



LANGUAGE LINKS

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Welcome all students to the English language courses run by the Devawongse Varopakarn Institute of Foreign Affairs. To support students' needs, there are two courses being held this term, each offering different English programmes. For students who want to improve their English for their jobs, the Intensive Language Course (ILC) offers not only normal classroom lessons but also a variety of English activities at different locations. The other course is the Oral Communication Course (OCC), designed to build confidence in students and improve fluency and competence in social communication skills.

Students are expected to attend all classroom lessons, and it is **COMPULSORY** to participate in all Friday activities, two of which are excursions outside Bangkok. Lessons will begin for all students at 11.00 a.m. Monday morning, following the orientation programme. It sounds like hard work might be recommended throughout the course. Nevertheless, I hope you enjoy it and gain lots of knowledge and experience.

what's happening this week?

This Friday's activity has been arranged so that all ILC and OCC students, as well as teachers and staff, can get together, get to know each other better and perhaps make some new friends! There will be a number of fun English-based activities for you to join in, giving you the chance to meet, talk to, and work together with students from other classes, as well as your own. These "Ice Breaking Activities" will be held at the Prince Palace Hotel, starting at 9 a.m. and finishing about midday. We look forward to seeing you there!



NOTE:

- Please be at the Prince Palace Hotel (11th floor) around 8.45 a.m.
- Wear your nametag.
- Dress neatly.

Usana

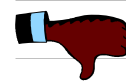
Culture Corner



The Americans are famous for their early use of first names in any relationship, however formal. You sometimes notice how Americans repeat your name frequently in the first five minutes of conversation.



The British also use first names most of the time. However, they are not so good at remembering names and will frequently use no name at all!!!



In some cultures it is important to address someone using their title – for example Doctor, Professor, etc. In both British and American cultures people tend not to use titles.



In fact, in an effort to be completely egalitarian, they often avoid the title Mrs, which indicates a woman is married. Instead, the title Ms (pronounced 'muz') is preferred. This is also frequently used in written correspondence.



Comfort, J. 1997. *Effective Socializing*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Helgesen, M. et.al. 1996. *Active Listening: Expanding Understanding Through Content*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Here's the Answer...

LEARNING STRATEGIES

Confusing Adjectives



I really get confused with some adjectives like **boring or bored** and **fun or funny**. Can you explain?



Boring or bored?

- We use adjectives ending in **-ed** to show how we feel about something.



I thought I'd be **bored** but my new job was great fun.
I'm **interested** in geology.
I'm **disappointed** with my exam results.

- We use adjectives ending in **-ing** to describe the thing which makes us feel this way.

It can get very **boring** in a seaside town in winter.
Geology is **interesting**.
My exam results are **disappointing**.

Fun or funny?

- We use **fun** to describe something we **enjoy doing**:



Ice-skating is **fun**.
It was **fun** when we went out together.
We should do it more often.



- We use **funny** to describe something which **makes us laugh**:

John's very **funny**. He should be a comedian!
The film was very **funny** and cheered us all up.



Source: Tayfor, S. 2004. Common Mistakes at First Certificate and How to Avoid Them. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Napassawan

Treat yourself to something good

Appreciation is always a good motivation for learning English. And if nobody else appreciates your efforts, you'll have to do it yourself. Set an achievable for the day, the week or the term and do also set a reward for yourself that you can look forward to, e.g.:

- learn 10 new English words or phrases every day, Mondays to Fridays (repeat on Saturdays, relax on Sundays)
- unlearn one typical mistake before the next test
- study 15 minutes every day
- read the lyrics of an English song every week and try to understand its main content
- read and try to understand one short English text every week

If I achieve the target, I will treat myself to ...

- an adventurous monster killing game on my computer
- a visit to the cinema at the weekend
- a short trip to London
- ...

If it's a long-time target, write your reward down on a piece of paper and hang it up in a place where it catches your eye. This sure will be a good motivation.

Reaching your target step by step is much better than setting a huge target that you cannot achieve.

Go for it!

Adapted from: <http://www.ego4u.com/en/cram-up/learning/aims>

Usana

FUN WITH ENGLISH

No.1 School report

Read through the following School report and try to write in the names of the subjects. Look at the example first.

HASTINGS COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL		SCHOOL REPORT
Pupil's name <u>Joanna Steele</u>		class: <u>4B</u>
SUBJECT	GRADE	TEACHER'S REMARKS
ENGLISH	C+	Quite good, but her spelling needs to improve.
	B	Good. Her holiday in Paris has certainly helped her a lot.
	C-	Needs to work harder - especially at map reading.
	A	An excellent pupil. Very interested in the subject and her project on "Roman Britain" was the best I have ever read.
	D+	Poor. Still uses her fingers to count!
	C	Fair. A lot to learn but seems to enjoy doing experiments.
	B+	Always tries hard and is becoming an excellent tennis player.
	E	Very poor. Hates the subject - especially singing.
	C+	Quite good. Likes drawing teachers!
	B	A good pupil. Regularly does the readings at Morning Assembly.

From Test Your Vocabulary 1, Peter Watcyn-Jones



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