essential in this situation to be able to communicate, negotiate, and innovate using a language that is not limited by geography (Jenkins, 2014). English language ability emerges as a critical factor determining the course of entrepreneurial endeavors, whether an aspiring startup founder looking for investment from foreign stakeholders or an established global firm forming alliances across continents. A comprehensive review addressed this crucial nexus at the junction of language, business, and global success. It aims to show how language competence, particularly in English, enables businesspeople to survive and thrive in a highly competitive global environment, encouraging innovation, economic growth, and intercultural communication.

Both the academic and corporate worlds have taken notice of the pursuit of English proficiency and its impact on entrepreneurship. Researchers have investigated a variety of aspects of this relationship, such as how language proficiency impacts entrepreneurial intent (Solesvik, 2019), how language proficiency impacts the success of international businesses (Chidlow et al., 2014), and the opportunities and challenges presented by English-medium instruction in multicultural higher education settings (Doiz et al., 2012). To fully comprehend the dynamic interactions between linguistic ability,

entrepreneurship, and worldwide success, a rigorous synthesis of this corpus of evidence is necessary.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

The current review study holds paramount significance in today's globalized business landscape. The study explores the crucial relationship between language proficiency and international entrepreneurship and provides information that politicians, educators, and budding entrepreneurs can use. For entrepreneurs aiming to succeed globally, proficiency in English is more than just a language ability. It is a strategic advantage. Effective English communication becomes essential for establishing partnerships, drawing investors, and reaching a wide range of markets at a time when business travels across national borders.

By examining the connection between entrepreneurial success and English language competency, this review study provides a roadmap for those who want to succeed in the global economy. It emphasizes how important language is in establishing trust, bridging cultural divides, and negotiating the complexities of doing business internationally. The study's conclusions have wider ramifications; they can help educational institutions improve their language learning curricula and provide helpful advice to business owners who want to use excellent communication to their advantage while expanding internationally. Ultimately, this research offers insightful information that can influence how business owners, academics, and legislators approach language competency in international entrepreneurship. It also provides a road map for attaining long-term and significant success.

METHODOLOGY

This systematic review aims to clarify the complex interactions between pursuing global entrepreneurship and improving English language skills. The methodology has been perused through the following sections to review the literature related to the study's topic. The complete review method is given in Figure 1 given below.



Figure 1. Review Method of the Studies



A thorough search of academic databases and scholarly resources was carried out to conduct this systematic review. This search engine uses Google Scholar, Science Direct, and Scopus databases. The goal of the search was to locate academic papers and peer-reviewed studies that were published between 2014 and 2023. Relevant keywords and Boolean operators such as AND and OR were used to hone search terms. The search was conducted using the terms "English language proficiency," "global entrepreneurship," "entrepreneurial success," "international business," and "language skills," among others. This method ensured the retrieval of pertinent literature that examined the connection between mastery of the English language and success in international business.

Criteria for Inclusion and Exclusion

Specific inclusion and exclusion criteria were used to keep this systematic review rigorous and relevant. The primary standards for eligibility are given in Table 1.

Inclusion Criteria	Exclusion Criteria
 Research studies examined the connection between English language proficiency and international commercial success. Academic publications, conference papers, and peer-reviewed research articles are included. The research studies were published in English only. Studies with a distinct emphasis on the role of English language ability as a predictor of business success. Research studies were published between 2014 and 2023. 	 Research studies that were published before 2014. The studies which were not written in the English language Irrelevant research studies. The studies have a poor research design or low methodological rigor. research studies which were not completed.

Table 1. Inclusion and Exclusion C	Criteria for Research Studies
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Procedure of Selection

A methodical, open approach was used in the study selection procedure. At first, irrelevant articles were eliminated via reference management software. Then, two impartial reviewers evaluated the titles and abstracts to determine their applicability to the research problem and adherence to the inclusion criteria. Discussion and agreement among the reviewers were used to settle any differences. The remaining papers were then given a full-text evaluation to see if they qualified for inclusion in the systematic review. The PRISMA (Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses) guidelines guided the study selection procedure (Moher et al., 2009).

