



LANGUAGE LINKS

Vol.2 No.5 February 7, 2011

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

Speaking in Public Confidently



- **SEEK & GRAB** opportunities for speaking!!
- **ACCEPT** to speak only on familiar subjects with sufficient time to prepare.
- **PREPARE** beforehand. Always make your speeches short, soft & smooth.
- **REACH** the venue before the program starts. Casually familiarize yourself with the hall, podium, mike, organizers, staff, people etc.
- **GREET** people, circulate, make short introductions with new faces, smile at strangers, laugh lightly, and be upbeat.
- **RELAX** yourself in a chair both physically & mentally, while awaiting your turn.
- **RISE** slowly when your name is called out. Walk normally (not casually or lazily) up to the stage, confidently climb up, look at the people all around, smile, take your stance.
- **GIVE** a smooth, well-rounded greeting, and then begin slowly. Within a few seconds you will feel in full command - then go for it.

Adapted from <http://www.angelfire.com/ab/speakers/stagefear.htm>

Usana

Culture Corner

Gift Giving Protocol in Japan



To the Japanese, gift giving is a way of communicating respect, friendship, and appreciation. When meeting with a Japanese colleague or visitor for the first time, be prepared for the gift-giving ritual that has been deeply rooted in Japanese culture for centuries.

The following are some guidelines to keep in mind when doing business with the Japanese: Gifts need not be extravagant, although expensive gifts are not viewed as a bribe.



Always wrap the gifts you present, but remember to **avoid** white and brightly colored wrapping paper. White symbolizes death and bright colors are too flashy.



It is considered extremely rude to present a gift to one individual in a group, without giving gifts to the rest of the ensemble.



Always present the gift with two hands. This is also true with presenting business cards.



Avoid giving gifts in sets of four. The word “four” in Japanese is “shi,” which is also associated with the word for death.



Gifts are normally exchanged at the end of the visit.



Be certain that gifts are of high quality.



Business gifts should be given at midyear (July 15) and at year-end (January 1).



Pens are highly appropriate gifts for Japanese colleagues. Firstly, the pen is a symbol of knowledge in the Japanese culture; secondly, a pen is a lightweight gift that is easy to pack and carry when traveling abroad.



Source: <http://www.4hb.com/0113intergift.html>

Here's the Answer...

The Use of the Article "The"

Q

I always make mistakes with using "the". Can you explain when to use it?

A

There are grammatical rules for the use of 'the'. Let's see the followings.

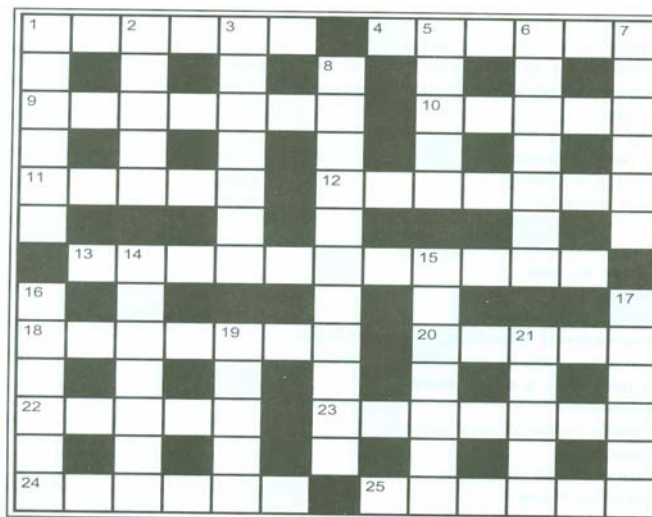
NO ARTICLE	DEFINITE ARTICLE
Meals We had breakfast at 8 o'clock. 	Meals <u>The</u> breakfast on the train was awful. 
Times of day We left at midnight/night/ sunrise/midday/noon/lunchtime. 	Times of day <u>In</u> the morning <u>In</u> the afternoon <u>In</u> the evening 
Methods of travel For example: by air by sea/boat/train/bus/car/bicycle	Methods of travel We came by <u>the</u> early train/ <u>the</u> 40 bus/ <u>the</u> express coach.
Cities: New York, Hong Kong	Oceans, seas, waterways, and rivers:
Mountains: Mount Everest Ben Nevis 	The Pacific Ocean The South China Sea The Suez Canal The Mississippi 
Countries: France, Argentina	Mountain ranges
Streets, squares, circuses: Oxford Street Leicester Square Piccadilly Circus 	The Alps The Himalayas 
	Plural countries The United States The Philippines
	Famous roads the London Road

FUN WITH ENGLISH

No. 5

Across

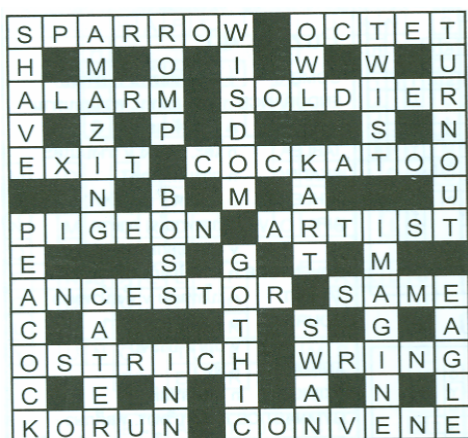
- 1 Contend with words
- 4 Men's hair stylist
- 9 Tall erect herb with sword-shaped leaves
- 10 Of sound
- 11 A midday meal
- 12 Reach the point where one should be following a delay
- 13 See 4 across
- 18 Exercise that strengthens lungs etc
- 20 A person who takes care of a young child or a patient
- 22 One who poses for a photographer
- 23 CARACUL (anagram)
- 24 To buy back or regain favour
- 25 One who joins pieces of metal together by heating



Down

- 1 Passive
- 2 Cylinder used in a relay race
- 3 16 January is a _____'s Day (in Thailand)
- 5 Property or another item of value
- 6 SHEBEAN (anagram)
- 7 A set of instructions for preparing food
- 8 One who installs or repairs electrical equipment
- 14 Worn away by friction
- 15 A plant having healing powers
- 16 One who cultivates land or crops
- 17 A bank's employee receiving and paying out money
- 19 To bend outward
- 21 Circular

Answers no.4



EDITORIAL TEAM

Editor : Mark France

Editorial Team : Usana Wongnarkpet
Suwanee Auephunsirikul
Napassawan Phromsumphun
Piyaporn Juntarat

Production : Raevadee Tantayavit

