



LANGUAGE LINKS

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What's happening this week?



A visit to the Royal Chitralada Projects this Friday, April 20, will be this term's first excursion.

There is no other palace in the world like Chitralada Palace. Dotted with diverse agricultural projects such as fishponds, rice fields and a dairy farm, it looks more like an experimental agricultural village than a king's residence.

Thai people consider themselves fortunate to have a king such as His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej, whose compassion and concern for their welfare is well known. His Majesty has allocated an area within the compound of his residence for use in agricultural research and experimentation in order to find the best and most efficient farming methods for his people to use.

The tour of the projects will run from 9.00 until 12.00.



NOTE:

* See all of you at the front of Chitralada Palace (opposite the Royal Turf Club) at 8.45 on Friday morning.

* Please dress appropriately.

LEARNING STRATEGIES

Improving Listening Skills

Does this situation seem familiar to you? Your English is progressing well, the grammar is now familiar, the reading comprehension is no problem, you are communicating quite fluently, but **listening is STILL a problem!**



First of all, remember that you are not alone. Listening comprehension is probably the most difficult task for almost all learners of English as a foreign language. The most important thing is to listen – and that means as often as possible. The next step is to find new listening resources once you have begun to listen on a regular basis.

Here is some further advice:

1. Accept the fact that you are **not** going to understand everything.
2. Keep cool (*idiom = stay relaxed*) when you do not understand. By remaining calm, allowing yourself to **not** understand, and not translating while listening, your brain is free to concentrate on the most important thing: *understanding English in English*.
3. Do **not** translate into your native language. Translating creates a barrier between the listener and the speaker.
4. Listen for the general idea of the conversation. Don't concentrate on detail until you have understood the main ideas.

Adapted from <http://esl.about.com>



Usana

Culture Corner



International Business Meeting Gift Giving - Detailed

If a country is not listed in a category, it means gifts may or may not be exchanged. Should you receive a gift, and do not have one to offer in return, you will not create a crisis. However, this is a good reason for planning to host a meal. It becomes your reciprocal gesture.

Countries in which a gift is expected:



- Europe – Czech Republic, Poland, Russia and Ukraine
- Latin American – Bolivia, Columbia and Costa Rica
- Pacific Rim – China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Malaysia, Philippines and Thailand

Countries in which a gift is not expected on the first visit, but would be expected on a subsequent visit:

- Europe – Portugal and Spain
- Latin American – Brazil, Chile, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru and Venezuela
- Pacific Rim – Malaysia and Singapore
- Scandinavia – Finland and Norway

Places in which a gift is not expected, or gifts are less frequently exchanged:

- Africa
- Australia
- Europe – England, France, Hungary and Italy
- Latin America – Uruguay
- Scandinavia – Denmark
- Middle East – Saudi Arabia
- Pakistan
- United States

Here's the Answer...

When or if?



Should I use a future verb after *when* or *if*?



If and *when* can link two parts of a sentence. We often use the present simple directly after these words, even though we are talking about the future:

Examples



When I retire, I'll travel round the world.

If you miss the train, you'll have to take a taxi.



If Kathy gets in touch next week, I'll let you know.

You will have to retake the exam *if* you fail it.



The same thing happens when we use *before*, *after*, *until*, *by the time* and *as soon as*:

Examples



I don't like unexpected visitors, so I hope she rings *before* she arrives.



You can't drive a car in England *until* you are seventeen.

By the time we get home, it will be dark.



I'll phone you *as soon as* I arrive.



Source: Tayfoor, S. 2004. *Common Mistakes at First Certificate and How to Avoid Them*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

FUN WITH ENGLISH

No.3

Words of similar meaning: Verbs

Complete each of the groups of three words with a word that is similar in meaning. Choose from the following:

abhor	coerce	jibe	scurry
abridge	corroborate	pillage	shelve
allure	crow	postulate	snicker
bicker	dupe	procure	thwart
chide	fathom	revere	vex

- 1 abbreviate, shorten, condense
- 2 acquire, gain, obtain
- 3 admire, respect, venerate
- 4 annoy, bother, pester
- 5 argue, quarrel, squabble
- 6 assume, suppose, infer
- 7 brag, boast, swagger
- 8 cheat, swindle, hoodwink
- 9 confirm, verify, affirm
- 10 force, compel, oblige
- 11 hate, detest, loathe
- 12 laugh, chuckle, guffaw
- 13 oppose, resist, withstand
- 14 postpone, adjourn, put off
- 15 rebuke, scold, reprimand
- 16 rush, scamper, dash
- 17 sneer, scoff, jeer
- 18 tempt, entice, seduce
- 19 understand, comprehend, grasp
- 20 rob, steal, plunder



Answer no.2

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 cut, dummy | 10 pigeon, beak |
| 2 toothache, denture | 11 net, umpire |
| 3 sentence, judge | 12 lapel, wear |
| 4 pattern, stick | 13 bank, Danube |
| 5 compartment, luggage-rack | 14 circulation, editor |
| 6 filling-cabinet, typist | 15 headboard, blanket |
| 7 slides, snapshot | 16 bonnet, radiator |
| 8 beach, deckchair | 17 purr, paw |
| 9 widow, cemetery | 18 landing, mortgage |
| | 19 clubs, shuffle |

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