



LANGUAGE LINKS

Vol.3 No.2 July 5, 2010

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>

LEARNING STRATEGIES

English learning tips!

Learning to communicate in another language may be challenging, but it is also a very rewarding and enriching experience. It is the best passport to discovering another culture. Here are a few tips we've put together to help you make the most of the experience.

Find out what kind of learner you are

Ask yourself, what your preferred learning style is and use it to your advantage. It is important to use a variety of strategies (using the book, listening to the recording, rehearsing dialogues, learning vocabulary, writing things down, listing verb forms, etc.) to practise the different skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing.

Work at your own pace

Make the most of the time you have available to study. As a general rule, don't try and do too much at once.

Why not learn with someone else?

It helps if you can learn with someone else. It will give you extra stimulus to keep working.



Remember that you can go a long way with just a little language



Even if you feel unsure about your ability to form correct, complete sentences, you'll find that it is possible to communicate with just a few words. Above all, don't worry about getting things wrong. The more confidence you gain in actually communicating, the more fluent you'll become.

Don't get stuck by a word you don't know

Practise improvising ways of getting your meaning across when speaking spontaneously, even if you don't know the exact words or phrases. The important thing is to build up your confidence so you're not afraid of getting involved in a conversation.



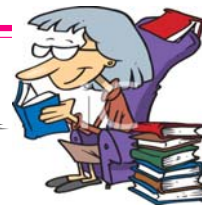
To be continued...

www.askoxford.com

Usana

Culture Corner

Communications in China



- Bowing or nodding is the common greeting; however, you may be offered a handshake. Wait for the Chinese to offer their hand first.

- Applause is common when greeting a crowd; the same is expected in return.

- Introductions are formal. Use formal titles.

- Being on time is vital in China.

- Appointments are a must for business.

- Contacts should be made prior to your trip.

- Bring several copies of all written documents for your meetings.

- The decision making process is slow. You should not expect to conclude your business swiftly.

- Present and receive cards with both hands.

- Never write on a business card or put it in your wallet or pocket. Carry a small card case.



- The most important member of your company or group should lead important meetings. Chinese value rank and status.

- Develop a working knowledge of Chinese culture.

- Allow the Chinese to leave a meeting first.



Source: <http://www.cyborlink.com/besite/china.htm>

Here's the Answer...

Present Progressive Tense



Q: Can you explain how to use the **present progressive tense**?

A: Michael Swan's excellent Practical English Usage (Oxford University Press) provides a succinct answer to the question:

Forms

Affirmative	Question	Negative
I am working. He/she/it is working. You are working.	Am I working? Is he/she/it working? Are you working?	I am not working. He/she/it is not working. You are not working.

Around now

We use the present progressive to talk about actions and situations that are going on 'around now': before, during, after the moment of speaking

Hurry up! We're all waiting for you.
'What are you doing? I'm reading.'
I'm going to a lot of parties these days.



Changes

We also use the present progressive to talk about developing and changing situations.

The weather is getting warmer.
That child is getting bigger every day.



Future

We often say that something is happening in the future. We talk like this about actions that are already planned. We often give the time or date.

I'm having dinner with Larry on Saturday.
We're going to Mexico next summer.
What are you doing this evening?



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

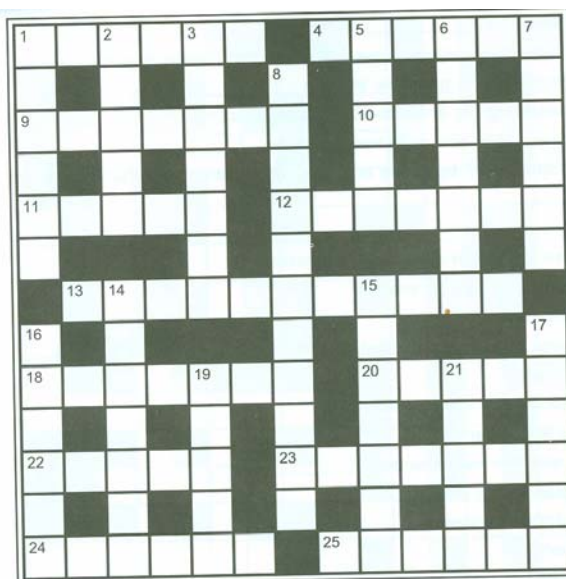
Napassawan

FUN WITH ENGLISH

No . 2

Across

- 1 Women's shirt-like garment
- 4 Foolish
- 9 Opposite to offstage
- 10 _____ domestic product, GDP
- 11 New _____, city in north central India
- 12 Not anything
- 13 Pen with a container to fill with ink
- 18 Your thought about something
- 20 Device for drawing straight lines
- 22 Military uniforms' colour
- 23 Cart
- 24 Mystery
- 25 Rubbish bin

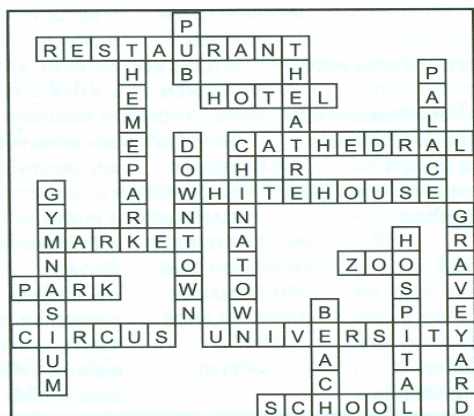


Down

- 1 Yellowish hair colour
- 2 SEOUL (anagram)
- 3 Bus _____, place where buses leave and arrive
- 5 Opposite of loose
- 6 Tell somebody that you will definitely do or not do something
- 7 Drawn plan
- 8 Born again in another body
- 14 Japanese art of folding paper
- 15 Anxious
- 16 Small flat sweet cake
- 17 Coloured stick of chalk or wax
- 19 Group of words with an idiomatic meaning
- 21 Pale purple colour

From: Crossword Puzzles Book

Answers no.1



EDITORIAL TEAM

Editor : Jason Miles

Editorial Team : Usana Wongnarkpet
Suwanee Auephunsirikul
Napassawan Phromsumphun
Piyaporn Juntarat

Production : Raevadee Tantayavit

