



LANGUAGE LINKS

Vol.1 No.9 February 25, 2008

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/2791.php>

what's happening this week?

For this week's excursion, we're taking you out on an English camp, to be held at Pattawia Resort & Spa.

There will be a variety of English activities at the camp. We strongly encourage all students to USE ENGLISH throughout the whole trip, not only while doing organized activities, but also when just chatting to each another. Most importantly, this is a good chance for all of you to join in activities with people from other classes. How does that sound?

We hope what you will get from this trip is not only a chance to practise English outside the classroom, but also an opportunity to gain knowledge in various areas.

We are looking forward to seeing all of you on this trip!

TENTATIVE ITINERARY FOR ENGLISH CAMP AT PATTAWIA RESORT & SPA PRACHUB-KRIRIKHON FEBRUARY 27-29



Wednesday, Feb. 27

- 08.00 Leave the Institute
- 12.15 Arrive at Pattawia Resort & Spa
- 12.30 Lunch
- 14.00 The Opening of the English Camp
- 14.10 English Activities
- 15.30 Coffee/Tea Break
- 15.45 English Activities (continued)
- 18.30 Dinner

Friday, Feb. 29

- 09.30 English Rally
- 12.00 Lunch
- 13.30 Leave Pattawia Resort & Spa
- 18.00 Arrive at the Institute

Thursday, Feb. 28

- 09.00 English Games
- 10.30 Coffee/Tea Break
- 10.45 English Games (continued)
- 12.00 Lunch
- 13.00 Group Production Activity
- 14.30 Coffee/Tea Break
- 15.00 Group Production Activity (continued)
- 18.30 Dinner



- NOTE:** * Casual dress is recommended
* Lots of facilities are available, e.g. swimming pools (swimming suit is needed), fitness centre and karaoke room.

Usana

Culture Corner



International Dining Etiquette Quiz



Do Chinese mothers make their kids eat everything on their plates?

- A. Yes...food is very expensive in China!
- B. No. Cleaning your plate in China is considered rude.
- C. Yes, but only if it has rice in it.



(B) In China, finishing everything on your plate is considered rude because somebody might think you did not get enough food and you are still hungry.



When people in Austria clink glasses while making a toast, they must look each other in the eyes. Why?

- A. It's considered polite to know somebody's eye colour.
- B. It's a game to see who can clink without looking at the glasses.
- C. They are acknowledging each other's existence.



(C) Austrians acknowledge each other's existence by looking directly into each other's eyes while clinking glasses. After all, who wants to eat with somebody who doesn't exist?



What's the right way to ask a chef for ketchup in France?


- A. "Give me the ketchup, Bud!"
- B. There is no right way to ask a chef for ketchup in France.
- C. "Catsup, s'il vous plait."



(B) Asking a chef for ketchup in France would be an insult – it means you do not like the food.



How do you show your host you like your meal in Japan?

- A. Bang your water glass loudly on the table, but not so hard that it breaks.
- B. Applaud loudly. 
- C. Slurp your noodles as loudly as possible.



(C) In Japan, slurping noodles is a compliment to the chef. It means you like your food so much that you can't wait to get it in your mouth.

Haquch, B. http://www.fekids.com/kln/flash/DontGrossOut_TheWorld.swf

Piyaporn

Here's the Answer...

LEARNING STRATEGIES

'Get' + adjectives, prepositions & verbs



I've seen many kinds of words coming after the word 'get'. Can you explain?



Here are the answers:

1) get + adjective

Before an adjective, **get** usually means 'become'.



As you **get old**, your memory **gets worse**.

My feet are **getting cold**.

We can use **get + object + adjective**
= make something

2) get + preposition

Before a preposition, **get** nearly always refers to a movement.



I went to see him but he told me to **get out**.

3) get (+object) + verb

a) After **get**, we can use an object with an infinitive or -ing form of

a verb.



b) We can use **get + object + past participle** with a passive meaning to talk about arranging jobs to be done.



You should **get your watch repaired**.

c) We can use **get** instead of **be** to make passive structures. We often do this when we are talking about things that happen by accident, or unexpectedly.



He **got caught** by the police while driving at 160 km an hour.

