



# LANGUAGE LINKS

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## *What's happening this week?*



**T**his week we will have our first excursion outside Bangkok, this time as a one-day trip. The purpose of the trip will be to give students an opportunity to practise using English in a simulation of a real situation, through giving and listening to briefings, and asking and answering questions in English. More importantly, you will get some ideas on how to make a presentation more effective.

Early on Friday morning, we'll depart for Damnoen Saduak Floating Market.

This is the best-known destination in Ratchaburi, where the traditional lifestyle of the local Thai people can be observed along the canals. The 'floating' market operates every day from early morning till noon. Boats can be hired if you want to get a close-up view of the canal-side villages and boat vendors. The price is not fixed, but it's around 300-400 baht per boat.



In the afternoon, we will head to King Buddhalertla Naphalai Memorial Park in Samut Songkram. This park, occupying an area of eleven rai, is the royal birthplace of King Phra Buddhalertla. There is a group of five typical Thai houses (four are used as museums, while the other is a library) within the compound selling local foodstuffs and handicraft items. Trees and plants of all the species ever found in Thai literature are grown throughout the landscape.



I hope that this excursion will help broaden your English knowledge, as well as providing other benefits.

Here is the tentative itinerary:

- 07.30 Leave the Institute of Foreign Affairs
- 09.30 Arrive at Damnoen Saduak Floating Market
- 12.00 Lunch
- 14.00 Arrive at King Buddhalertla Naphalai Memorial Park
- 18.00 Arrive at the Institute of Foreign Affairs

**NOTE :** Casual dress is recommended.  
A hat or an umbrella will also be useful.

**Usana**

# Culture Corner

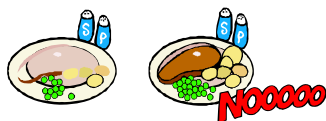


## Culture Shock in Singapore!

- ✓ Don't be surprised if people you do not know well ask you how much you earn or how much your car cost. This is quite normal.
- ✓ If you are invited for a meal, people will always offer you a second helping. You should always say "NO", so as not to appear greedy. This will be understood, and your host will give you more anyway. If you really do not want any more, cover your plate with your hand.



- ✓ It is polite to leave some food on your plate at the end of a meal - if you eat everything, it is a sign that you want more.



- ✓ Don't drop litter - even cigarette ends. It will be noticed, and you'll be fined. You can also be fined if you fail to flush the toilet in a restaurant or other public place.



- ✓ In general, it is considered insulting to give tips, and many places have signs saying "No tipping".



Doff, A. and Jones, 1994. *Language in Use: Intermediate*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

**Piyaporn**

# Learning Strategies

## The Best Way to Study a Foreign Language

There are a number of different ways to study a language, each of which has advantages and disadvantages. You may find a combination of these is best for you.

- ◆ Taught courses
- ◆ Teaching yourself
- ◆ Language exchange
- ◆ Picking it up by osmosis

### Taught courses

A variety of courses are usually available, including part-time and full-time courses, short intensive courses and courses leading to qualifications. If you look around you can probably find a course that suits your requirements.



The main advantage of such courses is that you'll have a teacher or tutor who provides you with instruction, support and feedback, and with whom you can practise your language. Formal courses also help you to structure your studies.



### Studying abroad

One option is to study a language in a country where it's spoken. The main advantage of studying abroad is that you are totally immersed in the language, not just in class, but the rest of the time as well. As a result, you should make fairly rapid progress. Another benefit of studying abroad is that you get to try the local cuisine, to meet the locals and to sample the local culture.

*To be continued....*

Adapted from <http://www.omniglot.com/language/how.htm>

**Usana**

# Here's the Answer...

## Gerund and Infinitive

Q

I am not really sure whether to use words like *remember*, *forget*, *need* and *stop* with a gerund or an infinitive. Can you explain?

A

Following is an explanation of how gerunds and infinitives are used with some verbs.

### 1. remember/forget

PAST  
Action  
Event



remember  
forget

I don't remember seeing you at the party, Were you there?



I'll never forget flying over the Alps for the first time.



remember  
forget



FUTURE  
Action  
Event

Don't forget to feed the cat.



Did you remember to post that letter while you were out?



### 2. need



The window needs cleaning. (Passive meaning: need to be cleaned)

I need to call at the post office. (Active meaning: have to call)



### 3. stop

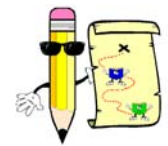


When *stop* is followed by a gerund it means 'to **finish** an action'.

Could you stop shouting?

When *stop* is followed by an infinitive, it means 'to **interrupt** one action in order to **do something else**'.

We had to stop (walking, driving, etc.) to look at the map.



Source: O'Connell, S. 2005. *First Certificate*. Harlow: Longman.

# FUN WITH ENGLISH

## Week 4 Add a letter

Add **one letter** to each of the following words (in any place) to form a new word. A clue is given to help you.

RAN      RAIN      can spoil a day at the seaside.

- |           |       |                                      |
|-----------|-------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. EAR    | ..... | a fruit                              |
| 2. RULE   | ..... | you see one to draw straight lines   |
| 3. COD    | ..... | it is like this in winter            |
| 4. MEN    | ..... | the opposite of generous             |
| 5. RAM    | ..... | Americans call it a streetcar        |
| 6. HAVE   | ..... | something most men do every day      |
| 7. SAP    | ..... | keeps you clean                      |
| 8. EASE   | ..... | artists use one to hold their canvas |
| 9. RAVE   | ..... | it means you are not afraid          |
| 10. LAME  | ..... | seen in a fire                       |
| 11. ITCH  | ..... | “supernatural” woman                 |
| 12. TROLL | ..... | to walk                              |
| 13. SORE  | ..... | American word for shop               |
| 14. SEAL  | ..... | it is against the law to do this     |
| 15. TALE  | ..... | the opposite of fresh (e.g. bread)   |
| 16. HARP  | ..... | the opposite of blunt                |
| 17. SEE   | ..... | to look for                          |
| 18. WEAR  | ..... | very tired                           |
| 19. TIN   | ..... | very small                           |
| 20. ALE   | ..... | a story                              |

### Answers no.3

- |      |       |
|------|-------|
| 1. a | 2. c  |
| 3. a | 4. b  |
| 5. d | 6. c  |
| 7. a | 8. b  |
| 9. c | 10. b |

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