

# Language Links



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## Study English - Tips for Success

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### 1 Study English Every Day

It's important to study English every day. However, don't cram! Study for thirty minutes every day instead of two hours once a week. Short, steady practice is much better for learning than long periods on an irregular basis. This habit of studying English every day will help keep English in your brain fresh.

### 2 Study English Using Different Learning Methods

Don't just use one way to study English. Use a variety of methods which use all the parts of your brain (multiple intelligences). For example, if you are learning new vocabulary, create a word map, describe a picture, make a list and study that, type out the words five times. All of these methods together help to reinforce your learning.

### 3 Study English by Finding some Friends

There is nothing like having a few friends to study English together. You can practice the exercises together, have conversations together (in English!), and, as you study English together, help each other with exercises you may not understand.

### 4 Study English by Choosing Topics that Interest You

One of the most important things to do is to study English using topics that you like. This will help motivate you because you will also be learning about a topic you find interesting while you study English.

By  
Usana



Reference: [http://esl.about.com/od/intermediateenglish/a/study\\_english.htm](http://esl.about.com/od/intermediateenglish/a/study_english.htm)

## British English Vs American English

By  
Ian



| Thai          | British      | American      | Thai               | British         | American     |
|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| ฝากระโปรงรถ   | Car bonnet   | Hood          | เช่ารถ             | Rent a car      | Hire a car   |
| ตัวถัง        | Car boot     | Trunk         | รถราง              | Tram            | Cable Car    |
| ป้ายทะเบียนรถ | Number Plate | License Plate | ทางเท้า / บาทวิถี  | Pavement        | Sidewalk     |
| น้ำมัน        | Petrol       | Gas           | แฟลต / อพาร์ทเมนต์ | Flat            | Apartment    |
| กระจกหน้า     | Windscreen   | Windshield    | ทางแยก             | Cross roads and | Intersection |
| รถบรรทุก      | Lorry        | Truck         | ที่จอดรถ           | Car Park        | Parking Lot  |
| เกียร์        | Gear Stick   | Shift Stick   | วงเวียน            | Roundabout      | Circle       |





# Culture Corner

## Gift Giving Etiquette in China

Lavish gift giving was an important part of Chinese culture in the past. Today, official policy in Chinese business culture forbids giving gifts; this gesture is considered bribery, an illegal act in this country. Consequently, your gift may be declined.

In many organizations, however, attitudes surrounding gifts are beginning to relax. In any case, you will have to approach giving gifts with discretion, as outlined in the following points.

✳If you wish to give a gift to an individual, you must do it privately, in the context of friendship, not business.

✳The Chinese will decline a gift three times before finally accepting, so as not to appear greedy. You will have to continue to insist. Once the gift is accepted, express gratitude. You will be expected to go through the same routine if you are offered a gift.

✳In the presence of other people, never present a



valuable gift to one person.

This gesture will cause only embarrassment, and possibly even problems for the recipient, given the strict rules against bribery in Chinese business culture. **Do not** take any photograph of any gift giving unless it is a symbolic gift presented to the organization as a whole.

✳If possible, have your gifts wrapped in red paper, which is considered a lucky color. Plain red paper is one of the few "safe" choices since a variety of meanings, many of

which are negative, are attributed to colors in Chinese culture.

✳Pink and gold and silver are also acceptable colors for gift wrap. Wrapping in yellow paper with black writing is a gift given only to the dead. Also, do check the variations from region to region about colors.

✳Because colors have so many different meanings in this culture, your safest option is to entrust the task of gift-wrapping to a store or hotel that offers this service.



Source: <http://www.1worldglobalgifts.com/chinagiftgivingetiquette.htm>

## British English Vs American English

| Thai            | British          | American        | Thai            | British          | American       |
|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------|
| มันฝรั่งทอด     | Chips            | French Fries    | ประวัติส่วนตัว  | Curriculum Vitae | Resume         |
| มันฝรั่งทอดกรอบ | Crisp            | Potato Chips    | เก็บเงิน        | Pay the Bill     | Pay the Check  |
| ตำรวจ           | Police Constable | Police Officer  | เอทีเอ็ม        | Cash Point       | ATM            |
| กางเกง          | Trousers         | Pants           | ยางลบ           | Rubber           | Eraser         |
| กางเกงในชาย     | Pants            | Men's Underwear | ตั๋วเที่ยวเดียว | Single Ticket    | One-way Ticket |
| เข้าคิว         | Queue Up         | Stand in Line   | ตั๋วไปกลับ      | Return Ticket    | Round Trip     |
| งานเลี้ยงสละโซด | Stag Night       | Buck's Night /  | เที่ยวบินตรง    | Direct Flight    | Nonstop Flight |
| สำหรับเจ้าบ่าว  |                  | Bachelor Party  | ชายหนุ่ม        | Bloke / Chap     | Guy            |
| ลูกอม           | Sweets           | Candy           | หนุ่มน้อย       | Lad              | Young guy      |



# Here's The Answer

## ? Is it correct to write 'New Years Day'?



According to the American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, the correct spelling is "New Year's Day."

