

Resources Book

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Communicative English Language Skills Improvement Programme (CELSIP)

















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What is the Communicative English Language Skills Improvement Programme? (CELSIP)		Who for?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With CELSIP we seek to help students increase the cognitive, literacy, practical strategies, tools and abilities they need to become successful teachers of English with brilliant communication abilities. Our philosophy is further based on our shared experiences working with a variety of students, ranging from Primary, Secondary, High Education and other adult students. We view learning as a social process that occurs within specific sociocultural contexts and it is most rewardingly attained by doing. In line with our teaching philosophy, the starting point of this programme is focused on responding to students' personal needs. CELSIP tries to assist students in developing the knowledge, abilities, and tools necessary to become autonomous and competent communicators. 		<p>This is a programme under the supervision of the coordinators for the subjects Foreign Language I (English) & Foreign Language II (English) from the Teaching Unit of English - Department of Didactics of Languages and Literature.</p> <p>It is designed as an additional English language training programme to get our students achieved a higher communicative level of English.</p>
Go for it!	What?	Assessment
 <p>To make all these jigsaw puzzle pieces fit, you should devote part of your autonomous time to work with the following tools and proposals.</p> <p>DON'T WISH FOR IT, WORK FOR IT</p> <p>10 minutes a day is a good way!!</p>	<div style="display: flex; flex-wrap: wrap;"> <div style="width: 50%;"> <p> Just read it!</p> <p> Time for audio books</p> <p> Talking opportunities</p> <p> Useful Apps to improve your English</p> <p> The news, talk shows & other educational websites in English</p> <p> Get subscribed</p> </div> <div style="width: 50%;"> <p> The 10 best TV series to learn English</p> <p> Why not? Board games</p> <p> Films & popcorn!</p> <p> Listen to music & sing along as if you were the Grammy winner!</p> <p> Videopportunities</p> <p></p> </div> </div>	<p>- The oral exams at the end of Foreign Language I and Foreign Language II (English) will be hosted by both teachers. The same graded rubric will be used for both courses so as to follow and watch the student's progress.</p> <p>- The student who presented this handout at the end of the course (3rd & 4th) and demonstrate his/her progress and work with it through his/her notes and results from speaking sites will get extra credit in the final mark.</p> <div style="text-align: right;">  <p>POINT SYSTEM</p> </div>



OUR BEST TV SERIES

Watching TV series in original is a great tool while learning English. You will improve listening comprehension and gives you a lot of vocabulary since people are using real spoken language followed by gestures, mimics and visual context which helps remember words.

Some tips for watching series in English are:

1. Use TV series to improve your English speaking, listening & pronunciation!
2. Watch the TV series with the subtitles in English and repeat sentences!
3. Don't be scared to rewind and pause the shows. Once you get used to the language you will be able to follow the show much more easily.
4. Keep a notebook next to you for any new expressions you hear.
5. If you already know the story, watching the foreign language version will be much easier.
6. Take into account cultural background of the movie, things like accents and the way of pronunciation.

After you watch an episode of a series, pretend you are one of the characters, play it once more, put the subtitles on and act it up!

- **How I Met your mother:** It is hilarious. You get to know many modern American expressions and can enjoy a lot of slang that makes the show even more entertaining. Plus the ending is something you will not see coming...
- **Once Upon a Time:** The language is simple and easy to understand.
- **Sherlock:** British accents, superb acting, London, long and playful conversations with a lot of humour and incredible stories.
- **The Big Bang Theory:** there are lots of different American accents to hear and study as well as an Indian accent from Raj. You also get to see how Raj deals with speaking English as a second language with native speakers!
- **Friends:** With many different accents to be heard and lots of slang, this is the perfect show for English learners. The plot is relatively simple to understand.
- **The Simpsons:** This will show you many aspects of American life with the usual slang and jokes that you can use for your own language. It's also very simple to understand and there aren't too many difficult words particularly if you use the subtitles.
- **Glee:** It's been proved in the past that music lyrics help learners of a language learn better as there's a lot of repetition and the songs are catchy (easy to remember). "Glee" will help you with your pronunciation as the music teacher is shown taking the students through different lessons of pronunciation to help them with their singing. The songs from this hit show will help you memorize English better and it will even help you with intonation.
- **Stranger things:** Here's one for the sci-fi fans out there; a supernatural horror comedy (sounds strange but it works) set in the 1980s. A mysterious girl enters the lives of a group of friends in a country town in the US, followed by some seriously creepy events that might make you jump. If you're not familiar with English slang from the 80s, this is a great introductory lesson. This TV series is a Duffer Brothers' loving tribute to Spielberg, Carpenter and King.
- **Game of Thrones:** One of the most successful TV-series of all times, *Game of Thrones (GoT)*, it is an American fantasy drama TV series created by David Benioff and D. B. Weiss. It is an adaptation of *A Song of Ice and Fire* by George R. R. Martin's series of fantasy novels, the first of which is *A Game of Thrones*. At the time you'll enjoying watching it, you'll learn new vocabulary and new expressions. In GoT, there is a variety of different accents and dialects according to the geographic location based on Great Britain's regional dialects that can help you improve and sharpen your listening skills. In addition, you can find a wide range of exercises and games designed to improve your English and have fun in the



