



# LANGUAGE LINKS

Vol.3 No.4 July 19, 2010

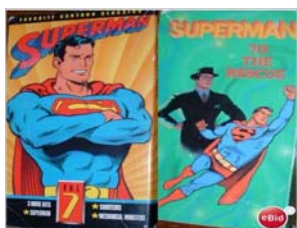
Language Links is an internal publication of the Devawongse Varopakarn Institute of Foreign Affairs, Office of the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 962 Krung Kasem Road, Bangkok 10100. <http://www.mfa.go.th/web/2791.php>

## LEARNING STRATEGIES

### Opportunities for Extra Practice

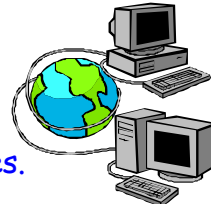
Foreign language learning can be greatly enhanced by additional contact with the language. Seek out opportunities for extra practice wherever you can. Set a goal of incorporating one extra practice activity each week.

❖ **Study abroad.** Take advantage of study abroad opportunities to travel to a new place and study your chosen language in an exciting location surrounded by native speakers.



❖ **Watch foreign films.** You can immerse yourself in a new language and culture via foreign films. If you are watching the movie at home and want to practice listening, tape a sheet of newspaper over the bottom few inches of the screen to get rid of the subtitles.

❖ **Read newspapers on the Internet.** Check out the internet public library(<http://www.ipl.org/reading/news/>) for a list of international newspapers available online. It includes links to hundreds of newspapers in dozens of languages.



❖ **Read books in your new language.** Seek out good books in the language you are trying to learn. The classics in your language are always a good place to start. You could also consider getting copies of books you have read in English in their original language, or getting foreign language translations of popular American books for added practice.



❖ **Look into on campus activities.** Attend foreign language clubs. You could also form a group of your own to meet for lunch or dinner once a week and practice the language.

❖ **Volunteer with an ESL program.** If you are trying to learn Spanish, you could volunteer to assist Spanish speakers with English and improve your Spanish at the same time.

❖ **Seek out support on the Internet.** There are a variety of good websites available to assist you with foreign language learning.



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

Usana

# Culture Corner



## A Gesture in Another Culture



- 1 The "OK" sign made by forming a circle with your thumb and forefinger is generally used by Britons and Americans to tell each other that everything is fine. What less flattering symbol would a Kuwaiti take this gesture to be?

**Correct Answer:** The evil eye

Although this would not necessarily be offensive to the Kuwaiti (or other inhabitants of the Middle-East) it would not win you many friends as you would then be associated with evil.

On the other hand if you were to make the "OK" gesture to a German, Turk or Greek this may be very offensive. The circular shape made suggests to the recipient that they are a part of the body which may resemble that shape and, by association, are homosexual.

Nevertheless, the gesture continues to have the same positive meaning in both Britain and the USA. It is often used to compliment a meal as speaking with your mouth full is seen as rude in these westernised cultures. It is also a common gesture in scuba diving to tell others you are fine as the "thumbs-up" is taken to mean "ascend".

- 2 Giving gifts is a common sign of friendship, love and respect in just about all cultures. However, what the gift is can carry very different meanings. Which gift, which may be harmless in Britain, is a symbol of death in China?

**Your Answer:** Clocks



It would also be unwise to give a Chinese person any gift which comes in groups of four, as four is unlucky in Chinese culture, much like the number thirteen in western cultures.



One common problem when in other countries is choosing the correct flowers to give as gifts. If you choose the wrong type/colour of flower you may cause **panic** as each country seems to have their own flower associated with death and funerals. In Brazil these would be purple blooms, in Scandinavia it is white roses, Latvia is red flowers and France is white lilies and chrysanthemums.



Adapted from <http://www.funtrivia.com/submitquiz.cfm?quiz=312304>

Piyaporn

# Here's the Answer...

## Bring, take, fetch/get



Can you explain how to use the confusing words 'bring', 'take', 'get', and 'fetch'?

