



LANGUAGE LINKS

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LEARNING STRATEGIES

Better English Speaking Skills

Improving your English speaking skills will help you communicate more easily and effectively. But how do you become a more confident English speaker?

- **Practise where you can, when you can.** Any practice is good - either speaking to someone who is a native English speaker or someone who is not.



- **It's important to build your confidence.** If possible, use simple English sentence structures that you know are correct, so that you can concentrate on getting your message across.

- **Try to experiment with the English you know.** Use words and phrases you know in new situations. Native English speakers are more likely to correct you if you use the wrong *word* than if you use the wrong *grammar*. Experimenting with vocabulary is a really good way of getting feedback.



- **Try to respond to what people say to you.** You can often get clues to what people think by looking at their body language. Respond to them in a natural way.

- **Try NOT to translate** into and from your own language. This takes too much time and will make you more hesitant.

- **If you forget a word**, do what native English speakers do all the time, and say things that 'fill' the conversation. This is better than keeping completely silent. Try using *um*, or *er*, if you forget the word.



- **Don't speak too fast!** It's important to use a natural rhythm when speaking English, but if you speak too fast it will be difficult for people to understand you.

- **Try to relax** when you speak - you'll find your mouth does most of the pronunciation work for you. When you speak English at normal speed, you'll discover that many of the pronunciation skills, such as linking between words, will happen automatically.



Remember, when speaking English...



Try to become less hesitant and more confident.

Don't be shy to speak - the more you do it, the more confident you'll become.

Remember to be polite - use *please* and *thank you* if you ask someone to do something for you.

Adapted from: <http://varee.ac.th/v2/Tissy/?cat=75>

Usana

Culture Corner



How to Make Small Talk

Man constantly needs to interact and make conversation. However, making a conversation is also an art and needs tact. Some people are shy, introvert or unconfident while speaking to others. They do not know what to say and how to talk. They keep thinking and are unable to carry out the task. However, it is quite easy to make small talk. You just need to have knowledge about things around you and enough confidence to talk to someone. Even if you are not a learned person, it doesn't matter because you can make small talk regarding anything, for example your likes and dislikes. To learn how to make small talk, read the following tips.

Tips to Making Small Talk



- **Practice** is very important if you want to make small talk. For this, talk to different people, who may be associated with you or may not be associated with you. To practise, you can talk to yourself in the mirror. Make a random list of topics and speak on the subjects. Remember, the more varied the list, the better it is.



- Besides speaking, **reading** is also important. This is because reading materials give you information that you can discuss or talk about later.



- **Force yourself** into small talk situations, like when you are surrounded by people at a party or meeting. Accept invitations or host your own gatherings.

- **Take an interest in various fields** of culture, such as television, music, sports, fashion, art and poetry, etc.
- By being a **good listener**, you will enhance your knowledge-base incredibly.
- **Develop your confidence level.** Overcome shyness and feelings of stage fright. Remember, the more knowledge you have, the easier it is for you to make small talk.



<http://lifestyle.iloveindia.com/lounge/how-to-make-small-talk-2494.html>

Piyaporn

Here's the Answer

Q What is the difference between the words *want*, *need* and *would like*?

A *Want* is a simple word to express your general desire. It is always followed by the infinitive. This word suggests that what is wanted is not something necessary. It's just a whim of desire.

Example: *I want to buy that shirt.*



Some use *need* interchangeably with *want*, but it really suggests that what is wanted is something necessary.

Example: *What we need to survive is not money, but love.*



Would like is very often used in polite requests and offers. It is always followed by the infinitive.

Examples: *Would you like something to drink now?*

I'd like to go for a walk, if that's all right?



Adapted from: www.Yindii.com.

FUN WITH ENGLISH

No.1 Crossword Puzzle

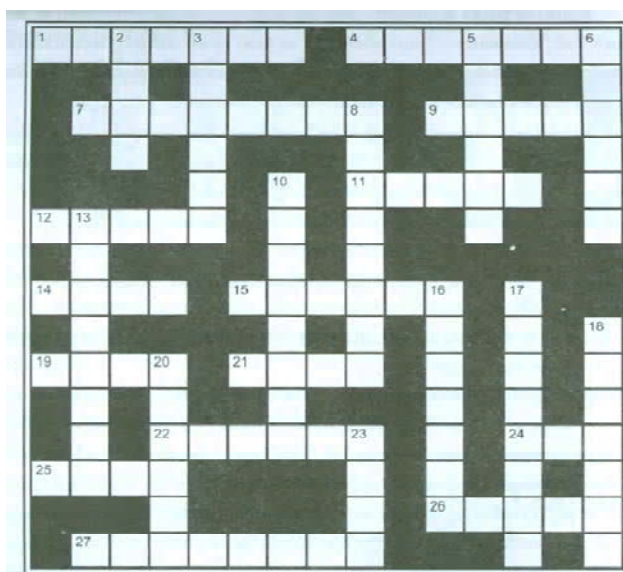
Across

- 1 Bed covering
4 Fishlike mammal
7 Female attendant
9 Someone employed to discover talented people
11 Desert mammal
12 You must form a before you buy the cinema ticket
14 Follow an order
15 Virgo, Scorpio, Capricorn
19 Lacking in the sense of hearing
21 Numerous
22 Create something new
24 One of the digits of the foot
25 Equal to 3 feet
26 AB is one of blood

Down

- 2 Not present, having left
3 Used for boiling water
5 Pouch in a garment
6 A local resident
8 Safety
10 To apportion
13 You should carry it during the rainy season
16 Overhead part of a room
17 'Who is he?' is a

From: Crossword Puzzles



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