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following website: <http://www.englishcaddy.org/gameofthronesactivities.htm> There is plenty to explore in the land of the seven kingdoms, go for it!

- **The Handmaid's tale:** It is an American drama web television series created by Bruce Miller, based on the 1985 novel of the same name by Margaret Atwood. The plot follows a dystopian future following a Second American Civil War wherein fertile women, called "Handmaids", are forced into sexual and child-bearing servitude. You'll be able to train your ear to the American accent of this TV series through the different topics covered in the show such as public health, religion, control, independence, and environmental pollution. Go in to this website to carry out activities related to listening, grammar, pronunciation, vocabulary and so on! [http://www.englishbaby.com/lessons/7544/real life/the handmaid s tale](http://www.englishbaby.com/lessons/7544/real%20life/the%20handmaid%20s%20tale)
- **You:** this psychological thriller based in the United States will help you practice your American accent. The television series were developed by Greg Berlanti and Sera Gamble, and it is based on the homonymous book written by Caroline Kepnes. The plot revolves around the life of a bookstore manager called Joe Goldberg who is in love with one of his customers, Guinevere Beck, and becomes obsessed with her. This TV series will become your obsession too! You cannot miss either the series or the book by Kepnes. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/You \(TV series\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/You_(TV_series))
- **A Discovery of Witches:** based on Deborah Harkness trilogy All Souls, this British TV programme will catch your attention. The life of Diana Bishop, a historian who discovers that is a witch, will guide you through a world of vampires, witches, and demons. It is set in Oxford and the British accent of the characters will help you recognize the differences between American and British English as regards accent, pronunciation, and vocabulary. Our suggestion: read the book first and then watch the TV series. That will give you a much broader view of Harkness' magical characters. <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt2177461/>
- **Thirteen Reasons Why:** this American teen drama TV series was developed by Brian Yorkey who, at the same time, based the series on a homonymous novel by Jay Asher, published in 2007 . The plot revolves around the death of Hannah Baker, a seventeen-yearold girl who committed suicide after having to suffer sexual assault, gossip and lack of support from her friends and from the school she attended. The girl herself narrates why she killed herself and gives the audience thirteen reasons why she ended her life. *Thirteen Reasons Why* is not an ordinary TV series to learn English but its episodes will rise social awareness and will tell us how important it is to listen to our students' problems and that, as educators and instructors, we have to try to help them and deal with bullying in schools. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/13 Reasons Why](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/13_Reasons_Why)
- **Orphan Black:** this science fiction thriller TV series was created by Graeme Manson and was directed by John Fawcett. The main character, Sarah Manning, assumes the identity of another woman after witnessing her suicide. The main topic of the series is cloning, and the effects it has on different issues



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at the time it raises moral and ethical concerns. Since it takes place in Canada, students will be able to recognize an accent different to that of the USA or the UK at the time it will promote critical thinking among learners since it tackles moral issues. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Orphan_Black

- **Downton Abbey:** launched in 2010, this historical drama TV series t in the early 20th Century that narrates the lives of the Crawley family and their domestic servants. The historical events that took place during the 1912 and 1926 had on effect on the family and their servants. The series of events (e.g. the sinking of the Titanic, the outbreak of the World War I) that take place during the series will also help the student to revise history at the time they get familiar with the northern British accent.
- **The Crown:** launched in 2016, is a drama TV series that recreates a chronical of the life and reign of Elizabeth II, Queen of English, since 1947 when he marries Prince Philip Duke of Edinburgh, until the present time. It shows personal intrigues, romances and political rivalries. Claire Foy and Olivia Colman interprets a young and adult Queen Elizabeth II respectively. This American and British production will give you a historian view of the current British monarchy from the 1940s until 2018. It will help you with your vocabulary, accent, pronunciation and your knowledge on History! [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Crown_\(TV_series\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Crown_(TV_series))
- **Vikings:** this historical television drama was first launched in 2012 and depicts the life of the legendary Norse hero Ragnar Lothbrok, his crew and his family. The series began at the start of the Viking age in 793. This series will not only help students to improve their level of English but also to get acquainted with this side of history.
- **Modern Family:** this American TV series offers a “modern” perspective of today’s families (e.g. straight, gay, multicultural, traditional), which will raise awareness from the sociocultural point of view. In addition, it is a hilarious sitcom. Regarding accents, this TV series combines American accents with Latino accent, which will instruct our students in this matter too making this TV series interesting from the linguistic viewpoint.



