



# LANGUAGE LINKS

Vol.4 No.10 December 3, 2007

Language Links is an internal publication of the Devawongse Varopakarn Institute of Foreign Affairs, Office of the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 962 Krung Kasem Road, Bangkok 10100. <http://www.mfa.go.th/web/2459.php>

## what's happening this week?

**A**t last, here comes the day many of you have been waiting for: December 7, the last day of the ILC course! Starting at 9 o'clock, we have our final Friday Activity, the ILC Class Projects.

Following these, 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, 7 December

- 08.45 Registration
- 09.00 ILC Class Projects
- 10.30 Coffee/tea break
- 10.45 ILC Class Projects
- 11.45 Awarding of Certificates
- 12.00 Lunch



**NOTE:** Don't forget - the ILC Final Test is on Thursday, December 6. 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

**Usana**


## Culture Corner



### TIPPING

 Restaurants in the USA do not include a service charge on the bill, so you should tip the waiter **15%** the total bill. If service was slow or particularly bad, some Americans will tip only **10%**. Likewise, if service was particularly good, it is appropriate to tip 20%. If service was so bad that you would never eat in the restaurant again, **LEAVE TWO CENTS**.





 Taxi drivers expect to get a tip equal to **15%** of the total fare. If the driver was especially helpful or got you to your destination more quickly than you expected, give a **20%** tip.




 Hotel bellhops expect a \$1 tip for helping you with your bags.




 If you order room service, the gratuity is included in the bill. Coat checkroom attendants expect \$1 per coat.

 Hairdressers and barbers expect a tip of 15% of the bill.



 If you are in doubt, ask directly whether it is appropriate to tip or whether a gratuity is included in the bill.



 Bribery is not considered appropriate and is often illegal. Attempting to bribe a policeman will certainly get you arrested.

Kantrowitz, M. 2004. FinAid Page, LLC.

**Piyaporn**

# LEARNING STRATEGIES

## Tips for Better Test Taking

When you take a test, you are demonstrating your ability to understand course material or perform certain tasks. Successful test taking avoids carelessness.

Examples of objective tests are true/false, multiple choice and fill-in-the-blank.

These suggestions may help you avoid careless errors!

### Prepare:

#### Analyze your past test results

Each test can further prepare you for the next test.

Use your tests to review when studying for final exams.

#### Arrive early for tests

Bring all the materials you will need such as pencils and pens, an eraser and a watch.

This helps you focus on the task at hand.

#### Be comfortable but alert

Choose a good spot and make sure you have enough room to work.

#### Stay relaxed and confident

Remind yourself that you are well prepared and are going to do well. If you find yourself anxious, take several slow, deep breaths to relax.

### Test Taking:

#### Read the directions carefully

This may be obvious, but it will help you avoid careless errors.

#### Answer questions in a strategic order:

1. First easy questions
2. Then difficult questions

#### Review:

Review your test to make sure that you have answered all questions, not mis-marked the answer sheet, or made some other simple mistake.



Adapted from <http://www.studygs.net/tsttak1.htm>

# Here's the Answer...

## British and American English



Most learners get confused because some words in British and American English are different even though they have the same meanings. Here are some different word choices between British and American English. Let's find out how much you know about British and American English.

- In British English 'a note' is not ...
  - a mark in an exam.
  - a mark on a music score.
  - a piece of paper with some words on it.
  - something written down so you remember it.
- In British English people 'queue', but in American English they wait...
  - in line.
  - in a row.
  - in a crown.
  - in a string.
- In British English it's 'a tap', but in the States they say...
  - drapes.
  - a faucet.
  - garbage.
  - a diaper.
- In British English it's 'a puncture' or 'a flat tyre', but in US English it's ...
  - a blow up.
  - a blow down.
  - a blow out.
  - a blow.
- In American English 'fall' refers to which season?
  - Spring.
  - Summer.
  - Autumn.
  - Winter.



- Correct.** In British English we say you receive a **mark** for an exam.
  - Wrong. A note can represent musical pitch and length.
  - Wrong. A note can be a short letter to someone.
  - Wrong. We note things down so we can remember them.
- Correct.** In American English 'to **wait in line**' means 'to queue'.
- Wrong. In American English 'drapes' means 'curtains'.
  - Correct.** In American English 'a faucet' means 'a tap'.
  - Wrong. In American English 'garbage' means 'rubbish'.
  - Wrong. In American English 'a diaper' means 'a nappy'.
- Wrong. Blow up has different meanings but a common one is to explode.
  - Wrong. We say the wind blew down some trees last night.
  - Correct.
  - Wrong. 'A blow' can be a disappointment.
- Correct. In US English the 'fall' means 'autumn'.

# 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**

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**

**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.

BestWishes

**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

**Ian**

## Answers no.9

	<b>PART</b>	13	BELT
1	TART	14	PELT
2	TARE	15	PEAT
3	BARE	16	BEAT
4	BORE	17	BRAT
5	CORE	18	BRAG
6	CORN	19	CRAG
7	TORN	20	CRAM
8	TORY	21	PRAM
9	TORT	22	PRIM
10	TOUT	23	GRIM
11	BOUT	24	GRIN
12	BOLT		GAIN

## EDITORIAL TEAM

**Editor :** Usana Wongnarkpet

**Editorial Team :** Suwanee Auephunsirikul  
Napassawan Phromsumphun  
Piyaporn Juntarat  
Robert P. Cummins

**Production :** Raevadee Tantayavit