



# LANGUAGE LINKS

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## What's happening this week?

This Friday's activity, Quiz Day, has been designed as an opportunity for all trainees to work together in groups and practise some of the English skills you have learned so far. It will be a great chance for you to use your listening, writing and speaking skills in an enjoyable atmosphere, while widening your general knowledge.

This event will be held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sri Ayutthaya Road, this Friday, January 16. It will run from 9.00 until 12.00.



### NOTE:

- \* Please be at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs by 8.45 a.m.
- \* Casual dress is NOT acceptable

## LEARNING STRATEGIES

### Think in English

One of the most common mistakes that English learners make is thinking in their mother tongue. When they want to say something in English, they think in their mother tongue, translate it to English and then say it in English. The result is a very flawed English sentence. Never do this!



If you want to speak in English fluently, you will have to learn to think in English. When you are constructing sentences in your mind before saying them, think in English and form them in English in your mind.

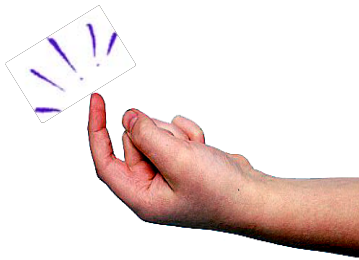
Adapted from <http://www.indiahowto.com/tips-speaking-english-fluently.html>

*Usana*

# Culture Corner

## Communicating with Gestures by Judie Haynes

Very few gestures are universally understood and interpreted. What is perfectly acceptable in the United States may be rude, or even obscene, in other cultures. Following is a general guide to some cultural differences regarding the meaning of gestures.



**1. Beckoning with the index finger.** This means *come here* in the U.S. Using the index finger to beckon someone is insulting, or even obscene, in many cultures. Expect a reaction if you do this to someone from the Middle or Far East, Portugal, Spain, Latin America, Japan, Indonesia or Hong Kong. Instead, you should beckon with the palm down, fingers or whole hand waving.



**2. Pointing at something in the room using the index finger.** It is impolite to point with the index finger in the Middle and Far East. Use an open hand, or your thumb in Indonesia.



**3. "V" sign.** This means *victory* in most of Europe when you make this sign with your palm facing away from you. If you do it with your palm facing in, the same gesture means *shove it*.

**4. Smile.** This gesture is universally understood. However, the reasons for smiling vary from culture to culture. The Japanese may smile when they are confused or angry. In other parts of Asia, people may smile when they are embarrassed. People in other cultures may not smile at everyone they greet, as we do in the United States. A smile may be reserved for friends. It is important not to judge students or their parents because they do not smile, or because they smile at what we would consider "inappropriate" times.



...to be continued

[http://www.everythingsl.net/in-services/body\\_language.php](http://www.everythingsl.net/in-services/body_language.php)

# Here's the Answer

## SAME OR DIFFERENT?

### beside/ besides

Language users often confuse the words *beside* and *besides*. It is quite important not to confuse them for they are different in meaning and usage.

### beside

Beside is a preposition, similar in meaning to *next to*, *at the side of* or *by*.

☐ *Where is the orange orchard?*

*It's right beside the main road. You can't miss it!*

It is often used with the verbs *stand*, *sit* and *lie*.

☐ *We were lying beside the pool when the phone rang. It was his boss wanting to know why he wasn't at work.*

### besides

Besides is a preposition, meaning *in addition to*, *as well as* or *apart from*.

☐ *What exam subjects are you taking besides English and maths?*

☐ *Were there any boys at the party besides Peter and Mark?*

It can also introduce a phrase.

☐ *Besides bruising his face, he cut his lip and bloodied his nose.*

It can also function as an adverb, meaning *as well*, *furthermore* or *anyway*.

☐ *He doesn't have very much money, nor does he have very many prospects. Besides, he's far too young to think of getting married.*

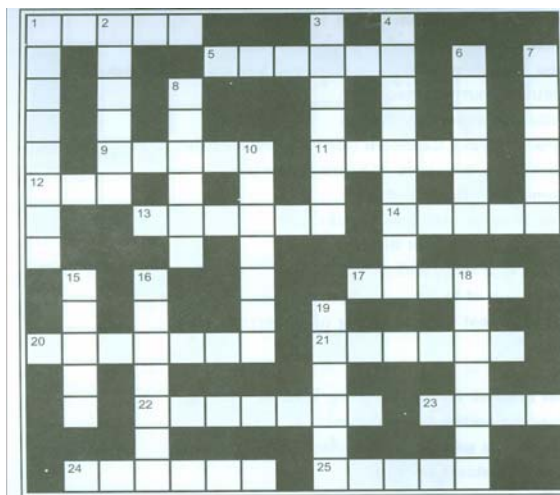
# FUN WITH ENGLISH

## No.2

### Crossword Puzzle

#### Across

- 1 Principles of reason
- 5 Change to ice
- 9 Pitch
- 11 A set of moral principles
- 12 \_\_\_\_\_one / \_\_\_\_\_ where
- 13 \_\_\_\_\_ the scene
- 14 Extremely fat
- 17 Vehicle for carrying loads
- 20 Wrapped container
- 21 Samui, Phi Phi or Samet
- 22 Thief entering a building with intent to steal
- 23 To give up, to leave a job
- 24 First Thai gold medal in Olympic Games
- 25 Kitchen utensil

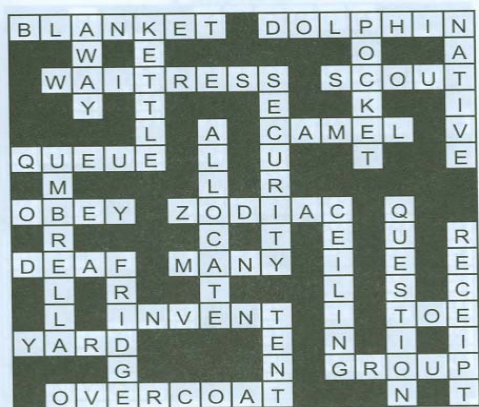


#### Down

- 1 Sweetened drink
- 2 Ashamed
- 3 Marine algae
- 4 One living near another
- 6 Save
- 7 Neither gold nor silver
- 8 To inspect carefully
- 10 A football referee uses it when a player commits a foul
- 15 A round in ten-pin bowling
- 16 A coin-operated CD player often found at Swensen's
- 18 To take in food
- 19 To seize control of a flying airplane

From: Crossword Puzzles

#### Answers no.1



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