



LANGUAGE LINKS

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LEARNING STRATEGIES




Reading and Listening Techniques



Reading Techniques

-  **Focus on overall meaning first, and then deal with details.** Use the title, pictures, captions, headings, or other clues to help you figure out the context and main topic before you read.
-  **Avoid word-level translation.** Whenever possible, try to figure out the meaning of the word from its context.
-  **Don't write English words into the book.** Instead, make flash cards of unfamiliar words and their meanings.
-  **Don't use online translators.** It doesn't guarantee an accurate translation. There are subtleties of the language that word-by-word electronic or dictionary translation simply can't capture.

Listening Techniques

-  **Use language labs or practice tapes.** If your book has a recorded lab or practice guide, use it regularly.
-  **Study with a friend and read passages to one another.** Group work can speed up your listening practice considerably. Read to one another or ask each other questions.
-  **Practise the kinds of listening that you will do in class or on a test.** Use your notes or old tests to develop a list of questions like the ones your teacher has used before. With a partner, take turns asking random questions from your list and answering them orally or (for test preparation) in writing.



Adapt from <http://www.duke.edu/web/skills>

Usana



Culture Corner

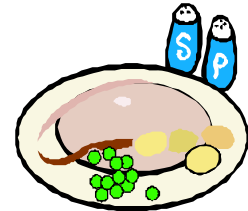
Culture Shock in Singapore !

- ✓ Don't be surprised if people you do not know well ask you how much you earn or how much your car cost. This is quite normal.



- ✓ If you are invited for a meal, people will always offer you a second helping. You should always say "No", so as not to appear greedy. This will be understood, and your host will give you more anyway. If you really do not want any more, cover your plate with your hand.

- ✓ It is polite to leave some food on your plate at the end of a meal – if you eat everything, it is a sign that you want more.



- ✓ Don't drop litter – even cigarette ends. It will be noticed, and you'll be fined. You can also be fined if you fail to flush the toilet in a restaurant or other public place.

- ✓ In general, it is considered insulting to give tips, and many places have signs saying "No tipping".



Doff, A. and Jones, C. 1994. *Language in Use: Intermediate*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.



Here's the Answer



What is the difference between *in* and *into*?

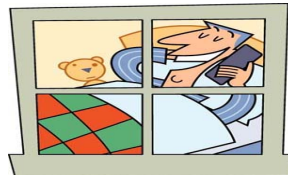


We use *in* to talk about the position of something (with **no movement**).

Examples:

A: Where's Tom?

B: **In** the bedroom.



My mother's the woman in the chair by the window.



When we talk about a **movement**, we usually use *into*.

She came into my room holding a paper.



After some words, **both** are possible (e.g., *throw, jump, cut, push*). We prefer *into* when we think of the movement, and *in* when we think of the end of the movement – the place where something will be.

Compare:

She threw her ring **into** the air.

She threw her ring **in**(to) the river.

We use *in* after “*sit down*”, and very often after “*put*”.

He *sat down in* his favorite armchair.

I *put* my hand **in** my pocket.

Swan, M. 2000. *Basic English Usage*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

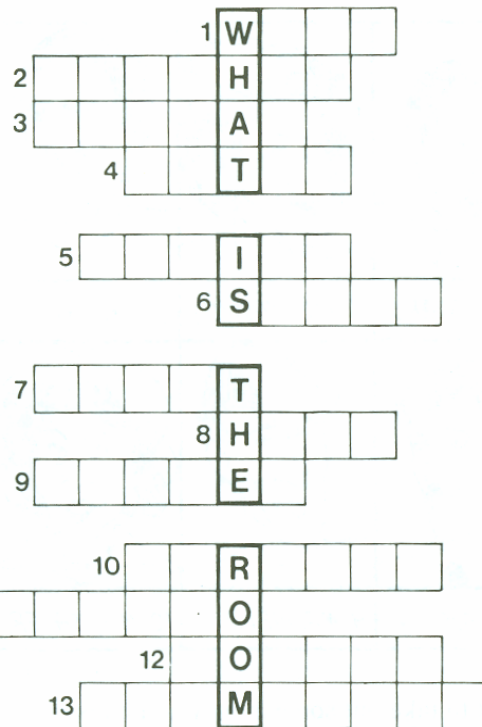
FUN WITH ENGLISH

No.6

The name of the room

Read through the sentences and fill in the missing words.

- 1 A room in a hospital where people needing treatment stay.
- 2 A room in a house or flat where you usually do the cooking.
- 3 A room under a house.
- 4 A room at the top of a house, under the roof. It is often used for storing things.
- 5 Small rooms on board a ship where the crew and passengers sleep.
- 6 A room used for studying or working.
- 7 A room under a church.
- 8 The part of a ship below deck where goods are stored.
- 9 A room in a house where food is stored.
- 10 A room in a house used by a family for receiving guests – a sort of “best room”. (It is not so common nowadays.)
- 11 A room where an artist or photographer works.
- 12 A large, comfortable room for sitting, found at a hotel.
- 13 A room with lots of beds used for sleeping, e.g. at a boarding school.



From : Test Your Vocabulary 2, Peter Watcyn-Jones

Answers no.5

plane	4
file	6
axe	12
pliers	1
extension cable	5
jack	8
secateurs	9
watering can	10
sickle	3
vice	7
fire extinguisher	11
chisel	2

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