



# LANGUAGE LINKS

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## LEARNING STRATEGIES

### HOW TO IMPROVE YOUR ENGLISH

There are many ways to improve your level of English:

#### ⇒ READ IT

Read as many English books, newspapers and magazines as you can find such as the English version of the monthly magazine- READERS DIGEST because it has short stories and articles.

#### ⇒ LISTEN TO IT

Try some of the radio stations such as the BBC Overseas Service. They have a very good website designed to help English learners and teachers.

#### ⇒ LOOK AT OTHER LEARNING MATERIALS ON THE WEB

There are a variety of sites for learners and teachers of English. They offer online English self-learning with audio, grammar clinic, student magazine, language teaching in other languages plus many links to other resources.

#### ⇒ TALK IT

Talk to friends who are also learning English. Make a rule that perhaps for an hour, or when you go out together, you will only speak English to each other! Find native English-speaking people who will give you conversation practice.

#### ⇒ GO TO AN ENGLISH LANGUAGE SCHOOL

#### ⇒ VISIT AN ENGLISH-SPEAKING COUNTRY

Adapted from : [www.soon.org.uk/](http://www.soon.org.uk/)



*Usana*

# Culture Corner

## Negotiating Styles



### Australia



Australians generally do not like negotiating or high-pressure discussion. Be direct and don't go into too much detail. Don't try to impress Australians with your expert knowledge. Before you begin business negotiations, spend some time making small talk.

### Finland



In Finland business people often begin negotiating right away, without small talk. Finns can be very quiet and there are often long silences in business meetings. Look people in the eye when you are speaking to them.

### Malaysia



In Malaysia you should speak and behave quietly during business negotiations. Always stay calm. Leave plenty of time for someone to respond to a statement you make. It is polite to leave a pause when someone has finished speaking.

### Mexico



Personal friendships are important in business in Mexico. Mexicans are looking for long-term relationships based on trust so you should spend some time building these relationships. Mexicans often avoid saying "no". "Maybe" or "We will see" may actually mean "NO".

Barnard, R, and Cady, J. 2000. *Business Venture2*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Piyaporn

# HERE'S THE ANSWER...

## 1. Which is correct '*on holiday*' or '*for a holiday*'?

You can use 'for' or 'on' with holiday and both would be correct. You can also drop the article 'a' when using 'on' (the third sentence below). Look at these three sentences, **all of which are correct**:

1. I went there **for a** holiday.
2. I went there **on a** holiday.
3. I went there **on** holiday



## 2. The phrase, "for free", is heard a lot these days. What is the grammatical explanation?

You are right that this is a redundant preposition. It could be that people confuse it with 'for nothing' - 'You can get them for nothing' - which is correct. However, as you have remarked, the use of 'for free' is creeping into our usage. Time will tell if it becomes an accepted usage but for the moment you can safely say that the preposition is redundant and therefore '**free**' **should be used without 'for'**, e.g., 'buy one and get one free' rather than 'buy one and get one for free'.



## 3. Can we say I arrive to work at 9 o'clock or do we need to use "at"? or do we need to use "for"? Thank you

**Arrive** 'can be followed by several prepositions depending on what is following, look at these:

- I **arrived for** work in the morning. (arrive + for where 'work' is a task or job to undertake)
- I **arrived at** work in the morning. (arrive + at where 'work' is a place)
- I **arrived in** time to see her. (arrive + in time where there is a temporal aspect)



So, in terms of your question, I would say that you can use '*for*' or '*at*' depending on what sense you want to give 'work' (a place or a task).

[http://www.english4today.com/englishgrammar/grammarfaq/grammar\\_category.cfm?tid=8](http://www.english4today.com/englishgrammar/grammarfaq/grammar_category.cfm?tid=8)

**Napassawan**

Where is the best place to see  
a MAN EATING FISH?



Answer: at a seafood restaurant

Healthy is.....



..... eating lots of fruits  
And vegetables all summer long.

TRUE STORY?



Have you heard this story about George Washington?

When George was young, he cut down his father's  
cherry tree.

His father was angry. He asked George who cut down  
the tree. "I cannot tell a lie," said George. "I cut it with  
my hatchet" Then his father gave George a hug instead  
of punishing him because he had told the truth.

This story comes from a book that was written after  
George Washington died. Is it a true story? Probably  
not. But it is told over and over again to remind people  
that George Washington was a good man.



Usana

### EDITORIAL TEAM

**Editor :** Usana Wongnarkpet

**Editorial Team :** Napassawan Phromsumphun  
Piyaporn Juntarat

**Production :** Raevadee Tantayavit