A number of American Holidays have possessive forms. "New Year's Day," "St. Valentine's Day," "St. Patrick's Day," and "April Fool's Day" all have their singular possessive form.

## ? Do you have a lot of plans for the new year? Do you know how to use 'Future Tense' for future plans or arrangements?



### Intentions

*Be going to* refers to future intentions that have been decided but have **not** been fully planned:

- ⊗ We're **going to** get married.
- ⊗ I'm **going to** play tennis with Sarah next week.

### Arrangements

The present continuous tense refers to fixed future events, and emphasises that plans or arrangements have already been made:

- ⊗ We **are getting** married next month.
- ⊗ I'm **playing** tennis with Sarah on Friday at 15.00.

## ? Do you know how to say 'Happy New Year' in ASEAN languages?



**Brunei Darussalam:** Selamat tahun baru

**Cambodia:** Sur sdei chhnam thmei

**Indonesia:** Selamat tahun baru

**The Philippines:** Manigong Bagong Taon

**Malaysia:** Selamat tahun b-ru

**Myanmar:** Hnit thit ku mingalar pa

**Singapore:** Xin Nian Kuai Le

**Lao PDR:** Sabai di pi mai

**Thailand:** Sawasdee Peemai

**Vietnam:** Chuc mung nam moi

Source: <http://esl.fis.edu/grammar/rules/future.htm>,

[http://buiao.bu.ac.th/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=49&Itemid=33](http://buiao.bu.ac.th/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=49&Itemid=33)

[http://wiki.answers.com/Q/How\\_do\\_you\\_spell\\_'new\\_years\\_day'](http://wiki.answers.com/Q/How_do_you_spell_'new_years_day')



## British English Vs American English



| Thai           | British   | American     | Thai   | British          | American       |
|----------------|---|--------------|--|------------------|----------------|
| ห้องน้ำ        | Loo  | Toilet / WC  | ไล่ออก   | Sacked           | Fired          |
| จุด (จบประโยค) | Full stop   | Period       | ตำแหน่ง  | Post (Job title) | Position       |
| พักร้อน        | On holiday  | On vacation  | ขึ้นเงินเดือน  | Pay raise        | Pay rise       |
| รายปักษ์       | Fortnight   | Two weeks    | อาหารซื้อกลับบ้าน  | Take away food   | Carry out food |
| ปรารถนา        | Keen on   | Really likes | ผ้าอ้อม  | Nappy            | Diaper         |
| สนใจ           | Fancy   | Care for     | มอเตอร์เวย์  | Motorway         | Freeway        |
| ทะเลาะวิวาท    | Fight (Argument)  | Row          | ไฟฉาย  | Torch            | Flashlight     |
|                |   |              | ตู้เสื้อผ้า  | Wardrobe         | Closet         |





# Bits And Pieces

## Master the 7 Feng Shui Steps for Your House & Home

Feng shui is an ancient art and science developed over 3,000 years ago in China. It is a complex body of knowledge that reveals how to balance the energies of any given space to assure health and good fortune for people inhabiting it.



Here are some helpful feng shui house steps for beginners:



**1. Clear Out Your Clutter**, get rid of everything you do not love in your house. Clutter Clearing is a time-and energy-consuming process that will feel like therapy, but it will help you "lighten up the load," so to speak.

Do not skip this step, as it is an essential one in creating harmonious house feng shui energy.

**2. Have Good Quality Air and Good Quality Light** in your house. These two elements are essential for good feng shui energy (called Chi) in your home. Open the windows often, introduce feng shui air-purifying plants or use an air-purifier. Allow as much natural light as possible into your home, and consider using full-spectrum lights.

**3. Define the Bagua**, or the feng shui energy map of your house. Once you define the bagua, you will know which areas of your home are



connected to specific areas of your life. For example, the Southeast feng shui area of your home is connected to the flow of money energy in your life.

**4. Get the Basics of 5 Feng Shui Elements** in order to create balance and vibrant energy in all areas of your home. For example, if you are working on attracting more prosperity, you will introduce the feng shui elements of Wood and Water in the Southeast area of your house. If you need to improve your health, you will place lush wood feng shui element items, such as plants or pieces of wood furniture in the East area.

**5. Find Out Your Feng Shui Birth Element** and create a home to nourish and support your energy. For example, if your own element is Fire, you

need to introduce the expressions of Fire feng shui element, such as the Fire element colors (red, orange, purple, magenta, pink, yellow), triangular shapes, etc.

**6. Find Out Your Kua Number and Your Lucky Directions** so that you can be energized by good energy from your best, or lucky feng shui directions. Adjust the position of your bed, your desk, the seating in your dining area, etc.

**7. Always Be Mindful of the Feel of Your Home** and how



its energy influences your well-being. Make a habit of paying close attention to the so-called feng shui "trinity" that is

deeply connected to your health - your bedroom, your bathroom and your kitchen. Nothing is static in the world of energy, so be wise and keep your home healthy and happy.

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