The American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages evaluates the following questions and have links to studies that justify the following claims on their website:

http://www.actfl.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=4524

**How does language learning support academic achievement?**

*Language learning correlates with higher academic achievement on standardized test measures.*
*Language learning is beneficial to both monolingual English and English language learners in bilingual and two-way immersion programs.*
*Language learning is beneficial in the development of students’ reading abilities.*
*There is evidence that language learners transfer skills from one language to another.*
*There is a correlation between second language learning and increased linguistic awareness.*
*There is a correlation between language learning and students’ ability to hypothesize in science.*
*Language learning can benefit all students.*
*There is a correlation between young children’s second language development and the development of print awareness.*
*Heritage learners who use their language skills to interpret and translate for family members experience higher academic performance and greater self-efficacy.*
*There is a correlation between language study and higher scores on the SAT and ACT Tests.*
*There is a correlation between high school foreign language study and higher academic performance at the college level.*

**How does language learning provide cognitive benefits to students?**

*There is evidence that early language learning improves cognitive abilities.*
*There is evidence bilingualism correlates with increased cognitive development and abilities.*
*There is a correlation between bilingualism and the offset of age-related cognitive losses.*
*There is a correlation between bilingualism and attentional control on cognitive tasks.*
*There is a correlation between bilingualism and intelligence.*
*There is a correlation between bilingualism and metalinguistic skills.*
*There is a correlation between bilingualism and memory skills.*
*There is a correlation between bilingualism and problem solving ability.*
*There is a correlation between bilingualism and improved verbal and spatial abilities.*

Find out more about the benefits of language learning by investigating these resources.

**How does language learning affect attitudes and beliefs about language learning and about other cultures?**

*Research suggests that language learners develop a more positive attitude toward the target language and/or the speakers of that language.*

Helpful Resources on the topic of attitudes and foreign language learning.