FILMS AND POPCORN!

Why?

- You’ll get to learn real English...!!
- You’ll learn English words in context.
- You’ll hear how things are said, such as your expressions (a smile, a frown) or your tone of voice (like when you sound angry, or when you

- **Notting Hill (1999):** If you’re not sure whether to learn British or American English, this film offers both in one perfect romantic comedy package.
- **The King’s Speech (2010):** this film focuses on England’s King George, who had to overcome a speech impediment to deliver a speech to the British people – so it’s not only entertaining but there’s actually a whole pronunciation lesson in there too.
- **The Social Network (2010):** natural dialogue and funny lines make this movie really enjoyable to watch and easy to follow. Also, almost everyone knows Facebook and you will automatically be able



sound sad), the how is usually more important than the what to English people.

Tips for learning English through films.

1. Bring your dictionary (the app *wordreference* could be very useful) and/or choose a film with subtitles so, when you hear a word you're interested in, check it up.
2. Repeat short phrases.
3. Watch the film a second time and try turning off subtitles.
4. You can watch films in your computer. Open them with VLC Player. This programme allows you to play back movies at half speed or quarter speed. So, if there are parts you do not understand, you can play these back at a slower speed and try again. It is very helpful to practice your listening.

It's okay to miss words...just let it go.

to relate to the movie and pick up a lot of great English vocabulary related to computers, technology and social networks.

- **The Hunger Games (2012):** a very visual film and what you miss in the dialogue, you will be able to be filled in by the visual action. The actions are fast but the language is easy to understand.
- **Billy Elliot (2000):** only for the most experienced ears. The northern English accent of its protagonists makes it a real challenge, citing the large number of expressions and slang they use.
- **The Queen (2006):** a film literally defined by the 'Queen's English'. It is a must-see for those who truly want to learn about English culture.
- **The Parent Trap:** it is a 1998 romantic-comedy drama based on the 1961 remake by David Swift of the same name. Set in the United States, the story co-written and directed by Nancy Meyers narrates the life of two identical twins after their parents separated when they were born. Lindsay Lohan stars in her film debut as Annie James and Hallie Parker who meet by chance in a summer camp. This romantic comedy will help you train your ear, since one sister lives in London and the other in California. A way to distinguish them will be through their accent, are you ready to take up this challenge?
- **Mamma Mia (2008):** this romantic comedy film based on the 1999 musical of the same name is based on the songs by ABBA, a pop group which became famous during the 70s. Students will be able to practise their listening and speaking by singing-a-long with this entertaining film at the time they enjoy the fantastic landscapes appearing in the film.
- **Into the Woods (2014):** is a musical that intertwines the plot of famous fairy tales by Brothers Grimm and Charles Perrault. The film explores the consequences of the wishes of their characters. The film first premiered in 2014 and received the Academy Award nominations and three Golden Globe Award nominations. Students will improve their English through a musical that narrates stories familiar to them.
- **Bohemian Rhapsody (2018):** is a bio-musical about Freddie Mercury, lead singer of the British rock band Queen. It follows the singer's life from when he joins the band in 1970 to their 1985 Live Aid performance at the former Wembley Stadium in London. 8 Mile (Eminem)
- **Frozen (2013)** American 3D computer-animated musical fantasy film produced by Walt Disney Animation Studios. It is inspired by Hans Christian Andersen's fairy tale "The Snow Queen". It tells the story of a fearless princess who sets off on a journey alongside a rugged iceman, his loyal reindeer, and a naive snowman to find her estranged sister, whose icy powers have inadvertently trapped their kingdom in eternal winter
- **Mamma Mia! Here We Go Again (2018):** Is a musical romantic comedy. The plot is set after the events of the first film, and also features flashbacks to 1979, telling the story of Donna Sheridan's arrival on the island of Kalokairi and her first meetings with her daughter Sophie's three possible fathers.



