



# LANGUAGE LINKS

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## 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 Harry Potter series, for example, is available in several languages and children's books usually have a simple enough vocabulary to make it easy for beginning language learners to read and comprehend the text.
- ❖ **Look into on campus activities.** Attend foreign language housing and clubs. You could also form a group of your own to meet for lunch or dinner once a week and practice the language.
- ❖ **Get to know International House.** You could meet native speakers of your language and help them with their English while they assist you with your language learning. International House's programs offer great opportunities to get to know interesting people and learn more about the many cultures that come together.
- ❖ **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

## Australian Etiquette & Customs



### Meeting Etiquette

- ✦ Australians don't usually believe in formality, so greetings are casual and relaxed.
- ✦ While an Australian may say "G'day" or "G'day, mate", this may sound unnatural coming from a foreigner. Visitors should simply say "Hello" or "Hello, how are you?"
- ✦ Aussies prefer to use first names, even at the initial meeting.



### Gift Giving Etiquette



- ✦ Small gifts are commonly exchanged with family members, close friends and neighbours on birthdays and Christmas.
- ✦ Trades people such as sanitation workers may be given a small amount of cash or, more likely, a bottle of wine or a six-pack of beer!
- ✦ If invited to someone's home for dinner, it is polite to bring a box of chocolates or flowers for the hostess. A good quality bottle of wine is always appreciated.
- ✦ Gifts are opened when received.

### Dining Etiquette

- ✦ Many invitations to an Aussie home will be for a *barbie* (barbecue).
- ✦ Guests coming to a barbecue typically bring wine or beer for their personal consumption. In some cases, it may be suggested that you bring your own meat!
- ✦ Arrive on time if invited to dinner; no more than 15 minutes late if invited to a barbecue or a large party.
- ✦ Contact the hostess ahead of time to see if she would like you to bring a dish.
- ✦ Offer to help the hostess with the preparation or clearing up after a meal is served.



### Watch Your Table Manners

- ✦ Table manners are Continental – hold the fork in the left hand and the knife in the right while eating.
- ✦ Indicate you have finished eating by laying your knife and fork parallel to each other on your plate with the handles facing to the right.
- ✦ Keep your elbows off the table and your hands above the table when eating.



<http://www.kwintessential.co.uk/resources/global-etiquette/australia.html>

Piyaporn

# HERE'S THE ANSWER...

## Scared or Scary

**Q:** What is the difference between scared and scary?

**A:** **Scared** is an adjective used to describe a person or maybe an animal that is frightened or worried.

For example:

"Hirantha was too **scared** to go white water kayaking in Sri Lanka."

"I am really **scared** about speaking in front of the class."



"She's **scared** to walk alone at night."



**Scary** (UK also scarey) is an adjective used to describe something or someone that causes fear or terror.

For example: "The horror movie was really **scary**."



!Note - Just remember "I'm scared of scary things, but I'm not scary."

<http://www.learnenglish.de/mistakes/scared.html>

**Napassawan**

# English Varsity

## Just how do germs get inside the human body?

When you touch a germ, it clings to your hand. Then when you touch your mouth, eyes or noses, the germ slips into your body. Or if you touch some food, the germ moves onto the food, and when you eat the food, the germ gets inside. When someone sneezes, germs may get into your lungs. Gross!



## Tips for staying well

This cold germ doesn't want you to know how to stay well and has taken some words out of the tips. Can you find where each one belongs?

1. Wash your ..... frequently using soap and water.
2. Keep some antibacterial hand ..... in your desk to use when you can't get to a ..... to wash your hands.
3. Stay away from people who are ..... or coughing. Ask them to cover their ..... with tissues when they sneeze or cough so the ..... get thrown away with the .....

GERMS

MOUTHS

HANDS

GEL

SNEEZING

TISSUES

SINKS



## ANSWER KEYS

1. hands
2. gel/ sink
3. sneezing /mouths /germs /tissues

Reference: Bangkok Post January 18, 2005

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