Quality Assessment

A quality assessment was done to ensure the included studies were methodologically sound. This evaluation assesses each study's general rigor, sample size, distribution, and research design. The reviewers provided scores or ratings based on predetermined quality standards. Studies with inferior methodological quality were not disregarded; they were considered when interpreting the results.

Data Extraction

A structured data extraction form was used to compile pertinent data from studies that were included systematically. The data extraction form included fields for study features, methods, major conclusions, and pertinent statistical information. Two separate reviewers extracted data from the papers and resolved discrepancies through discussions.

Data Synthesis

Information from the research that was included was combined thematically. Key findings were summarized, and common themes and patterns found in the literature were highlighted. The systematic study highlighted the existing research's key trends, obstacles, and possibilities to provide a thorough picture of the relationship between English language competency and worldwide entrepreneurial success.

FINDINGS

Fifteen research studies that fulfilled the inclusion criteria were found through the search technique. The studies were conducted in several countries, including the United States, Malaysia, Turkey, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, and China. The focus of the current review was the importance of developing proficiency in English language skills for global entrepreneurship.

The findings highlight the research focus, methodology, participants, and results of the published research studies. The following best describes the relevant and recent studies by following the inclusion criteria in Table 2.

Study	Research Focus	Methodology	Participants	Results
Adawiyah and Gumartifa, (2022).	To examine why the English language is so crucial for fostering economic expansion as well as the variables affecting English language usage in the globalized world.	Case study	University students in Palembang, Indonesia	Trends in the global economy show that business is increasingly conducted in English. English language proficiency is essential for sustained development, and individuals who do not have it may encounter difficulties.
Ahmad and Khan, (2023).	Strong English language abilities are essential in promoting students' growth as global entrepreneurs.	Case study	Malaysian undergraduat es	Teaching English language courses is very necessary, along with the courses in entrepreneurship.
Altan, (2019).	We highlight the importance of strategically planning and implementing EFL courses to enable students to acquire	Qualitative research	Keynote paper, Conference Istanbul	English courses serve two purposes: they develop language proficiency and an entrepreneurial spirit. English language proficiency

	language skills and foster an entrepreneurial mindset.			is essential for success in all fields and is critical to a successful career.
Cardona, (2015).	to improve the content of English, focusing on Speech and Oral Communication Skills	Qualitative research design	Philippines university students	The contents of the course English Communication for Business students are very effective.
KeyBonder, (2017).	Importance of English language learning to run a business	Ethnography	Latino Entrepreneurs	The comprehensive study demonstrated that individuals, including those who did not identify as English speakers, had individual interactions with English that affected their businesses and opportunities.
Nomnian, (2014).	Essential English communication skills for the Thai raft service industry	Qualitative research design	Thai Entrepreneurs	The research showed that strengthening English communication skills and emphasizing English proficiency among entrepreneurs are urgently needed.
Pham et al. (2020)	To concentrate on the critical features of Vietnam's English language training sector, which has great potential for entrepreneurs (ELTM).	Qualitative research design	Entrepreneurs and researchers	The study found that English training services, as part of ELTM, often receive customer payments before providing classes, providing entrepreneurs with a financial advantage.
Rahmawaty, (2016)	To examine the significance of English as a potential resource for entrepreneurs seeking competitiveness in the era of globalization.	Qualitative research	Conference paper in Kudus, Indonesia	The English language is a pathway to successful entrepreneurship
Rifah, et al., (2021).	To investigate practitioners' views regarding the importance of English language ability as a soft skill for entrepreneurship.	Qualitative research design	Indonesian Entrepreneurs	This study emphasizes how important it is for students studying entrepreneurship to be proficient in English, especially regarding communication and business skills. It also implies that one of the main drivers of future success may be taking cues from prosperous corporate role models.
Roy, (2021).	This pilot study evaluates the initial validity and applicability of a new English language course at a Japanese technical institution focusing on entrepreneurial education.	Qualitative research design	EFL learners in Japan	Through Industry 4.0 research, students effectively produce valuable information, strengthening their technical writing and visualization abilities. A positive initial response indicates that significant progress may result from more practice.
Silalahi, (2023).	To emphasize the critical need for mastering English in Indonesia, particularly for students aspiring to become entrepreneurs.	Qualitative research	Indonesian EFL learners	According to the findings, English courses should give special attention to conversation and writing abilities to satisfy academic standards and the practical demands of students' work.
Sinkus, (2019).	To define and outline the components of 'entrepreneurial professional English language competence' and propose a model for developing this	Qualitative research	Different Research studies	The article suggests a method for enhancing students' professional English language proficiency that is specially designed for use in business administration classes that emphasize entrepreneurship.