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- **Slumdog Millionaire (2009): is an Indian film.** As a contestant on the Indian version of Who Wants to Be a Millionaire? Jamal Malik surprises everyone by being able to answer every question correctly. Accused of cheating, Jamal recounts his life story to the police, illustrating how he is able to answer each question correctly. Students will be able to listen to other English accents, those spoken in India.
- **Beyond Blood (2016): is a Nigerian film.** It is a captivating story of self-discovery, where a woman, after a series of uncontrollable events, decides to run away from her fears and consequently reaches her breaking point and gets caught in a cycle of unpleasant circumstances. Students will be able to listen to English Nigerian accent.
- **Harry Potter** is a film series based on the British author J.K. Rowling's eight fantasy novels. The film series offers a good opportunity to learn English through their many different accents and ways of speaking English. Our suggestion is that students combine reading the books with watching the films. In this manner, a wide range of skills will be covered, including listening.
- **The Divergent** series is a film trilogy based on the American author Veronica Roth's science fiction novels (e.g. *Divergent*, *Insurgent* and *Allegiant*). Learners of English will find interest in these films not only for its adventurous content, but also for their clear language. Our suggestion is that students combine reading the books with watching the films. In this manner, a wide range of skills will be covered, including listening.
- **Work it.** This Netflix new production is a musical comedy film directed by Laura Terruso. It is an American movie which revolves around dancing. Students will enjoy watching the film at the time they pay attention to the American accent.
- **Inside Out** is a 2015 animated film that it might seems addressed solely to children or young teenagers. However, *Inside Out* can work out for not that young students of English since they can explore their emotions and learn from their own feelings through this Pixar movie.
- **Love Actually.** Who hasn't seen this romantic comedy film at Christmas? *Love Actually* is a must film for all learners of English. Through it, students will be in contact with British culture and British accents and, thus, expand their linguistic knowledge at the time they have fun.
- **Lost in translation** narrates the story of a faded film star, Bob Harris, who is in Tokyo to film a whiskey ad. Staying at the same hotel is Charlotte, a newly graduate with her husband, John, who has been sent to Japan for business reasons. Both Charlotte and Bob are feeling lost and trapped by the city culture and will share their feelings while in Japan. This film will be of our students' liking not only for the language and culture, but also for their constantly show of feelings.



LISTEN TO MUSIC & SING ALONG AS IF YOU WERE THE GRAMMY WINNER!



Why songs?

There is considerable scientific evidence that demonstrates how music can help second language learners acquire grammar and vocabulary and improve spelling.

Songs and music almost always contain a lot of useful vocabulary, phrases and expressions. Besides, songs and music include up-to-date language and colloquialisms.

Listening to songs will also allow you to focus on your pronunciation and understanding of the English language's rhythm, tone and beat.

Music has an uncanny ability of getting stuck in our heads. Tunes and lyrics will help you to learn English through songs as you easily memorize vocabulary and phrases. Songs are emotional and thus, easier to remember. Music teaches you English culture.

Tips for learning English with songs:

1. **Study the lyrics and vocab.** In addition to getting the content, break the song down, word by word, and try to master each word so that it's a part of your vocabulary. You can do this through a flashcard service like *Anki* or *Mental Case*.
2. **Sing along:** you should try singing out loud to the music. This forces your mouth to adopt the right shapes and move with the rhythm of the song.
3. **Try to sing from memory:** and thus, you should be able to find that you can speak better, including such words in your everyday speech.

<https://www.fluentu.com/blog/english/learn-english-with-music/>

- Shape of You” by Ed Sheeran
- Believer” by Imagine Dragons
- What About Us” by Pink
- Attention” by Charlie Puth
- Malibu” by Miley Cyrus
- Only You” by Selena Gomez
- LyricsTraining is a way to learn English through the music and lyrics of your favourite songs. It improves your listening comprehension and helps you practice different accents with the best music videos, filling in the lyrics of the songs and with the Karaoke. <https://es.lyricstraining.com/en>
- YouTube music lyrics presents songs from the best artists around the world. You can find lyric videos from a specific artist, you can find specialized channels under this link, help yourself! https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9jbx97WHiM7aPA_A3SI6hQ
- **Spotify:** is a digital music app developed to reproduce millions of songs via streaming. It is based in Sweden and it was first launched in 2008. Download this app for free and start enjoying music for free at the time you learn English!
- **TIK TOK:** this trendy app will show our students how to learn English through the different topics of their videos (e.g. science, technology, cooking, etc.). It is a suitable app to learn from the different accents, colloquial expressions, lexicon, etc. of the English language through their many available videos.
- **Amerigo:** is an app that allows students to download music videos with the lyrics. From the didactic point of view is very useful and handy because you can use it even if you don't have access to the Internet.



