



# LANGUAGE LINKS

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## What's happening this week?

At last, here comes the day many of you have been waiting for: December 4, 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, 4 December

09.15 Registration

09.30 ILC Class projects

10.15 Coffee/tea break

10.30 ILC Class projects (contin)

11.30 Awarding of certificates

12.00 Lunch



**NOTE:** Don't forget - the ILC final test is on Wednesday, December 3. 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

### Keeping the Listener Interested

What is the secret of being an interesting speaker? When you speak English, how can you make sure that the person you are speaking to really wants to listen? How can you make sure that you can keep your listener's attention?



- **Vary your vocabulary** - Effective speakers usually use a variety of words for the same idea. When speaking English, it's important to avoid repeating the same words too often - this can make what you say sound very boring.



- **Plan what you want to say** - It's important to think about the topics you are going to discuss *before* the discussions begin. Simply take a few minutes to remind yourself of all the words you know about this topic.



- **Involve your listeners** - The most effective speakers find ways to keep their listeners involved. The easiest way to do this is to ask questions - don't worry, the listeners don't actually need to answer. But questions such as 'Have you thought of...?' or 'Do you know about...?' asked *before* you tell your story will get the listeners to think about the topic, and to be more interested in what you have to say.



Usana

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

# Culture Corner



## Cross-Cultural Gift-Giving

### In the Arab World



- Never give liquor as a gift.
- Never give gifts to a wife or wives.
- Do not give a gift at a first meeting. It may be interpreted as a bribe.
- Gifts of intellectual value, such as art, books, records and tapes are advisable. So is office equipment, from desk sets to pocket calculators.
- Do not appear to contrive to present the gift when the recipient is alone. Unless he is a personal friend, it will make you both look suspect.



- Items depicting animals often have connotations of bad luck.

### In China

- Because gift-giving is still a sensitive issue in China, avoid giving anything of any value in front of others. It could cause the recipient both embarrassment and trouble.
- Especially welcome are gifts that reflect the business you represent, or the part of the country you come from.
- Never give foreign currency in the People's Republic of China, not even commemorative coins if they have any exchange value.

# Here's the Answer

## Idioms Based on Food

Q

I have seen some idioms based on food, for example, a *couch potato* and a *piece of cake*. Can you tell me some others?

A

There are many idioms based on food. Here are some of them:

### *a couch potato*

**Meaning:** You can say someone's a couch potato if they're very lazy and they spend a lot of time sitting around watching TV and eating junk food.

- Since he lost his job, Marty has become a ***couch potato***.

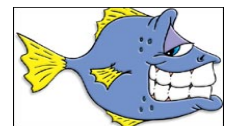


- How can you expect to feel good and look good if you're a ***couch potato***? If you turn off the TV, get some exercise, and eat healthy food, you'll soon look good and feel great.



### *drink like a fish*

**Meaning:** If someone drinks like a fish, they drink a lot of alcohol.



- Since he got back from the war, Billy's been ***drinking like a fish***, and we think he needs some help.



- Some people might say I ***drink like a fish***, but I don't think I drink too much.

### *You are what you eat.*

**Meaning:** You can say 'you are what you eat' when you want to point out the connection between food and health.



- Why do you eat so much bad stuff like pizza, hamburgers, fries and ice-cream?

***You are what you eat***, you know.

- Shelley looks fantastic. When people ask her what her secret is, she smiles and says, 'It's simple. ***You are what you eat!***'



[http://www.englishclub.com/ref/esl/Idioms/Food/drink like a fish 278.htm](http://www.englishclub.com/ref/esl/Idioms/Food/drink_like_a_fish_278.htm)

**Napassawan**

# 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**

**Y**ou 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**

**E**nglish is lot's of fun and **Y**ou can enjoy a wide variety of **C**ultures when you masker basic **C**oncepts. Check out the **B.B.C.** Website for **G**reat links to many **E**nglish resources.

**Simon**

## Answers no.9

f	egg someone on
o	pull one's socks up
k	live from hand to mouth
g	hear something on the grapevine
n	pick holes in something
i	jump out of the frying pan and into the fire
c	butter someone up
m	lose one's temper
d	call someone's bluff
l	lose face
A	bark up the wrong tree
p	rub someone up the wrong way
h	jump down someone's throat
b	bide one's time
j	lend someone a hand
e	cut someone dead

**C**ongratulations 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.  
Best Wishes

**Andrew**

**U**se 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**

**I**t has been a pleasure to teach you this term. I have taught mainly one group but have also had the chance to meet students from other groups for the odd lesson (my lessons are often odd) and at the English camp. At the camp I swam with one of the students, for about five seconds, and listened to some students sing. I did not, of course, sing myself - because I'm English (there is an exemption in our passports) and for that you should all thank me. I thank you for being interesting and open-minded students who I am sure will continue to improve in all aspects of English in the future.

The best of British,

**Jason.**

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