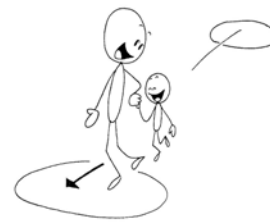


The use of **bring** and **take** is confusing for many students. The choice between **bring** or **take** depends on the location of the speaker. If the speaker refers to something that is at her current location, she uses **bring**. Generally, use **bring** when something moves from *there to here*.

### Examples:

*I'm glad you brought me to this shop. It's great!*

*I'll bring the map with me on the trip.*



If the speaker refers to something that has been moved to a different location, she uses **take**. Generally, use **take** when something moves from *here to there*.

### Examples:



*The coach took the boys to football field.*

*Jack took his laptop with him on his trip.*



When speaking about going somewhere and getting something and then bringing it back, use **get** (American English) or **fetch** (British English).

### Examples:

*Could you get the newspaper?*



*She fetches her diary and showed him the entry.*



[http://esl.about.com/od/grammarintermediate/a/cm\\_b ring.htm](http://esl.about.com/od/grammarintermediate/a/cm_b_ring.htm)

**Napassawan**

# FUN WITH ENGLISH

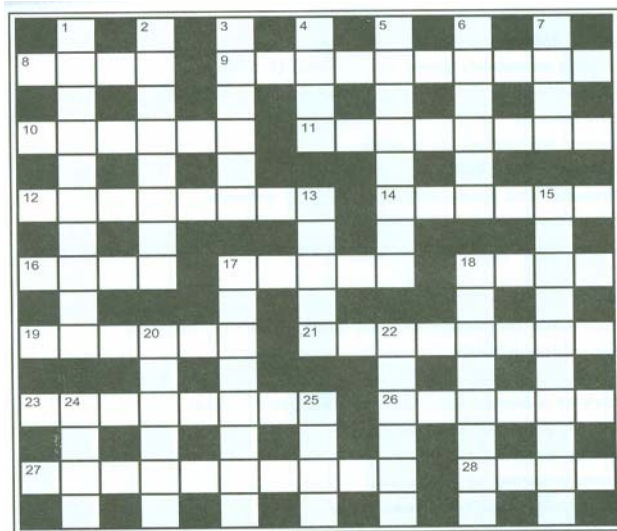
## No. 4

### Across

- 8 Children must \_\_\_\_\_ their parents.  
 9 Original people living in a country, especially Australia  
 10 Richie Rich's dalmatian  
 11 Can be erased  
 12 \_\_\_\_\_ Dolls, an American girl group  
 14 L.A. \_\_\_\_\_, professional basketball team  
 16 Precious stones  
 17 Let somebody do something  
 18 Combination of lyric and melody  
 19 Go around or avoid a place  
 21 Book that is produced by the senior class in school  
 23 \_\_\_\_\_ One, starring Harrison Ford as the President of the United States  
 26 Fools  
 27 No longer exist  
 28 Spiritual teacher

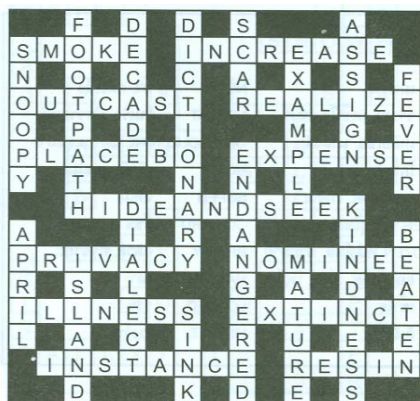
### Down

- 1 Totally and definitely  
 2 People who ride bicycles  
 3 Material used for making clothes  
 4 Dog's favourite food  
 5 Opposite of No. 17 Across  
 6 Take control of, especially a plane  
 7 Opposite of Heaven  
 13 Determine the sum of  
 15 Rock star and drummer for the Beatles  
 17 Opposite of Concrete  
 18 Brothers or sisters  
 20 Infidelity in marriage  
 22 People from Asia  
 24 69  
 25 Get out



From: Crossword Puzzles Book

### Answers no.3



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