



LANGUAGE LINKS

Vol.1 No.3 October 13, 2008

Language Links is an internal publication of the Devawongse Varopakam 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?



This week's excursion is a visit to the elegant King Prajadhipok Museum, a national heritage site located very close to Ratchadamnoen Nok Avenue.

The main purpose of opening this museum was to exhibit the biography and life work of His Majesty King Prajadhipok, Rama VII, who agreed to a constitutional monarchy for the people of Thailand and became the first king in Thai history to rule under a legal constitution.

The historic home that houses the King Prajadhipok Museum was registered by the Fine Arts Department as a national heritage site in 1995. The Public Works Department and the Ministry of Interior then launched a conservation and renovation project, which was completed in 1999.

On 26 April 2001, responsibility for the management of the museum was turned over to the King Prajadhipok Institute, and the Public Works Department agreed to house the museum in its building. The museum was opened on 7 December 2002.

NOTE

- ☛ Students are expected to be at the museum by 9.00 a.m.
- ☛ Please dress neatly.

LEARNING STRATEGIES

Record Your Own Voice

We often listen to radio, TV, movies, cassette tapes and CDs to learn languages. Listening to native speakers of a language is both good and necessary, but to improve your speaking ability, you sometimes need to listen to another voice – your own! Take two or three sentences that you have listened to before, and record them onto a cassette tape or MP3 player. What do you hear? Is your speaking clear? How does it compare to the native speaker's way of speaking?



Don't worry about your voice quality when you listen to your recording. Focus on whether the words are clear and whether the rhythm and intonation are similar to the native English speaker's sentences.



After you listen to yourself, try repeating the sentences out loud a few times, saying them more smoothly and naturally. Then record your voice again and compare it to your first recording. Is it a little better? A little faster? A little smoother?

Be patient. You may have to do one recording every day for a few weeks before you notice any definite improvement. As with all language study, those who persevere are those who succeed.

Usana

Adapted from <http://www.teacherjoe.us/LearnEnglish03.html>

Culture Corner



Customs & Manners Quiz



Before moving to a new country, it is important to learn as much about its *culture* as possible. To give you an idea of how cultures differ around the world, do this quiz. Try to guess the countries in which the following customs are practised.

Italy	Russia	Morocco	Greece
Great Britain	Norway	Germany	Austria
Saudi Arabia	Iran	Belgium	Japan



❶ Arrive 30 minutes late to dinner; it is not customary to show up on time.

❷ Restaurants that have passed government inspection display a symbol with the letter "G" on it.

❸ Local food markets do not provide bags for your purchases; *bring your own*.

❹ In this country when you shake hands with a child, you are showing respect to his or her parents.



❺ Bourse Days (Mondays or Wednesdays) are when business lunches take place.

❻ Expect to hear the phrase "*Thank you*" each time a waiter or waitress delivers something to your table.



❼ *Do not* take your spouse to business meetings at restaurants.



❽ *Cash* is the only acceptable method of payment at most gas stations.



❾ Superstitions and traditions are respected by society.

❿ Business people are expected to shake each of their colleagues' hands upon arrival at work every morning.

Answers: 1. Greece 2. Austria 3. Germany 4. Iran 5. Belgium
6. Great Britain 7. Norway 8. Italy 9. Russia 10. Morocco

Here's the Answer

Gone or Been?

Q

Can you explain the difference between 'has gone to' and 'has been to'?

A

have/has gone to...

This refers to someone who has gone to a place but has not yet returned.

Examples:



He's gone to the bank. He should be back soon.

Where has Tom gone?



have/has been to...

This refers to someone who has visited a place sometime in his or her life. In other words, "has been to" refers to a past experience.

Examples:



He's been to London many times.

I've been to Disneyland twice.



Source: [http://esl.about.com/od/grammarintermediate/a/cm_gone.htm? once=true&](http://esl.about.com/od/grammarintermediate/a/cm_gone.htm?once=true&)

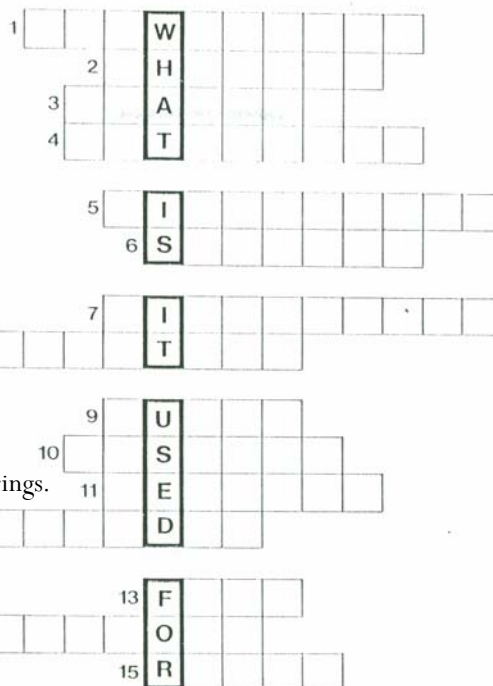
FUN WITH ENGLISH

No.3

What Is It Used For?

Read through the sentences and fill in the missing words.

- 1 A short nail or pin with a flat head that you press into a board or wall to hold a notice or picture in place. (2 words)
- 2 Very small metal or plastic cap put on the finger to protect it while sewing.
- 3 A covering put over a tea-pot to keep the contents warm. (2 words)
- 4 An instrument with a pendulum used by musicians to give them a steady beat.
- 5 Something used for looking at distant objects since they appear much closer when viewed through these.
- 6 A metal tool used to undo nuts.
- 7 An instrument you look into which is used to make very small things seem much larger so that they can be examined.
- 8 A small piece of plastic or tortoise-shell held in the fingers, used to play a guitar – especially electric guitars with steel strings.
- 9 A tool for making holes in paper, leather, metal, etc. The one for paper usually makes four holes at the same time.
- 10 A container with a lid used for holding rubbish until it can be taken away.
- 11 An instrument in the home used for blowing air into a fire to make it burn quickly.
- 12 A kitchen utensil shaped like a pan with lots of small holes. It is used for straining food.
- 13 A large vessel in a church, usually made of stone, that contains the water used for baptizing.
- 14 A horn-shaped instrument you speak into to make your voice carry out of doors. (It is not electric.)
- 15 You use this to help you draw straight lines.



Answer no.2

- | | | | |
|-----|-------------|------|---------------|
| 1 e | brainy | 9 f | cheeky |
| 2 k | nosy | 10 m | pigheaded |
| 3 o | well off | 11 b | bedridden |
| 4 h | heartless | 12 g | hair-raising |
| 5 n | thick | 13 c | bigheaded |
| 6 p | wet behind | 14 i | keyed up |
| | the ears | 15 l | off-colour |
| 7 j | long in the | 16 d | black and |
| | tooth | | blue all over |
| 8 a | all thumbs | | |

EDITORIAL TEAM

- Editor :** Usana Wongnarkpet
- Editorial Team :** Suwanee Auephunsirikul
Napassawan Phromsumphun
Piyaporn Juntarat
Robert P. Cummins
- Production :** Raevadee Tantayavit