



LANGUAGE LINKS

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What's happening this week?

If you want to improve your English skills, you should give yourself a chance to be exposed to English as much as you can. Listening to our guest speaker this Friday will be one such opportunity.

As we all know, different cultures have different customs and values, and a lack of cross-cultural awareness can result in displays of inappropriate behaviour, some of which may cause offence. One area of importance in cross-cultural awareness is that of the different rules of etiquette concerning dining. Understanding correct etiquette can help us to conduct ourselves in an appropriate manner while entertaining and dining with people from other cultures. This will be the topic of Friday's presentation by our guest speaker.

This 'outside-the-classroom learning' has been organized in order to enhance your listening skills, and to provide a chance for you to get familiar with certain aspects of cross-cultural awareness.

NOTE:

- Please dress neatly and wear your nametag.
- See you at Vedes Somosorn Hall at 9.45.

Here's the Answer...

Perfect Tenses: Simple or Continuous?



Using perfect tenses is confusing. Could you tell me when we use them?



We use the **simple** aspect of tenses for actions which we think are:

▪ **finished**: *I've done my homework. (the homework is finished)*

▪ **permanent**: *I've lived in England for 10 years. I've worked for this company for most of that time.*

We use the **continuous** aspect of tenses for actions which we think are:

▪ **unfinished or in progress**: *I've been doing my homework. (it isn't finished yet)*

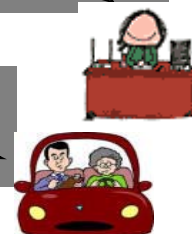
▪ **temporary**: *I've been living in England for six months. I've been working as an au pair. (I think I will leave England one day - my job is temporary)*

I've lived here all my life and never want to leave.



I've been working in an office for the past month, but my profession is acting.

I haven't taken the train for a long time. I prefer to drive.



Powell, D. 2005. *Common mistakes at CAE and how to avoid them*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Usana

Napassawan

Culture Corner



United Arab Emirates



Behaviour

- Avoid admiring an item excessively as your host may feel obligated to give it to you. When offered a gift, it is impolite to refuse.
- Alcohol and pork are not consumed by those that observe the Muslim religion.



- There are several styles of greetings in use; it is best to wait for your counterpart to initiate the greeting. Men shake hands with other men, and some men will shake hands with women. It is, however, advisable for a businesswoman to wait for a man to offer his hand. A more traditional greeting between men involves grasping each other's right hand, placing the left hand on the other's right shoulder and exchanging kisses on each cheek.

- The left hand is considered unclean and reserved for hygiene. Gesture and eat with the right hand. Do not point at another person.

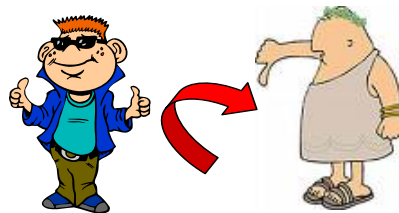


- Walking hand in hand is a sign a friendship between men.

- In the Muslim world, Friday is the day of rest.



- The "thumbs up" gesture might be considered offensive by some.



LEARNING STRATEGIES

Improve Your Learning Skills

Learning is a skill and it can be improved. There are many ways to improve your level of English, but only you can find the right way for yourself. Your path to learning effectively is through knowing...

- yourself
- your capacity to learn
- processes you have successfully used in the past
- your interest, and knowledge of what you wish to learn

Motivate yourself

If you are not motivated to learn English, you will become frustrated and give up. Ask yourself the following questions, and be honest:



- Why do you need to learn/improve English?
- Where will you need to use English?
- What skills do you need to learn/improve? (Reading/Writing/Listening/Speaking)
- How soon do you need to see results?
- How much time can you afford to devote to learning English?
- How much money can you afford to spend on learning English?
- Do you have a plan or learning strategy?

Set yourself achievable goals

You know how much time you can dedicate to learning English. Joining a short intensive course could produce better results than joining a course that takes place once a week for six months.

Here are some goals you could set yourself:

- Join an English course (and attend regularly).
- Do your homework.
- Read a book a month.
- Learn a new word every day.
- Visit an English-speaking forum every day.
- Read a news article on the net every day.
- Do 10 minutes listening practice every day.
- Watch an English film at least once a month.



Adapted from: <http://www.learnenglish.de/improvepage.htm>

FUN WITH ENGLISH

No.2

Missing words – people's characteristics

Put the correct words from the box into the sentences that follow.

ambitious	big-headed	intelligent	immature	rude
obstinate	moody	eccentric	strict	sympathetic

- John is always telling people how well he plays the guitar. He's so
- Many girls of 16 and 17 are far too..... to get married and have children.
- I see Clive's passed all his exams again. It must be wonderful to be so.....
- The trouble with Jane is that she's so One minute she's laughing, the next she's sulking. You just don't know where you are with her.
- One of the things I like about Pamela is that she's so If you have a problem you know you can go to her and that she'll listen to you and try to help all she can.
- Mrs. Green's children are so They never say "Please" or "Thank you" and only last week I heard them swearing at the postman.
- My son's very He doesn't want to work in an office all his life. In fact, he keeps telling me that one day he's going to be Prime Minister.
- My uncle is very No matter what the weather, he always wears a bright red cape when he goes out and a matching pair of boots. Everyone stares at him, but he doesn't mind. He likes being different.
- My husband never sees my point of view. He has his opinions and nothing I say will ever change them. He's so
- When I was a teenager, my father was very He'd never allow me to wear make-up or have a boyfriend, and if I went out with friend I always had to be home by 10 o'clock.

Answer no.1

- School:** blackboard, desks, playground, pupils, staffroom
- Kitchen:** cutlery, dishwasher, fridge, frying pan, sink unit
- Boat:** crew, deck, funnel, portholes, rails
- Church:** aisle, altar, congregation, pulpit, pew
- Jacket:** button, collar, lapel, pocket, sleeve
- Hospital:** matron, operating theatre, patients, stethoscope, ward
- Office:** date stamp, filing cabinet, secretary, stapler, typewriter
- Car:** boot, bumper, clutch, horn, seatbelt



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