USEFUL APPS TO IMPROVE YOUR ENGLISH.

As the use of mobile technology is increasing, why not using it to study anytime, anyplace and at your own pace through your mobile devices?

We encourage you to spend just five or ten minutes a day on English.

Let us introduce you to some helpful apps available, and it works!

Don't wait until you're in a classroom or at your desk with a big mountain of textbooks to practise your language skills. There are many fabulous **English learning apps** that you can download to your phone, for free.

Many of these are set up to help you learn or revise in small chunks, too. So, you can use any small amounts of free time you have to work on your English skills, whether that's during your lunch break, while you're waiting for the bus, on the underground to the University or even just waiting for the kettle to boil for a cup of tea!

***Suggestion:**

Why don't you change the language on your mobile phone to English? In this manner, you will be able to read all the functions and notifications in English and you will also be able to learn new vocabulary indirectly. Come on, give it a go!

- **LearnEnglish Grammar** (British Council) is an interactive app that you can use to practise and improve your accuracy in English grammar. It covers 12 different grammar topics, with 20 activities to complete in each one. There are thousands of questions to work through, ranging from Beginner to Advanced.
- **Duolingo** is a great app for learning English because it feels like you are playing a game! You start with simple vocabulary and gradually work up to more complicated sentences, getting more points at each level. The idea is to improve your language skills with just five minutes of practice each day.
- **Memrise** is designed to improve your vocabulary by giving you lots of fun ways to learn and remember new words. It also helps you to understand how to use these words correctly in a sentence, in order to build your confidence. The great thing about this app is that it has an offline mode, meaning that you can keep practising even when you don't have an internet connection.
- **Two min English** is free and contains more than two hundred two-minute video lessons on a variety of topics e.g., social English, business English, travel English, common mistakes in English, idioms and phrases.
- **Real English** offers a variety of apps at different levels – business and conversation apps at beginner, intermediate, and advanced levels. The apps are free, but they contain adverts. Each app contains 20 lessons that focus on specific grammar/vocabulary areas. Each lesson is made up of five parts.
- **Practice English Grammar 2** helps you learn the fundamentals of English grammar using the philosophy “practice makes perfect.” The more you use the app, the better you will become at grammar. With over 500 questions in 16 topics, Practice English Grammar 2 will strengthen your grammar skills in no time. This app also works offline, so you don't need the internet to use it. Some of the topics that are covered include gerunds, infinitives, comparatives, superlatives, modal verbs and tenses.
- **Hello English** has more than 470 lessons covering grammar, vocabulary and conversational English. It has audio-visual lessons that can be accessed without internet. It has a dictionary that speaks out the words so that users can practice English pronunciation while they build their vocabulary. It even uses voice detection features for teaching spoken English. It also offers content like news, video, ebooks and articles for immersive practice. If you have questions or you need to converse with someone in English, then its chat helpline can also connect you with English teachers.
- **Innovative Language** features video and audio lessons from real English teachers. The topics of the lessons can range from grammar to culture. For instance, they have videos about American traditions such as Groundhog Day along with introductions to celebrities and actors. Resources like this provide




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you with general knowledge you can use to actually talk about specific topics with native speakers. It also has notes for each lesson that you can use to review and remember the content better. The lessons are divided according to learning levels, and you can also download specific lessons for offline use.

