



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 appropriately.



Usana

Culture Corner



Australian Etiquette & Customs



Meeting Etiquette



- ↪ Australians don't usually believe in formality, so greetings are casual and relaxed.
- ↪ While an Australian may say "G'day" or "G'day, mate", this may sound unnatural coming from a foreigner. Visitors should simply say "Hello" or "Hello, how are you?"
- ↪ Aussies prefer to use first names, even at the initial meeting.

Gift Giving Etiquette



- ↪ Small gifts are commonly exchanged with family members, close friends and neighbours on birthdays and Christmas.
- ↪ Trades people such as sanitation workers may be given a small amount of cash or, more likely, a bottle of wine or a six-pack of beer!
- ↪ If invited to someone's home for dinner, it is polite to bring a box of chocolates or flowers for the hostess. A good quality bottle of wine is always appreciated.
- ↪ Gifts are opened when received.

Dining Etiquette



- ↪ Many invitations to an Aussie home will be for a *barbie* (barbecue).
- ↪ Guests coming to a barbecue typically bring wine or beer for their personal consumption. In some cases, it may be suggested that you bring your own meat!
- ↪ Arrive on time if invited to dinner; no more than 15 minutes late if invited to a barbecue or a large party.
- ↪ Contact the hostess ahead of time to see if she would like you to bring a dish.
- ↪ Offer to help the hostess with the preparation or clearing up after a meal is served.



Watch Your Table Manners



- ↪ Table manners are Continental – hold the fork in the left hand and the knife in the right while eating.
- ↪ Indicate you have finished eating by laying your knife and fork parallel to each other on your plate with the handles facing to the right.
- ↪ Keep your elbows off the table and your hands above the table when eating.



<http://www.kwintessential.co.uk/resources/global-etiquette/australia.html>

Here's the Answer

Ways of Expressing the Number '0'

Q Could you tell me the ways of expressing the number '0' in English?

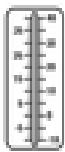
A How we say it depends on the situation:



0 = nil
in football and
other sports
(AmE: zero or nothing)
The score is two-nil.



0 = love
in tennis



0 = zero
in temperatures
(0° Celsius,
0° Fahrenheit)



0 = nought
in mathematics
(AmE: zero)



0 = oh
for telephone numbers,
bank accounts, bus lines



0 = oh (or zero)
for flight numbers

<http://www.studyenglishtoday.net/cardinal-numbers.html>

Napassawan

LEARNING STRATEGIES

Study a Balance of the 4 Key Skills

(L istening, S peaking,
R eading & W riting)

Most students want to communicate better in English. If this is one of your goals, it is important to study a balance of the four major skills. Listening, speaking, reading and writing are the main skills you need to master in order 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 them. 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?

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

Usana

FUN WITH ENGLISH

No.1 Word Association

Each of the idioms on the left (1-18) can be associated with one of the words or phrases on the right (a-r). Try to match them up.

- | | | | |
|----|-----------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| 1 | a bottleneck | a | a husband |
| 2 | a picket line | b | a party |
| 3 | armed to the teeth | c | a job interview |
| 4 | behind bars | d | It's a trick! |
| 5 | break the ice | e | buying a second-hand car |
| 6 | do wonders | f | too many cars |
| 7 | Dutch courage | g | an idea |
| 8 | henpecked | h | I can't sing! |
| 9 | in a cold sweat | i | on strike |
| 10 | in a flash | j | authority |
| 11 | long-winded | k | a doctor |
| 12 | mind one's p's and q's | l | soldiers |
| 13 | on call | m | a debate |
| 14 | on the level | n | a prisoner |
| 15 | out of tune | o | a speech |
| 16 | pull the wool over someone's eyes | p | going to prison |
| 17 | put one's foot down | q | alcohol |
| 18 | take the floor | r | this medicine |

Write your answers here:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18

From: Test Your English Idioms, Peter Watcyn-Jones



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