



LANGUAGE LINKS

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What's happening this week?

At last, here comes the day many of you have been waiting for: June 8, the last day of the ILC course! Starting at 9 o'clock, we have our final Friday Activity, the inter-class ILC Debates, during which the stimulating public speaking skills of several of our students will be showcased. From a practical point of view, it should be possible to feel that language learning is continuing to take place in a meaningful way during this activity.

Following the debates, there will be the awarding of certificates to all ILC trainees. This day means all ILC students will have achieved what they have put their efforts into.

In closing, on behalf of the teachers, I would like to thank all ILC students for your support and participation throughout the term. We have had wonderful experiences. I hope you will always remember the good times we have had during the course.

Wishing everyone all the best!

INTENSIVE LANGUAGE COURSE CLOSING CEREMONY

At the Prince Palace Hotel

Friday 8 June

08.45 Registration

09.00 Debate 1

10.30 Coffee/Tea Break

10.45 Debate 2

11.30 Awarding of Certificates

12.00 Lunch



NOTE: Don't forget - the ILC final test is on Thursday 7 June. Punctuality is essential.

Final test schedule

09.00-09.30 Reading test

09.40-10.35 Writing test

10.40-11.35 Listening test

11.40-13.30 Speaking test

To ensure that you don't miss the test, please come before 9 o'clock.

LEARNING STRATEGIES

Where do I start?



Before you begin (or go back to) studying English, ask yourself one question: **Why do I want to study English?** Is it because you want to, or because someone else wants you to? Like every decision in life, studying English must be something you want to do.

♦ Set goals

If you know why you want to study, setting goals is easy. For example, maybe you want to travel to an English-speaking country. Great. Your goal might be to learn "Survival English". Perhaps you already know many useful phrases, but you want to improve your listening skills and pronunciation.



Whatever your goals are, write them down.

♦ Make an agenda

How long do you need to study to achieve your goals? This answer is different for every student. The important thing is to be realistic. Study regularly. Use material that is challenging, but not too difficult. Find out what works for you. After you have studied for a few weeks, adjust your study schedule accordingly. Do you study best at night, or on the bus on your way to work? Do you like to study alone in a quiet place, or with friends and background music?

♦ Make a commitment

Learning English requires a lot of motivation. Nobody is going to take your attendance when you aren't in class. If you are sure you are ready to begin studying, make a commitment.



♦ Have fun learning English!

The things we do best in life are the things we enjoy doing. If you aren't having fun learning English, you're not studying the right way! You can be a serious student who has fun at the same time. Make up your own rewards program to give yourself incentives to improve.

Usana

Adapted from : www.englishclub.com

Culture Corner



Gift Giving in Japan



- **Always wrap gifts.** The selection of the wrapping paper is critical. Do not give anything wrapped in white as it symbolizes death. Do not use bright colors or bows to wrap the gift. It is better to have **the store wrap the gift** to ensure that it is appropriate.

- Do not surprise the recipient with the gift. Give your host some warning during the evening that you intend to give them a present.

- **Give the gift with both hands** and accept gifts with two hands also.



- Generally, gifts will not be opened in your presence. If your host insists that you open the gift, do so gingerly. The Japanese take pride in gift-wrapping; show that you appreciate the effort.

- Do not give an odd number, or four, of anything as **odd numbers are bad luck** and the number four in Japanese sounds like the word for death.

- Gifts should be given at the end of a visit.



- Do not admire anything belonging to your host too closely. The Japanese strive to please; you may be rewarded for your admiration.

- **Good gift** ideas include top choice beef, fruit and liquors such as brandy, quality whiskey and Bourbon, along with excellent wines. The Japanese also appreciate gifts from high-end department stores like Saks and Neiman Marcus.



- The Japanese frown on open displays of affection. They do not touch in public. It is highly inappropriate to touch someone of the opposite sex in public.

Matt Priest © 1998-2007 InternationalBusinessCenter.org

Piyaporn

Here's the Answer...



