



# LANGUAGE LINKS

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## What's happening this week?

At last, here comes the day many of you have been waiting for: March 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 March

- 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, March 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

## LEARNING STRATEGIES

### Balance Your Study of the 4 Key Skills

Most students want to communicate better in English. If this is one of your goals, it is important that you balance your study of the four major skills. Listening, speaking, reading and writing are the main (macro) skills you need to communicate in any language. Being very good at only one of these skills will not help you to communicate. For example, you need to be able to read well before you can write well. You also need to be able to listen before you can speak. It helps to think of these communicative skills in two groups.

- **INput** ««««
  - o Listening (in through your ears)
  - o Reading (in through your eyes)
- **OUTput** »»»»
  - o Speaking (out through your mouth)
  - o Writing (out through your hand)

It's simple. Think of it this way. First you have input. Next you have output. First you listen to someone ask you a question. Second you speak and give them your answer. First you read a letter from someone. After that you write back to them. These are examples of communicating.

Input and output don't necessarily go in a specific order. Sometimes you speak first and then you listen. Sometimes you write about something you hear. During communication, the person you are communicating with uses one of the opposite skills. Therefore, in order to understand each other, everyone must be skilful in all four areas.

Each of these main skills has micro skills within it. For example, pronunciation is a type of speaking skill that must be practised in order to improve communication. Spelling is a skill that makes understanding the written word easier. Grammar and vocabulary are other micro skills. Micro doesn't mean they are unimportant. Macro skills such as listening are very general, while micro skills are more specific.

For the best results, create an agenda that combines all four areas of study. Allow one type of studying to lead into another. For example, read a story and then talk about it with a friend. Watch a movie and then write about it. This is what teachers in an English class would have you do, right?

**Usana**

<http://www.englishclub.com/learn-english-how.htm>

# Culture Corner



## International Dining Etiquette Quiz



In a Spanish snack bar, what should you do with your crumbs, old napkins, food wrappers and other debris?

- A. Pile everything up on an empty plate.
- B. Just throw everything on the floor.
- C. Use the trash bags that are on every table.



**A**

(B) In snack bars in Spain, they sweep everything up at the end of the evening – you are expected to dump stuff on the floor!



In snooty restaurants in Germany, what is the proper way to cut your potatoes?

- A. With your fork.
- B. With your knife.
- C. With a genuine Flickenmasher \* portable potato slicer.



**A**

(A) Everyone in Germany knows a fork makes a nice dough cut in the potato to hold all that rich, beefy German gravy. A knife cuts the potato too smoothly! And if you think a Flickenmasher \* is the way to cut your potatoes, just stay out of Germany.



If you're eating a whole baked fish in Poland, why shouldn't you flip it over?

- A. Because you'll capsize the fisherman's boat.
- B. Because you really don't want to see what's under there.
- C. Because the bones will come loose and that's considered very bad luck.



**A**

(A) There's an old wives' tale in Poland that flipping over a fish on a plate will flip over the fisherman's boat in the water.

Haduch, B. <http://www.fekids.com/kln/flash/DontGrossOutTheWorld.swf>

# Here's the Answer...

## Similar Words



Q

There are words in English that are quite similar, for instance *economic* and *economical*. Can you give me more examples and explain the differences?

A

In this list you will find pairs of words which look or sound similar.

### ***economic and economical***

***Economic*** refers to the science of economics, or to the economy of a country or state, etc.



***economic theory***

***economic problems***

***Economical*** means 'not wasting money'.

an ***economical*** little car    an ***economical*** housekeeper



### ***elder and eldest; older and oldest***

***Elder*** and ***eldest*** are often used before the names of relations: brother, sister, son, daughter, grandson and granddaughter. ***Older*** and ***oldest*** are also possible.



My ***elder/older brother*** has just got married.

### ***presently and at present***

***Presently*** most often means 'not now, later'.

'Mummy, can I have an ice-cream?' '***Presently***, dear.'



***Presently*** is sometimes used to mean 'now' especially in American English. This is the same as '***at present***'.

Professor Holloway is ***presently*** doing research into plant diseases.

### ***sensible and sensitive***

If you are ***sensible*** you have 'common sense'. You do not make stupid decisions.

'I want to buy that dress.' 'Be ***sensible***, dear. You haven't got that much money.'



If you are ***sensitive***, you feel things easily or deeply – perhaps you can easily be hurt.

Don't shout at her – she's very ***sensitive***.



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

# FROM TEACHERS

**W**ish 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**

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**

**I** always enjoy working with all of my marvellous 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**

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**

## Answer No.9

- |                  |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|
| 1 father         | 11 husband         |
| 2 cousins        | 12 grandchildren   |
| 3 brother        | 13 father-in-law   |
| 4 mother         | 14 sister          |
| 5 grandmother    | 15 son-in-law      |
| 6 wife           | 16 nephew          |
| 7 uncle          | 17 son             |
| 8 brother-in-law | 18 parents         |
| 9 mother-in-law  | 19 niece           |
| 10 aunt          | 20 daughter-in-law |

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