Swan, M. 2000. *Basic English Usage*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

HOW TO MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR STUDY TIME

When you are studying alone, what is the best way to find sources of English to help you learn the language? Where can you find English materials if you don't live in a country where English is the first or main language? In fact, you may be able to find lots of sources of English around you. Think about...

- **English-language films.** You may be able to see English-language films on TV or at the cinema. If you watch English films with *subtitles*, try to close your eyes from time to time to avoid reading the text. Can you understand what you hear? Remember, this type of listening activity can be difficult at first. Don't worry – keep trying!

- **Local libraries.** Is there a library near you which has books in English? For example, many British Council offices around the world have lending libraries where you can borrow English-language books. If there isn't a library near you, try to organise your own with a group of friends. If each person in a group of four has a different book or magazine, it means that everyone can read four different texts!

- **Notices, signs and labels.** Are there English-language signs in your town? Do you buy food or things for your house which have labels in English? Try to be aware of how much written English there is around you. Can you pronounce the words on the label? Do you understand the instructions if they are written in English? When you next walk around your town, try to count how many signs or notices you see in English. Make a note of any words you don't know. Can you work out what they mean by re-reading the notice or sign?

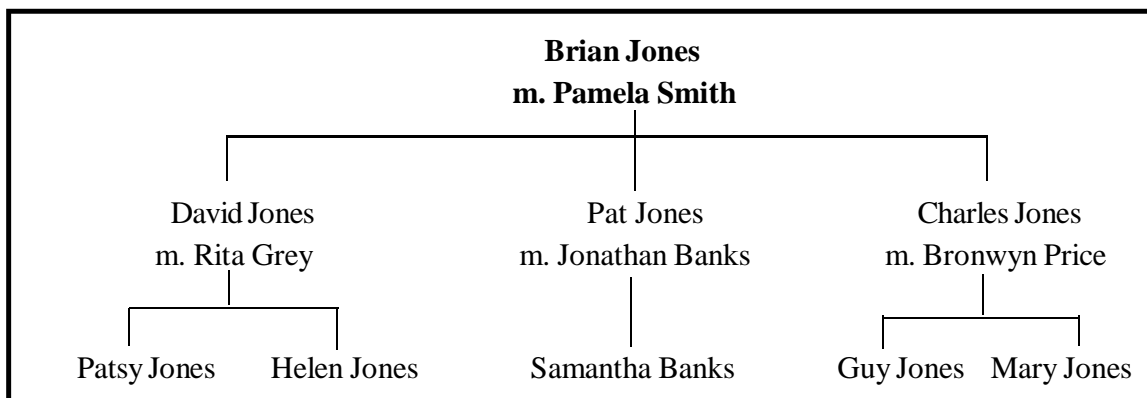
- **Talks and lectures.** In your town, you may have clubs and societies which give talks in English. Try to find out if there is a cultural society you can join. There may also be foreign companies which give marketing seminars or publish brochures and booklets. For example, if you are interested in becoming a teacher, try to find out if there are any foreign educational groups working in your area. They may have talks you can attend or books you could read.

Adapted from: <http://www.bbc.co.uk>

FUN WITH ENGLISH

No.9 A Family Tree

Look at the following family tree and then fill in the missing words in the sentences below.
Look at the example first.



- 1 Brian is David's *father*.....
- 2 Patsy and Samantha are
- 3 Charles is Pat's
- 4 Bronwyn is Guy's
- 5 Pamela is Helen's
- 6 Rita is David's
- 7 Jonathan is Patsy's
- 8 Charles is Jonathan's
- 9 Pamela is Bronwyn's
- 10 Rita is Mary's
- 11 Jonathan is Pat's
- 12 Guy and Mary are Brian's
- 13 Brian is Bronwyn's
- 14 Patsy is Helen's
- 15 Jonathan is Brian's
- 16 Guy is David's
- 17 Guy is Bronwyn's
- 18 Pat and Jonathan are Samantha's
- 19 Mary is Rita's
- 20 Rita is Brian's

Answers 8

- | | |
|------------|----------|
| 1 trees | 7 path |
| 2 field | 8 gate |
| 3 tractor | 9 bridge |
| 4 mountain | 10 river |
| 5 cloud | 11 cow |
| 6 hedge | 12 fence |

EDITORIAL TEAM

Editor : Usana Wongnarkpet

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

Production : Raevadee Tantayavit