- **FluentU** is one of the most popular mobile apps for English learning. It uses real-world videos to provide an immersive experience to learners. With the app, you can find movie trailers, news reports, music videos and talk shows to help you improve your English listening and speaking skills. It also gives you interactive captions with definitions that help explain the content of a video. This allows you to understand the meaning of a word and see how it is used in real life. There are videos available for all types of English, so you can hear different accents and vocabulary. You can also find videos that are perfect for your level of English and videos on specific topics like business, culture, entertainment and more.
- **LearnEnglish Podcasts British Council.** The app helps you learn everyday English by providing over 80 episodes and over 20 hours of free listening about a wide range of topics, as well as great new features that help you listen and understand the conversations. In each episode, podcast hosts Tess, Ravi, Adam and Rob chat with different people to talk about everyday topics such as their favourite celebrities, making plans for the weekend, having a dinner party and which cities they like to live in.
- **LearnEnglish GREAT Videos.** Watch natural and authentic conversations in English in this video app, with audioscripts to help you follow along. Follow the host Richard around London as he visits Shakespeare's Globe theat.
- **Willingua:** this app is divided into lessons and the lessons into activities. It has excellent explanations for students as well as listening activities.
- **English advance III BBC podcasts:** students will be able to get familiar with everyday situations with the BBC through this podcast. A great opportunity to practise British English.
- **AnkiDroid:** is an interesting and entertaining app where students can expand their vocabulary at the time they have fun learning. It is available for Android phones.
- **Lyrics Gap:** this app will help you learn English through the songs written by famous singers through a wide range of activities prepared for students.
- **Quiz your English:** this is an interesting app where student can learn and play at the same time. Give it a go!
- **BrainLang:** It's an interesting app to learn English by watching and listening videos. It is based on Krashen's learning theories based on the comprehensive input received. Students will benefit from it for sure.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Twitch: is a live streaming platform in which you can watch other people playing or interact with each other. The way students can use this app is by observing expressions employed by gamers who are native speakers of English. There is a lot one can learn by observing and, at the same time, learners can have a good time too!
	WHY NOT? (BOARD) GAMES.
<p>Sometimes you need a break from traditional studying, games are a fun way to practise English then.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They could be a really motivating way to learn a language. • They are also great for those of you who are shy or worried about making mistakes. • Games could give you the chance to communicate in English in a safe and fun way. • Gather your friends, grab some board games and you will be learning in no time! <p>What Qualities Does a Good English-Learning Game Have?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It's Accurate: all grammar structures it uses should be grammatically correct, and all vocabulary words should be spelled and defined correctly. • It's Effective: quality games will help you remember meanings of difficult words and perfect your mastery of grammar patterns through a combination of features such as word associations, images, and repetition. • It's Fun: a good English game will not only teach you English but also entertain you as 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Game to learn English powowbox is a multi-level game. Once downloaded, it appears as English tracker. The first three levels are free. You have to spot the mistake - if you get it wrong, you receive a clear explanation. It's fun and easy to play. • Duolingo: The gamified learning system of the app helps you learn English quickly by spending twenty minutes a day. • Family Feud – originally a popular television game show, Family Feud is now available as an app. The goal is to try to name the most popular answers to questions surveyed by 100 people. You can improve your reading comprehension, vocabulary and your spelling in an interactive and fun way. • Scattergories is a creative thinking game where you have to score points by naming objects that begin with a specific letter, within a set of categories, within a time limit. (board game & app). • Cambridge assessment English. http://go.uv.es/RClCx7m • Scrabble. You will start to get a great sense of how English words look and feel once you have played a few times, and you start to see the letters in a different way. You might see the letters L, E, E and R, and wonder if <i>Leer</i> is a word. Look it up in the dictionary and you will learn that it is a word, and that it means “to stare at someone in an unpleasant way.” • Taboo. Every card in Taboo shows one main word. Below the main word you will find a list of words that are similar to the main word, either synonyms or words which are closely associated with the main word. Your task is to describe the main word to someone without using any of the words underneath it. • Once Upon a Time. It is a card game that lets you and your friends tell a story. Everyone gets some cards that have story elements and one card that has an ending. One narrator (the person telling the story) gets to start telling the story, trying to use the cards in their hand and lead the story to the ending they have. Other players can interrupt by placing down their own cards and continue the story with different ideas instead. The makers of Once Upon a Time, have put the full instructions and list of cards for the game on their website! That way you can practice alone or create your own game to play with friends. Some other games with the same aim are the famous Storycubes https://www.storycubes.com/ and some Apps such as Story Dice.




you play it. Some of the best English games are those that make you forget you're actually learning!

- It's Easy to Play: a good English game is one that has clear rules and is easy to learn how to play. You shouldn't need to spend a lot of time learning the rules of the game; ideally, you'll be able to read a description or play through the game once or twice in order to understand what you must do to win.