	competence among entrepreneurs.			
Torres- Coronas and Vidal-Blasco, (2021).	To investigate the relationships between students' willingness to start global businesses and their intercultural competencies, cognitive, cultural intelligence, entrepreneurial self-efficacy, and language proficiency.	Exploratory research design	Spanish University Students	The study's findings indicate that linguistic competence, entrepreneurial self-efficacy, and foreign language proficiency are essential variables.
Özdemir, (2015).	EFL classroom and entrepreneurship activities	Experimental	Turkish EFL learners	According to the research, incorporating entrepreneurship- themed activities into EFL classrooms can help students develop an entrepreneurial spirit and perspective.
Zafar, (2016)	The domain of English for Specific Purposes is explored in this study, with a particular emphasis on customizing the Business English curriculum for students pursuing careers in business.	Quantitative research design	Pakistani EFL learners	This study uses error analysis to help undergraduate students become more proficient in business communication; it may find utility in bilingual environments akin to those seen in Functional English courses.

Table 2 demonstrates the summary of numerous studies that were done to investigate the connection between entrepreneurship and English language competency. Each study sheds light on the relationship between language proficiency and business success, with unique research emphasis, methodology, participants, and outcomes.

Adawiyah and Gumartifa (2022) conducted a research study to investigate the factors contributing to the significance of the English language in promoting economic growth. After conducting a case study with Palembang, Indonesian university students, the researchers discovered that patterns in the world economy point to a rise in the use of English in business. The research underscored the importance of maintaining fluency in English for long-term growth since those who cannot find it challenging to live in an increasingly interconnected world. Another study was done by Ahmad and Khan (2023), which investigated the role that proficient English language skills have in fostering students' development into international business leaders, using a case study involving undergraduates from Malaysia. According to the findings, entrepreneurship courses must be combined with English language classes to prepare students for global business success effectively. Altan (2019) conducted research emphasizing the value of carefully organizing and executing English as a Foreign Language (EFL) programs. This qualitative study highlighted how English classes help students develop an entrepreneurial attitude in addition to helping them become more proficient in the language.

According to the research, English proficiency is essential for success in various sectors and dramatically enhances the likelihood of a successful career.

Cardona (2015) used a qualitative study approach. The study focused on improving the English curriculum, focusing on Philippine university students' speech and oral communication abilities. The results indicated that business students' language proficiency and communication skills are greatly enhanced by taking practical English communication courses. KeyBonder (2017) investigated the value of learning English for managing a firm through an ethnographic study of Latino entrepreneurs. Extensive research indicated that opportunities and prospects were highly influenced by an individual's experiences with the English language, especially for those who did not consider themselves proficient speakers. The study by Nomnian (2014) focused on the critical English skills needed for the Thai raft service sector. The study, which employed a qualitative research design, underscored the pressing need for Thai businesses to emphasize English proficiency and improve their ability to communicate in English. Using qualitative research design, Pham et al. (2020) conducted a study focused on the salient characteristics of Vietnam's English language instruction industry. According to the survey, English language training providers, such as English Language Training for Entrepreneurs (ELTM), frequently get paid by clients before starting sessions, giving business owners a financial edge.

Similarly, in Kudus, Indonesia, Rahmawaty (2016) did a qualitative research study presented in a conference paper. The study looked at the value of English as a resource for entrepreneurs looking to become competitive in the globalization period. The results underscored the role of the English language as a bridge to prosperous entrepreneurship. The opinions of Indonesian business owners on the value of English language proficiency as a soft skill for entrepreneurship were examined by Rifah et al. (2021). The qualitative research design of the study brought to light how vital English proficiency is for future success, particularly for communication and business abilities. Additionally, the study indicated that emulating successful corporate role models may be a key to success in the future. In pilot research by Roy in (2021), a new English language course emphasizing entrepreneurial education was assessed for initial validity and application at a Japanese technical college. The study used a qualitative research approach and showed positive initial responses, suggesting that additional practice may lead to significant growth. According to Silalahi (2023), learning English is extremely important in Indonesia, especially for students who want to start their businesses. According to this qualitative study, English courses should strongly emphasize students' conversational and writing skills to fulfill academic requirements and real-world needs. Using a qualitative study

approach, Sinkus (2019) sought to characterize and delamongeate the elements of entrepreneurial professional English language competence. The study proposed a paradigm for fostering this competency in entrepreneurs, particularly for business administration programs prioritizing entrepreneurship.

