



# LANGUAGE LINKS

Vol.3 No.3 April 27, 2009

Language Links is an internal publication of the Devawongse Varopakarn 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?

## LEARNING STRATEGIES

### ARTS OF THE KINGDOM V

Those who have an eye for beauty should not miss the opportunity to one of the finest displays of Thai arts and crafts never before seen ensemble.



This is a magnificent exhibition of rare traditional Thai crafts by the top artisans of the Kingdom, it is displayed at the Ananta Samakom Throne Hall and includes masterpiece artifacts and rarely seen traditional Thai crafts that reflect the decades of work initiated under The SUPPORT, the Queen's handicraft foundation. The highlights of The Arts of the Kingdom include the awe-inspiring golden junks studded with precious gems and embellished with beetle wing collage, a model of the majestic Royal Barge, the 'Golden Hamsa', a swan — like the mythical steed of Brahma, as well as several new additions to the collection mainly made from precious gem stones, pure gold and the finest crafted wood.



**Note:**

- Meet at the Ananta Samakom Throne Hall at 8.45 am
- Appropriate clothing is required at all times.
- Women are required to wear appropriate length dresses or skirts. Sleeveless clothing is not allowed.
- Men are required to wear long pants and sleeved shirts.

What is necessary to learn English well?



Learning English requires action. You may know all the learning tips, but if you don't start doing things, you will achieve nothing. The fact is, if you want to learn to speak English well, you must change your life. Here are some examples of things you will have to do:

- read a book in English for an hour every day, analyzing the grammar in sentences and looking up words in an English dictionary
- listen to an audiobook or other recording in English, stopping it frequently, trying to understand what is being said, and trying to imitate the speaker's pronunciation
- spend your afternoons practising the pronunciation of the English "r" sound
- carefully write an e-mail message in English, using a dictionary or a Web search every 20 seconds to make sure every word is correct, and taking 5 minutes to write one sentence
- think about an English sentence you've read, wondering if it could say "a" instead of "the" in the sentence, and trying to find similar sentences on the Web to find out the answer
- walk down the street and build simple English sentences in your head (talking to yourself in English about the things you see around you)



Adapted from: [www.antimoon.com](http://www.antimoon.com)

Usana

# Culture Corner

## Cultural Etiquette in Japan

### The People



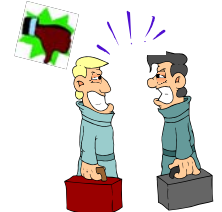
Japan is a highly structured and traditional society. Great importance is placed on loyalty, politeness, personal responsibility and on everyone working together for the good of the larger group. Education, ambition, hard work, patience and determination are held in the highest regard. The crime rate is one of the lowest in the world.

### Body Language

- ✦ Nodding is very important. When listening to Japanese speak, especially in English, you should nod to show you are listening and understanding the speaker.
- ✦ Silence is a natural and expected form of non-verbal communication. Do not feel a need to chatter.
- ✦ Do not stand close to a Japanese person. Avoid touching.
- ✦ Prolonged eye contact (staring) is considered rude.



- ✦ Don't show affection (e.g. hugging or shoulder slapping) in public.
- ✦ Never beckon with your forefinger. The Japanese extend their right arm out in front, bending the wrist down, waving fingers. Do not beckon older people.
- ✦ Sit erect with both feet on the floor. Never sit with your ankle over your knee.
- ✦ Waving a hand back and forth with palm forward in front of your face means "no" or "I don't know". This is a polite response to a compliment.
- ✦ Never point at someone with four fingers spread out and thumb folded in.



*Adapted from material compiled by Window on the World, a cross-cultural training and consulting firm. Originally based on material contained in the "Put Your Best Foot Forward" series of books by Mary Murray Bosrock.*

# Here's the Answer

## Present Perfect Continuous - When to Use It



**Q**

I don't know when to use the Present Perfect Continuous tense. Can you explain?

