



# LANGUAGE LINKS

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What's happening this week?

## Dinner Manners

The following formal and informal table settings are a generalized contemporary example of an American table setting.

### Informal



Above the plate, left to right: Bread & butter plate, butter knife, wine/water glass. Plate row, left to right: Napkin, salad fork, dinner fork, salad plate, plate, dinner knife.

### Formal



Above the plate, left to right: Salt & pepper, dessert fork & spoon, water/wine glasses. Plate row, left to right: Fish fork, dinner fork, salad fork, napkin, rim soup plate, salad knife, dinner knife, fish knife, soup spoon.

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 Narathip Auditorium at 9.45.

Usana

Here's the Answer...

## Urban or Suburban?

**Q** What is the difference between 'urban' and 'suburban'?

**A** **Urban** refers to a city; **suburban** refers to an area of a city outside the city centre. Both words are adjectives. **Suburb** is a noun.



Box Hill is a **suburb** of Melbourne.

**Q** What is the meaning of **urban jungle**?

**A** We use this expression to talk about city life, especially the unpleasant parts of it.



*Traffic noise, pollution, huge concrete buildings – how can people survive in the **urban jungle**?*

Source: <http://dictionary.cambridge.org/define.asp?key=23315&dict=CALD>

Napassawan

# Culture Corner



## Etiquette & Customs in New Zealand

### Relationship & Communication

- New Zealanders can be somewhat reserved, especially with people they do not know.
- Once they develop a personal relationship, they are friendly, outgoing and social.
- You should not appear too forward or overly friendly.
- They respect people who are honest, direct, and demonstrate a sense of humour.
- They trust people until they are given a reason not to.



### Business Meeting Etiquette

- Appointments are usually necessary and should be made at least one week in advance by telephone, fax or e-mail.
- It can be difficult to schedule meetings in December and January since these are the prime months for summer vacations.
- If you do not arrive on time, your behaviour may be interpreted as indicating that you are unreliable, or that you think your time is more important than the person with whom you are meeting.
- Meetings are relaxed; however, they are serious events.
- Expect a brief amount of small talk before getting down to the matter at hand.
- Present your business case with facts and figures. Emotions and feelings are not important in the New Zealand business climate.



### Dining Etiquette

- New Zealanders are casual and this is reflected in their table manners. The more formal the occasion, the more strict the protocol.
- Wait to be told where to sit.
- Meals are often served family-style.
- Keep your elbows off the table and your hands above the table when eating.



<http://www.kwintessential.co.uk>

Piyaporn

# LEARNING STRATEGIES

## SELF-TEST ON LEARNING ENGLISH

This test will show you how quickly you will learn English. Answer the questions and then look at the "HOW TO CALCULATE YOUR SCORE" section and add up your score for each question.

- o Which country do you come from?
- o What is your mother tongue?
- o How old are you?
- o Why do you want to learn English?
- o Have you learned other languages before?
- o Have you studied English before?
- o If you have studied English, then how long ago?
- o What level did you study at?
- o Have you ever been in an English speaking country?
- o If you have lived in an English speaking country, how long was it for?
- o How fast do you want to learn?
- o How do you like to learn?
- o Do you like to do a lot of written work?



### HOW TO CALCULATE YOUR SCORE . . .

For each question, note the number on the left-hand side and give yourself a score from 1 to 5.

The following are statements which are assumed to be true IN GENERAL and which give a good indication of learning speed when considered together. However, everyone is an individual and everyone is different.

#### A. Which country do you come from?

Students from some countries learn English more slowly – cultural and language differences play a large part in this.

1. Countries with a very different language & culture, e.g. Korea, Brazil, African countries, Arab countries.
2. Countries with a very different language but an international culture, e.g. Japan, Finland.
3. European countries where English is little used, e.g. France, Spain, Italy.
4. European countries where English is important, e.g. Switzerland, Germany.
5. Western European countries where English is widely spoken, e.g. Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Holland.

#### B. What is your mother tongue?

Students whose mother tongue has a non-Roman alphabet are often slower learners at first. Mistakes based on your first language are greater where the language is very different (e.g. Japanese or Korean), or where it is very similar but differences are culturally important (e.g. Spanish or Portuguese).

1. Languages or dialects which you do not normally write down.
2. Languages with a non-Roman way of writing, e.g. Korean, Arabic, Thai, Japanese.
3. Non-European languages with a Roman alphabet.
4. Romance languages, e.g. French, Spanish, Italian.
5. Languages from the Germanic family, e.g. German, Norwegian, Dutch, Danish.

Adapted from: <http://www.soon.org.uk/page23.htm>

*To be continued...*

**Usana**

# FUN WITH ENGLISH

## No.2 Find the words

Fill in the missing first and last letters in the words below. A clue is given for each word.

1		H	R	O	A		part of the body
2		A	T	U	R		a planet
3		A	L	L	E		a container for money
4		A	B	B	I		an animal
5		A	U	C	E		a piece of crockery
6		P	I	D	E		an insect
7		I	L	L	O		a tree
8		A	L	M	O		a fish
9		A	N	I	S		to disappear
10		L	O	U	S		a piece of clothing
11		K	I	I	N		a sport
12		I	G	H	T		a number
13		I	G	E	O		a bird
14		A	W	Y	E		a job
15		U	I	T	A		a musical instrument
16		E	P	H	E		a relative
17		I	Z	A	R		a reptile
18		A	D	I	S		a vegetable
19		E	T	R	O		Americans call it gasoline
20		U	T	T	E		a pipe at the bottom of a roof to carry away rainwater

### Answers no.1

1	liner	7	cliff
2	horizon	8	cave
3	sea	9	beach
4	headland	10	rock
5	buoy	11	shingle
6	wave	12	lifebuoy

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