



# LANGUAGE LINKS

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## What's happening this week?

The OCC Debate will be held at the Prince Palace Hotel this Friday, November 9. The stimulating public speaking skills of the OCC 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. It is a great chance for all ILC students to practise their listening skills, while widening their general knowledge.

This activity also marks the end of the Oral Communication Course (OCC). As their final assignment, the OCC students will conduct the show, thereby putting the knowledge they have gained over the last six weeks into practice. On behalf of all teachers, I would like to extend my sincere congratulations to all OCC students on this achievement.

### NOTE:

- \* Please be at the Prince Palace Hotel by 8.45 a.m.
- \* Casual dress is NOT acceptable

### Tentative Schedule

- 09.00 The OCC Debate
- 10.30 Coffee/Tea Break
- 10.45 The OCC Debate (continued)
- 12.00 Lunch

## Here's the Answer...

### Nouns Which Can Be Countable or Uncountable



I don't know when nouns are countable or uncountable. Can you explain?



Yes. The following nouns can be both countable and uncountable:

#### 1. Nouns we think of as single things or substances:

- **Egg**



Would you like **a boiled egg** for breakfast?  
You've spilt **egg** on your tie.



- **Hair**

Waiter! There's **a hair** in my soup.  
She's got blonde **hair**.

- **Iron**



We'll have to buy **a new iron**.  
This one just doesn't get the creases out.  
People learned to make implements from **iron**.

- **Glass**



Pass me **a glass** and I'll pour you a drink.  
What did people use for windows before they invented **glass**?

Source: Acklam, R. 2002. *First Certificate Gold*. Harlow: Pearson Education Limited.

Usana

Napassawan

# Culture Corner



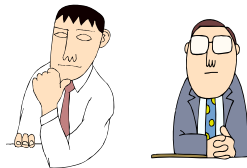
1. In China, the status of every business negotiation is ...

- A. reported daily in the press.
- B. private, and details are not discussed publicly.
- C. subjected to scrutiny by a public tribunal on a regular basis.
- D. directed by the elders of every commune.



2. In Iran, managers are more likely to base their subordinates' performance appraisals on ...

- A. religion.
- B. seniority.
- C. friendship.
- D. ability.



3. When giving flowers as gifts in Western Europe, be careful not to give two of the following flowers:

A. Chrysanthemums



B. Tulips



C. Lilacs



D. Calla lilies



4. The doors in German offices and homes are generally kept ...

- A. wide open to symbolize an acceptance and welcome of friends and strangers.
- B. slightly ajar to suggest that people should knock before entering.
- C. half-opened, suggesting that some people are welcome and others are not.
- D. tightly shut to preserve privacy and personal space.

5. One wedding gift that should not be given to a Chinese couple would be ...

- A. a jade bowl.
- B. a clock.
- C. a basket of oranges.
- D. shirts embroidered with dragon patterns.



6. If you order "bubble and squeak" in a London pub, you will get ...

- A. two goldfish fried in olive oil.
- B. a very cold beer in chilled glass, rather than the usual warm beer.
- C. Alka Seltzer and a glass of water.
- D. chopped cabbage and mashed potatoes fried together.

Answer Key  
1) B 2) C 3) A&D 4) D 5) B 6) D

<http://mindyourownbusiness.com/game.htm>

Piyaporn

# LEARNING STRATEGIES

## The Ten Best Vocabulary Learning Tips

- **Read, Read, Read!** The more words you're exposed to, the better vocabulary you will have. While you read, pay close attention to words you don't know. First, try to figure out their meanings from the context. Then look the words up.
- **Improve your context skills.** To improve your context skills, pay close attention to how words are used. Doing a search on a word using [dejanews.com](http://dejanews.com) (for searching newsgroups) will give you many examples of how that word is used in context.
- **Practise, practise, practise.** Write the word – both the definition and a sentence you make up using the word – perhaps on an index card that can later be reviewed. As soon as you learn a new word, start using it. Review your index cards periodically to see if you have forgotten any of your new words.
- **Make up as many associations and connections as possible.** Say the word aloud to activate your auditory memory. Relate the word to words you already know. For example, the word GARGANTUAN (very large) has a similar meaning to the words gigantic, huge, large, etc. You could make a sequence: small, medium, large, very large, GARGANTUAN.
- **Use mnemonics (memory tricks).** For example, consider the word EGREGIOUS (extremely bad). Think EGG REACH US – imagine we've made a mistake so bad that they are throwing eggs at us and a rotten EGG REACHES US. Such funny little word pictures will help you remember what words mean, AND they are fun to make up. Also, find out which learning style suits you best. Everyone learns differently!
- **Get in the habit of looking up words you don't know.** If you have a dictionary program on your computer, keep it open and handy. America Online and other Internet services have dictionaries and thesauruses on their tool bars. Find them and look up any word you are not absolutely sure of. Use a thesaurus when you write to find the word that fits best.
- **Play with words.** Play Scrabble and Boggle, and do crossword puzzles. These and other word games are available for the computer, so you are not dependent on a partner to play. Also, try out the Franklin Electronic Dictionary, which features built-in word games.
- **Use vocabulary lists.** For the serious vocabulary student, there are many books that focus on the words most commonly found in standardized tests, such as the SAT and GRE. There are also many interesting word sites on the Internet, many of which will send you a word a day by email.
- **Take vocabulary tests.** Playing games that test your knowledge will help you learn new words and also let you know how much progress you're making.
- **Get excited about words!** Learn to say what you really mean and discover the joys of being able to express yourself in writing. Your future can depend on how rich your vocabulary is. It will also determine the quality of your communication. Remember: "In the beginning was the word". Until you have a word for something, it does not exist for you. Name it, and you have made your reality richer.

Adapted from: [http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/vocabulary\\_tips.htm](http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/vocabulary_tips.htm)

# FUN WITH ENGLISH

## No.6

### Words That Begin With "EX-"

Read through the clues/definitions and fill in the missing words, all of which begin with "ex-".

- 1 to kill someone as a lawful punishment
- 2 hopeful; pregnant
- 3 a new room or building that is added to an existing building
- 4 if you ex..... someone from a difficult situation, you free him/her from it
- 5 to make worse
- 6 a tax that the government of a country puts on goods that are produced for sale in that country
- 7 to free someone from blame
- 8 a brave, bold and successful deed
- 9 someone who is ex.....is full of energy, excitement and cheerfulness
- 10 to look closely at something
- 11 to be very good at something
- 12 to dismiss officially from a school, college, etc.
- 13 when you ex.....a group of animals or people they are all killed
- 14 to return someone who may be guilty of a crime, and who has escaped, to another country for trial
- 15 to annoy or make very angry
- 16 freed from duty, service, payment, etc.
- 17 if you ex.....someone to do something, you try very hard to persuade him or her to do it
- 18 to take away something owned by another, often for public use
- 19 to praise someone very highly
- 20 to uncover something under the earth by digging
- 21 to come to an end; to die
- 22 your ex.....are the outermost parts of your body, especially your hands and feet.
- 23 to leave out or shut out
- 24 a short piece of writing or music which is taken from a larger piece
- 25 to take a body out of the ground where it is buried

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### Answers no.5

- |              |               |
|--------------|---------------|
| 1 car        | 11 soldier    |
| 2 football   | 12 radio      |
| 3 orchestra  | 13 typewriter |
| 4 flower     | 14 pub        |
| 5 dog        | 15 tennis     |
| 6 wedding    | 16 meal       |
| 7 house      | 17 river      |
| 8 guitar     | 18 shoe       |
| 9 bed        | 19 hospital   |
| 10 astronomy | 20 music      |

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