**A**

The Present Perfect Continuous tense is formed with the present tense of the verb **to have + been + -ing** form of the verb:

*I/you/we/they **have been** waiting*

*He/she/it **has been** waiting*

We use the Present Perfect Continuous tense to speak about situations which started in the past and are still continuing, or which have just finished and affect the present:

*I've **been living** here for 12 years.*

*I feel tired because I've **been working** all day.*



We can use both the Present Perfect Simple and the Present Perfect Continuous to speak about situations that started in the past and are still continuing and also about situations that have just finished and affect the present. The difference between the two tenses in both these situations is one of focus.

If we say:

*I've **been writing** letters all morning.*



we are **focusing on the action of writing** itself, and thinking of it as an extended activity that may not have finished yet.

If we say:

*I've **written** six letters this morning.*



we are **focusing on the idea** that the six letters have already been completed.

Another difference is that we use the Present Perfect Continuous to speak about more temporary situations and actions, and the Present Perfect Simple to speak about more permanent situations and actions.

*The television **has been playing up** lately.*

*That television **has never worked**, as far as I can remember.*



<http://www.britishcouncil.org/learnenglish-central-grammar-present-perfect-continuous.htm>

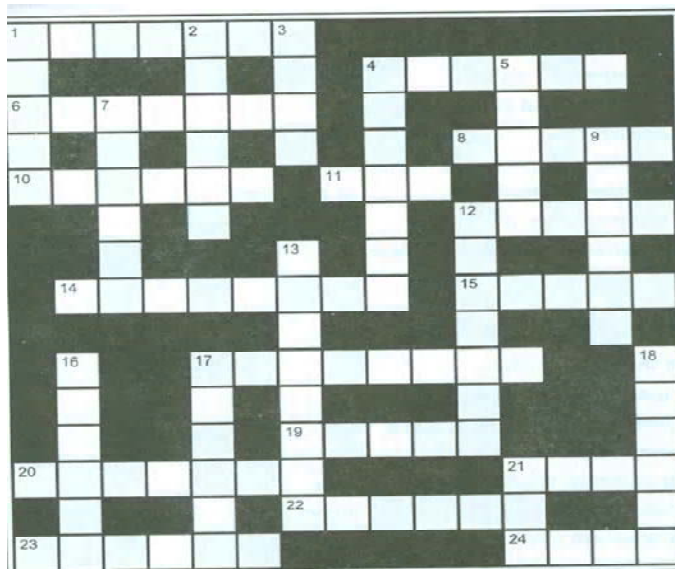
**Napassawan**

# FUN WITH ENGLISH

## No.3 Crossword Puzzles

### Across

- 1 Capable of being seen
- 4 Vegetable preserved in brine or vinegar
- 6 A member of a senate
- 8 To make one
- 10 Design made on the skin
- 11 Large Australian flightless bird
- 12 Given to ordering others around
- 14 Fasten it before driving
- 15 Drinking too much alcohol will be harmful to your \_\_\_\_\_
- 17 Piece of writing
- 19 "Home \_\_\_\_\_"
- 20 A large impressive house
- 21 Cipher
- 22 Black suit worn with a bow tie
- 23 Not generous
- 24 Lash used for driving a horse

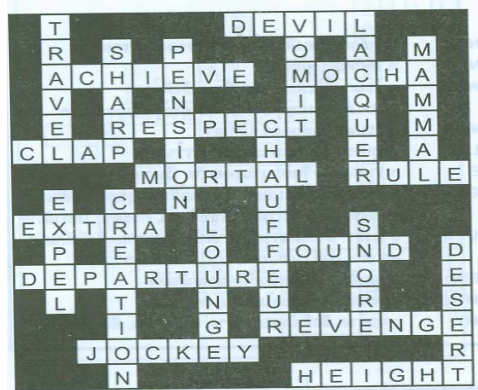


### Down

- 1 To go to see a place or a person
- 2 Small round fastener
- 3 Basic monetary unit of most countries of the European Union
- 4 The act of paying money
- 5 Japanese art of fencing with bamboo staves
- 7 To perceive
- 9 Quicker
- 12 Equilibrium
- 13 Trader
- 16 To have experienced a series of images while asleep
- 17 Throughout the duration of
- 18 PLEASE (anagram)
- 21 Large animal producing milk

From Crossword Puzzles Book

### Answers no.2



### EDITORIAL TEAM

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