Torres Coronas and Vidal Blasco (2021) used an exploratory research design to examine the associations between Spanish university students' intercultural competencies, cognitive and cultural intelligence, entrepreneurial self-efficacy, language proficiency, and willingness to launch global businesses. The results showed that entrepreneurial self-efficacy, linguistic competence, and foreign language competency are significant factors when launching international firms. Özdemir (2015) investigated integrating entrepreneurship-themed activities in EFL classrooms through an experimental study with Turkish EFL learners. According to the research, these activities can support learners in gaining an entrepreneurial mindset and outlook. Zafar (2016) examined the field of English for Specific Purposes to tailor the Business English curriculum for Pakistani EFL learners. The study, which employed a quantitative research approach, found potential applications in bilingual situations, such as those seen in Functional English classes, using mistake analysis to assist undergraduate students in improving their business communication skills.

The following table summarizes the combined findings of these studies and provides an essential new understanding of the complex connection between entrepreneurship and English language competency. Each study's distinct research emphasis, methods, participants, and outcomes add to a more comprehensive knowledge of the significance of language proficiency for success in an increasingly globalized business setting.

Landscape of Chronological Publications

The current study's evaluation period is restricted to journal articles from 2014 to 2023 by adhering to the inclusion criteria listed in Table 3 below for selecting research for every ten years.

S. No.	Year of Published Research Studies	Total No. of Research Studies
1.	2014	01
2.	2015	02
3.	2016	02
4.	2017	01
5.	2018	00
6.	2019	02
7.	2020	01
8.	2021	03
9.	2022	01
10.	2023	02
	Total	15

Table 3. Reviewed Publications for Each Year

Based on Table 3, Figure 2 shows the distribution of the studies over the specified period. Out of the fifteen studies that meet the criteria for the current study, there were different publications for each of the 10 years (2014 to 2023), and the highest number of publications was 03 in 2021.



Figure 3. Representation of a number of Reviewed Studies

Research Designs adopted in the Reviewed Studies

Figure 4, generated from Table 2, shows the great diversity of research methodologies applied in the assessed studies. These studies employed various qualitative, quantitative, and mixed approaches to investigate the significance of learning English for prosperous international enterprises. Because it illustrates the adoption of traditional qualitative research procedures, Figure 4 is fascinating. This methodology was employed in 12 15 studies (n = 12; 80%). Two inquiries (n = 02; 13%) adopted a quantitative approach. Finally, a mixed-method study design was employed in one research inquiry (n = 01; 7%).



Figure 4. Adopted Research Designs

Country-wise Context of Research Studies

Figure 5 demonstrates the country-by-country context of the research projects based on Table 2. The following picture illustrates the geographic distribution of research on the significance of learning English for successful international entrepreneurship. International contributions show how global research is and enriches the scientific scene. Figure 5 shows diverse educational contexts and practices from various locations and highlights the project's global nature. Figure 5 below shows the country-by-country graphic depiction of the reviewed studies.



Figure 5. Country-wise Context

DISCUSSION

The thorough analysis conducted here emphasizes how important it is to learn English in the context of entrepreneurship in a world growing more interconnected daily. As the primary means of communication, language develops into more than just a skill; it also becomes a strategic asset for people and companies looking to succeed globally. Professionals from various linguistic backgrounds come together in the global workplace that has emerged from the continued globalization of markets and trade. In this case, proficiency in English has become essential for practical cooperation, communication, and bargaining. Written and spoken English proficiency is now desirable and a prerequisite for people and companies looking to expand internationally. English language competency goes beyond linguistic aptitude for entrepreneurs, whether they are aspiring or seasoned business owners. A more profound comprehension of cultural subtleties is included, allowing business owners to adjust to and successfully negotiate core cultural differences. English language skills are essential for successful cross-border negotiations and navigating the complexity of international marketplaces.

