



LANGUAGE LINKS

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LEARNING STRATEGIES

Writing Techniques



Read a lot. Reading in your new language will help you become a better writer in that language by familiarizing you with grammar, sentence structure, turns of phrase, and idiomatic expressions.



Learn from earlier writing assignments. Instead of just discarding graded written work, use it to learn about your habits as a writer in your new language. Look for patterns of error.



Make sure you understand English grammar. Find a good English grammar book and learn what all those terms mean and how they work in English – you'll find that your understanding of foreign language grammar becomes much clearer.



Practise making sentences. Use new ideas and words by writing new, complete sentences. Doing so will allow you to learn the new words while also practicing your writing skills.



Keep a diary or write letters in the language. By writing regularly about the things that matter to you, you will improve your ability to express complex ideas in the language you are studying.



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

Usana



Culture Corner



Cross-Cultural Gift-Giving

Dealing with foreign business contacts requires extra care. You have to familiarize yourself with local customs as well as individual tastes. It is all too easy to make mistakes. Here are some tips on gift-giving in Western Europe:



- 📦 Good chocolates and liqueurs are appropriate house gifts.
- 📦 Small porcelain and silver gifts (ashtrays, candlestick, etc.) are always welcome.
- 📦 It is usually considered crass to give a business gift at a first encounter.
- 📦 Avoid giving thirteen, or any even number, of flowers. It is bad luck.
- 📦 To French-speaking people, chrysanthemums are associated with mourning.



- 📦 Home furnishings run the risk of clashing with their surroundings and acting as a lasting reminder of a bad choice.
- 📦 Perfumes and men's cologne are usually too personal for a business gift.
- 📦 Avoid logo gifts with large and prominent stamps of your company name.
- 📦 In Germany, wrapping is very important, but do not use white, black or brown gift paper or ribbon.
- 📦 In France, gifts that appeal to intellect or aesthetics are especially appreciated, e.g., records, art prints and, most of all, books  (with the emphasis on the latest biographies, histories, criticisms, and memoirs of presidents and statesmen).
- 📦 In Britain, entertainment in the form of lunch, dinner, drinks, or a night at the theater or ballet  usually takes the place of gift-giving.



"Do's and Taboos around the World" 1988. The Parker Pen Company: The Benjamin Company, Inc.

Here's the Answer

Conversation

Q

Could you please tell me the most appropriate thing to say in the following situations?

A

1. I meet a friend on the street, but I can't stop to chat. I excuse myself, saying "....."

Answer: I'm in a rush. Let's talk later.

2. I am talking on the phone, but the line is not very clear. I say "....."

Answer: Could you speak up a bit?

3. I am having problems with my computer in the computer room. I call the technician and say "....."

Answer: There's something wrong with this computer.

Q

What expressions could we use at the shoe shop?

A

▶ I'd like to have a look at some sneakers



▶ Do you have slippers, sandals,



sandals,



buckled shoes,



stiletts or slip-on shoes?



▶ They are comfortable.

▶ They are too tight.

▶ Oh, they pinch (squeeze). Do you have a bigger size?

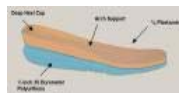
▶ Do you repair shoes?

▶ My shoes need re-heeling.



▶ My shoes need re-soleing.

▶ I need a new insert.



▶ Do you have shoelaces?

▶ What will it cost to have these re-soled?

▶ Could you polish them for me?

▶ Thank you. You're very kind.

Source: Adapted from Future Magazine Vol.25 No.6. November 2005

Napassawan

FUN WITH ENGLISH

No.7 Find the words

Fill in the missing first and last letters in the words below. A clue is given for each word.

1		H	R	O	A		Part of the body
2		A	T	U	R		A planet
3		A	L	L	E		A container for money
4		A	B	B	I		An animal
5		A	U	C	E		A piece of crockery
6		P	I	D	E		An insect
7		I	L	L	O		A tree
8		A	L	M	O		A fish
9		A	N	I	S		To disappear
10		L	O	U	S		A piece of clothing
11		K	I	I	N		A sport
12		I	G	H	T		A number
13		I	G	E	O		A bird
14		A	W	Y	E		A job
15		U	I	T	A		A musical instrument
16		E	P	H	E		A relative
17		I	Z	A	R		A reptile
18		A	D	I	S		A vegetable
19		E	T	R	O		Americans call it gasoline
20		U	T	T	E		A pipe at the bottom of a roof to carry away rainwater

From : Test Your Vocabulary 2, Peter Watcyn-Jones

Answers no.6

- 1 ward
- 2 kitchen
- 3 cellar
- 4 attic
- 5 cabins
- 6 study
- 7 crypt
- 8 hold
- 9 larder
- 10 parlour
- 11 studio
- 12 lounge
- 13 dormitory



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