



# LANGUAGE LINKS

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## What's happening this week?

Welcome all students to the English language courses run by the Devawongse Varopakarn Institute of Foreign Affairs. To support students' needs, there are two courses being held this term, each offering different English programmes. For students who want to improve their English for their jobs, the Intensive Language Course (ILC) offers not only normal classroom lessons but also a variety of English activities at different locations. The other course is the Oral Communication Course (OCC), designed to build confidence in students and improve fluency and competence in social communication skills.



Students are expected to attend all classroom lessons, and it is **COMPULSORY** to participate in all Friday activities, two of which are excursions outside Bangkok. Lessons will begin for all students on Tuesday 20 October at 9.00 a.m. It sounds like hard work might be recommended throughout the course. Nevertheless, I hope you enjoy it and gain lots of knowledge and experience.

*Usana*

## LEARNING STRATEGIES

Welcome to Learning Strategies, the column where you can find helpful methods to enhance your language learning throughout this English language programme.

From this week through to week 10 of the course, you can follow learning strategies intended to help you master language learning.

### Tips on Studying a Foreign Language

Learning another language is not easy, but most people can learn a second language IF they are willing to put in the necessary time. Here are some practical suggestions for studying effectively, overcoming anxiety, and learning the grammar and skills necessary for success in foreign language classes.

- 1. STUDY EVERY DAY!** A foreign language course is different from any other course you take. Language learning is cumulative; you cannot put it off until the weekend. Study 1 or 2 hours for every class hour if you want an A or B.
- 2. DISTRIBUTE YOUR STUDY TIME** in 15- to 30-minute periods throughout the day. Focus on a different task each time: vocabulary now, grammar next, etc. Get an overview during the first half hour: spend 10 minutes reviewing dialogue, 10 minutes learning new vocabulary, 10 minutes learning new grammar ... so you'll at least have looked at it all. Approximately 80% of your study time should be spent in recitation or practice, including practice in the language lab.
- 3. ATTEND AND PARTICIPATE IN EVERY CLASS** – even if you are not well prepared. Class time is your best opportunity to practise. Learn the grammar and vocabulary outside class in order to make the most of class time. Spend a few minutes “warming up” before each class by speaking or reading the language.



To be continued...



# Culture Corner

## Cultural Quiz

Welcome to the international dining etiquette quiz. Test yourself and find out how much you know. You might be amazed by some of the answers!



**Do Chinese mothers make their kids eat everything on their plate**

- A. No. Cleaning your plate in China is considered rude.
- B. Yes. Food is very expensive in China!



Yes, "A" is the correct answer. In China, finishing everything on your plate is considered rude because somebody might think you did not get enough food and you are still hungry.



**When people in Austria clink glasses while making a toast, they must look each other in the eyes. What is the reason behind that?**

- A. It is a game to see who can clink without looking at the glasses.
- B. They are acknowledging each other's existence.



You are right. The correct answer is "B". Austrians acknowledge each other's existence by looking directly into each other's eyes while clinking glasses. After all, who wants to eat with somebody who does not exist?



**In a Spanish snack bar, what should you do with your crumbs, old napkins, food wrappers and other debris?**

- A. Use the rubbish bags that are on every table.
- B. Just throw everything on the floor.



Unbelievable? Believe it. "B" is correct. In snack bars in Spain, they sweep every thing up at the end of the evening – you're expected to dump stuff on the floor!



**What is the right way to ask a chef for ketchup in France?**

- A. Catsup, s'il vous plait.
- B. There is no right way to ask a chef for ketchup in France.



"B" is the correct answer. Asking a chef for ketchup in France would be an insult – it means you do not like the food.

# Here's the Answer

## Mrs, Miss or Ms?

**Q**

I am not quite sure how to use of the titles Mrs, Miss and Ms.

**A**

*Mrs* is an abbreviation for Mistress and is used to denote a married woman.

*Miss* is used to denote an unmarried woman or young girl.

*Ms* can be used for any woman, either married or unmarried. Since the Women's Liberation movement of the early 1970s, it has been considered biased to use titles representing a woman's marital status, as men have a title that does not reveal this information. Nowadays, *Ms* is widely used in business and public life to address or refer to a woman, especially if her marital status is either unknown or irrelevant to the context.



However, some women may indicate a preference for either *Miss* or *Mrs*, which should be honoured. If a woman has an academic or professional title, use the appropriate form of address (*Doctor, Professor, Captain, etc.*) instead of *Ms, Miss, or Mrs*.



<http://www.drgrammar.org/faqs/#5>

<http://answers.yahoo.com/question/index?qid=20061209195843AACJrTs>

*Napassawan*

# FUN WITH ENGLISH

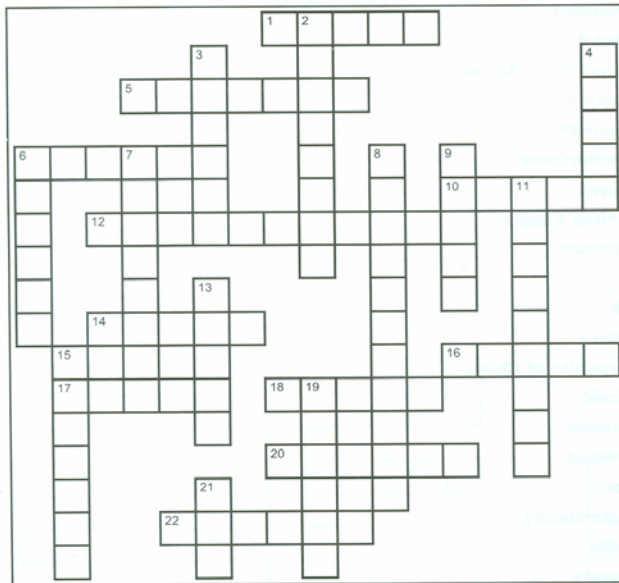
## No.1 Countries

### Across

- 1 The Great Wall  
5 Deutschland  
6 The High Land  
10 Kofi Atta Annan  
12 The Pope's residence  
14 Casinos  
16 Matadors  
17 Mahatma Gandhi  
18 The Colosseum  
20 The Eiffel Tower  
22 The Dead Sea

### Down

- 2 Kowloon  
3 Gas and petroleum resources  
4 Kim chi  
6 Coffee  
7 Elephants  
8 Rolex  
9 Pyramids  
11 Kangaroos  
13 Nippon  
15 Ho Chi Minh City  
19 Kebabs  
21 The Statue of Liberty



From: Crossword Puzzles Book



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