- **Gamezone.** Dozens of simple, straightforward games about grammar, spelling, and vocabulary reach out to English language learners at all levels. This site is based in the U.K. <https://www.english-online.org.uk/games/gamezone2.htm>
- **Vocabulary.co.il.** This series of vocabulary and games runs the gamut from elementary to high school levels of proficiency. Each is recommended for both native speakers. <http://www.vocabulary.co.il/english-language-games/>
- **ESL Fun Games Online.** Appropriate for all ages and skill levels, this site also provides printable games for classroom use. <http://www.eslgamesworld.com/members/games/index.html>
- **EnglishClub ESL Games** is massive suite of ESL games work on honing pronunciation, grammar, and vocabulary through familiar activities, like hangman and word jumbles. Older students and adults in particular will find these incredible useful supplements to their classroom lessons. <https://www.englishclub.com/esl-games/>
- **Lord of the Flies.** Ideal for the advanced ESL/EFL student already applying his or her English abilities to its literary canon, this game comes courtesy of the Nobel Prize and promotes its Literature award. Players relive the scenarios outlined in William Golding's scorching allegorical novel. <https://www.nobelprize.org/educational/literature/golding/index.html>
- **Word Games at Merriam-Webster.** Classics like Scrabble, jumbles, word searches, and crossword puzzles are absolutely perfect for adult ESL/EFL learners or native speakers wanting to build their vocabularies. But MerriamWebster also hosts a slew of other interactive games meant to nurture literacy at the high school and college levels. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/wordgames>
- **Tracy Boyd's Quia.** This speech pathologist has developed more than 50 games involving speech and sequencing, with plenty to engage many different types of learners. Some activities even pull inspiration from popular favorites like *Who Wants to be a Millionaire?*. <https://www.quia.com/pages/havefun.html>
- **Xeropan:** in this fun game the learner is the hero who, in the company of Professor Max, they undergo different challenges in order to achieve a goal: to learn English. <https://play.google.com/store/apps/dev?id=7925454854089648018>
- **Word trip:** is the perfect word game for students of English. It will relax their minds at the time they will form new words initiating a process of constant learning since it consists of creating as much words as possible.
- **Hidden City:** it is a mystery game in which you have to look for clues to solve the mystery. Students can learn a vast amount of vocabulary and the time they have a good time trying to solve the clues and find the characters.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● BAMBOOZLE: it contains different independent games of any topic and any level. Learners of English can play in pairs, in groups or individually. You should try it! ● Stop the bus: this is a different word game which will put into practice students' level of English. This is a great game to revise vocabulary and you can use it with any age group and any level by changing the category headings. When you work under time pressure and competitiveness, words come to your mind really quick and without even noticing! ● Apalabrados: it is similar game as the traditional <i>Scrabble</i>. The novelty with this app is that you can play online with other people. From the didactic point of view, <i>Apalabrados</i> is useful for students of English since the aim of the game is to create new words and thus, learn vocabulary.
	JUST READ IT!
<p>If you want to improve your language skills, read a lot!!!</p> <p>When you want to learn a book in English, it can be hard to decide which one to read. Do you like adventure and fantasy books? I guess so! That is why we have prepared a wide repertoire for you that, we are sure, you'll love.</p> <p>Remember, reading books in English can help you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Improve your reading and writing skills ● Improve your grammar ● Broaden your vocabulary ● Build up knowledge ● Exercise your brains <p>And... guess what? You can complement your reading with the adaptations made for the big screen too; the films are available for you online. Can't miss them!</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Austen, Jane. <i>Pride and Prejudice</i>. ● Clare, Cassandra. <i>Shadowhunters</i>. ● Collins, S. <i>The Hunger Games</i> ● Collins, S. <i>Catching Fire</i> ● Collins, S. <i>Mockingjay</i> ● Dalh, Roald <i>Charlie and Chocolate Factory</i> ● Dalh, Roald <i>Matilda</i> ● Dalh, Roald <i>James and the Giant Peach</i> ● Dalh, Roald <i>The Witches</i> ● Dashner, James. <i>The Maze Runner</i>. ● Harkness, Deborah. <i>A Discovery of Witches</i> ● Harkness, Deborah. <i>Shadow of Night</i> ● Harkness, Deborah. <i>The Book of Life</i> ● Kepnes, Caroline. <i>Hidden Bodies</i> ● Lewis, C.S. <i>The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe</i> ● Lewis, C.S. <i>The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian</i> ● Lewis, C.S. <i>The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader</i> ● Lewis, C.S. <i>The Chronicles of Narnia: The Silver Chair</i> ● Lewis, C.S. <i>The Chronicles of Narnia: The Horse and His Boy</i> ● Lewis, C.S. <i>The Chronicles of Narnia: The Magician's Nephew</i> ● Lewis, C.S. <i>The Chronicles of Narnia: The Last Battle</i>