The Use of the Article "The"

Q

I always make mistakes when using "the". Can you explain how to use it correctly?

A

There are many rules governing the use of the definite article. Let's look at some of them.

NO ARTICLE	DEFINITE ARTICLE
<p>Meals</p> <p>We had breakfast at 8 o'clock.</p> 	<p>Meals</p> <p>The breakfast on the train was awful.</p> 
<p>Times of day</p> <p>We left at midnight/night/ sunrise/midday/noon/ lunchtime.</p> 	<p>Times of day</p> <p>in the morning in the afternoon in the evening</p> 
<p>Methods of travel</p> <p>by air/sea/boat/train/bus/car/bicycle</p>	<p>Methods of travel</p> <p>We came by the early train/ the number 40 bus/ the express coach.</p>
<p>Cities: New York/Hong Kong</p> <p>Mountains: Mount Everest Ben Nevis</p> <p>Countries: France/Argentina</p> <p>Streets, squares, circuses, etc: Oxford Street Leicester Square Piccadilly Circus</p>  	<p>Oceans, seas, waterways and rivers: the Pacific (Ocean) the South China Sea the Suez Canal the Mississippi (River)</p> <p>Mountain ranges the Alps the Himalayas</p> <p>Plural countries The United States The Philippines</p> <p>Roads the London road (i.e., the road that goes to London)</p>  

Source: O'Connell, S. 2005. *First Certificate*. Harlow: Pearson Education Limited.

Napassawan

FROM TEACHERS

Wish you all kinds of success especially in English skills. Give yourself a chance for English practice even after this ILC Course.

All the best to all of you.

Usana

I always enjoy working with all of my marvelous ILC learners. If you just stop and think about it for a moment, it's easy to know why. I'm pretty sure that you have enjoyed learning English here. So have I. Anyway, don't forget to keep it in mind about "Although you've already completed the ILC course, you yourself can maintain language learning everlastingly". You actually realize how to do so, don't you?

Wish you all the best.

Piyaporn

Whenever you have a chance to learn and use English, don't hesitate!!! Hopefully, you will always have good memories of your time at the Institute of Foreign Affairs. I wish you all the best of luck.

Napassawan

Dear students

I'm very happy to teach you. All of you are diligent in "Writing" and you can improve it a lot.

Moreover, you're qualified students.

I absolutely appreciate you.

With love

Nongluck

You are very lucky to be here together. Not only getting English knowledge but gaining other profits, such as having new friends, learning how to participate in many activities also. Being successful in study is good, but being successful in living happily is better.

Good luck to all of you!!

Machamon

End of course note

Where have the weeks gone? My teaching time with ILCI and ILCII has been extremely enjoyable. The students have been a source of challenges, satisfaction but above all, great joy.

The first couple of weeks were quite uncertain as we tried to figure out who we all were and what we had to offer to other members of our groups. We soon realised we were all learners. Once this was achieved, our mood changed. We all worked our hardest and everyone contributed so much. It seemed like there was no stopping but we always had fun and much laughter.

I now feel pleased with what we have achieved but sad that my students are leaving. I would like to wish them every success in their future.

Martina

Congratulations on your completion of the ILC course. Your efforts have been rewarded. Good luck for the future.

Robert

To all the ILC Students,

After returning to the 'real world' of your offices, I hope you will have the chance to use your English skills.

Please continue to speak and write in English and also listen to the language as much as possible.

I hope your time here has been enjoyable and also useful. Good luck in the future, whatever you do.

Best Wishes

Andrew

Use your English Skills at every opportunity you are given.

Get as much exposure to the English language as you possible can. eg. making English Speaking Friends, radio, TV and reading.

When you go back to your Government Department remember the saying "If you don't use it, you'll lose it".

All the best
Fun teaching you
lan

Answers no.9

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. archipelago | 6. bumper |
| 2. biography | 7. ward |
| 3. apologized/
apologised | 8. somehow |
| 4. surgeon | 9. collided
(possibly crashed) |
| 5. hangover | 10. nephew |

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