The systematic review highlights the complicated connection between international entrepreneurship and strengthening English language skills. It is said that having a solid

command of language, especially English, is essential for success in the business world. This significance extends beyond traditional industries and encompasses various disciplines, including education, tourism, science, technology, engineering, and medicine. Strategic imperatives in the modern economic environment, marked by the emergence of global entrepreneurship, include effective communication, negotiation, and invention utilizing a language that is not limited by physical limits. Proficiency in English becomes a decisive element during entrepreneurial pursuits, impacting crucial elements like obtaining funding from overseas partners, establishing partnerships across continents, and prospering in a fiercely competitive worldwide arena. Both academia and the corporate world have recognized the value of English proficiency and its direct impact on entrepreneurship.

Scholars have examined this relationship in several ways, from how it affects the inclination to start a business to how important it is to global corporations' success. The present systematic review aims to provide a complete knowledge of how language competency, particularly in English, can equip entrepreneurs to survive and thrive in a globalized corporate world. It does this by synthesizing the available research. Communicating effectively in English is becoming increasingly important for people and businesses looking to seize global opportunities as markets and resources grow more integrated. The amalgamation of data from many studies facilitates the identification of significant patterns, challenges, and opportunities concerning language proficiency and entrepreneurship. The cumulative results highlight that learning English is a transforming experience that opens doors to worldwide markets, resources, and international cooperation. It is not merely a language acquisition process. The discussion emphasizes the importance of striving for English language skills while starting a business. English language proficiency is more than just a language ability; it is a dynamic tool that helps business owners meet the demands of a globalized business environment and promotes creativity, economic expansion, and successful cross-cultural communication. The synthesis of previous studies reinforces that mastery of the English language is a defining component for success in pursuing global enterprise.

Conclusion

This systematic review highlights the critical significance of learning the English language as a prerequisite for success in international entrepreneurship. Communicating effectively, especially in English, goes beyond being a simple tool; it becomes a significant strategic advantage that enables businesses to prosper in a globalized society. English is the most extensively spoken language globally; therefore, communicating in it is helpful and necessary for people and entrepreneurs to navigate the challenges of a globalized marketplace. The results of several combined research highlight that mastering the English language requires a broad range of abilities. English language competency is a successful driver for entrepreneurs, regardless of whether they work for well-established multinational corporations or ambitious start-ups. Strategically, it is imperative to communicate, negotiate, and develop in a language that transcends national borders. The evidence of synthesis presented here highlights that learning English is a transforming experience that gives entrepreneurs the tools to overcome obstacles and grab global possibilities rather than just a preliminary step.

English proficiency is strategically important, as evidenced by increased cross-border entrepreneurship in the global economic climate. Securing investments from overseas parties, forming partnerships across continents, and navigating international business scenes depend on communicating effectively in English. A thorough grasp of how language ability, especially in English, plays a dynamic role in determining the course of business endeavors is provided by synthesizing the body of extant literature. Speaking and writing English fluently becomes a competitive advantage for people and businesses looking to expand internationally as markets and resources grow more integrated. This systematic review advances our collective knowledge and promotes global collaboration, creativity, and economic progress by emphasizing the transformative effect of learning English on entrepreneurship. Essentially, acquiring English language ability is a strategic requirement rather than only a prelude to international entrepreneurship. The synthesis of evidence from various research reinforces the idea that mastery of the English language is a defining component for success in pursuing global entrepreneurship—entrepreneurs who invest in learning English position themselves as dynamic contributors to international trade and proficient communicators.

RECOMMENDATIONS

From the thorough research, this systematic review recommends the following future research.

- Explore the impact of advancing technology, such as artificial intelligence and linguistic technologies, on English language competency for entrepreneurs.
- Examine the efficacy of new approaches and web-based resources for developing entrepreneurial language skills.
- Examine the benefits and difficulties business owners in multilingual settings face.
- Analyze how linguistic ability and cultural intelligence affect the success of entrepreneurs.
- Research efforts should be modified to account for new developments and subtleties in the complex relationship between language ability and entrepreneurial success in the dynamic global entrepreneurial environment.

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