<p>housework, shopping or laying on the sofa, play your audiobook!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Stop once in a while and repeat words and expressions that called your attention due to their pronunciation or difficulty. ● If you get the printed text, read aloud while listening (you will match your speed to the audio thus, gaining fluency and pronunciation). <p>Note down those words and expressions you would like to know the meaning, but do it after the audio session, it doesn't matter whether you understand everything, just infer from the context!!!</p>	<p>The TALIS Project Educative WEB (Teaching and Acquisition of Intercultural and Solidarity Competences through Languages and Literature) is an innovative initiative that aims to promote educational innovation and research in order to improve literary and linguistic education, Education for Development and interculturality. These goals are materialised through the publication of teaching, research, books and teaching materials, as well as the organisation of awareness-raising and cultural and educational recreation activities. You will find the audiobooks of all the intercultural tales gathered by this project in http://proyectotalis.com/cuentos/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Open Culture Audiobooks: In this website you can find many audiobooks and the books too. There is a great variety and you can mainly find the usual suspects: the classics. ● The Internet Archive: this digital library is a non-profit library of millions of free books, movies, software, music, websites, and more. There are even arcade games to play. Students will learn from it and will have a good time too! https://archive.org/
	<p>TALKING OPPORTUNITIES.</p>
<p>If you want to get better at speaking English, the best way to do it is to practice. Simple, but not easy... You can practice speaking English online for free! Getting feedback speeds up the learning process and is invaluable to users who do not have constant access to a qualified instructor for pronunciation practice. So we encourage you to practise your oral skills with the following tools.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Skype tandem activity: Once you get your tandem, please get the materials on: http://seagulltandem.eu/english_language_for_public_areas/ (for files in English) and http://seagull-tandem.eu/spanishlanguage-for-public-areas/ (for files in Spanish). You are going to focus on language for public areas. You should choose the same topic in both languages (if you are going to exchange languages) or in English (if both of you are going to use English language) to work within a session (e.g. <i>Búsqueda de empleo</i> – Job search). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Elsa speak: speak English in short fun dialogues. Get instant feedback from proprietary artificial intelligence technology. Winner of SxSW's Global Education Technology competition in 2016. https://www.elsaspeak.com/home ● Speechace: They develop best in class speech recognition software designed specifically for language learners. It scores a learner's speech and pinpoint individual syllable and phoneme level mistakes in a user's pronunciation in real time. Mistakes are then presented to the user in an appealing visual format along with supplementary feedback on stress, intonation and speaking rate. https://www.speechace.com/ ● English Accent Coach: trains the brain to recognize new sounds - an essential foundation for improved pronunciation. https://www.englishaccentcoach.com/ ● Englishly: to improve and sound like a native language speaker. This app will help you practice and improve your pronunciation. Simply listen to the phrase, tap record, speak, and then receive a score out of 5 stars based on how accurate you were. Practice again to improve! https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.prism.sen.app&hl=es ● Spoken Skills learning lab. This website features free self-practice activities for learners. Through its practice pages, you can listen to a phrase, speak or practice saying it, then compare your delivery by recording yourself. http://www.spokenskills.com/ ● Simple English News. The site features a collection of short news with audio recordings. You can read the text while listening to the audio clip review some vocabulary words and even take a quiz to heighten your comprehension. http://www.simpleenglishnews.com/archive



The registering process should be the following: o For those students who have got an Erasmus students pair, please, send me an email with both of your names and email contacts. For the rest of you I will provide the skype peers as soon as the lists come from the other Universities.

- o **The pairs** will be made in order of interest, that is, I need you to send me an email with your name and e-mail contact. The pairs will be organized in strict order of mails arrival.
- o **Once you have your skype tandem details:** o Firstly, send your partner an e-mail in order to arrange the first session.
 - o Read you activities file in your L2 and prepare the session.
 - o Get in touch with your skype partner and work in both languages.
 - o You should have at least 6 sessions (better 8) if possible and keep a record (in the learner's diary below) of them to hand in to your teacher. It would be very interesting if this record could be done working together as a team.
 - o When the term is over, write your feedback on linguistic and intercultural improvements, the process and your comments on the activity as a pair (international team work) in the last part of the table below.
- o **Take on responsibilities:** Be prepared for each session; keep your appointments, always be on time and inform your partner if you cannot keep the appointment or if you are going to be late.

- **Forvo** <https://es.forvo.com/languages/en/> different sounds and accents in English.
- **Whatsapp via Google Now Voice.** Do you want to check if your pronunciation in English is good enough? You can test yourself with this app by dictating WhatsApp messages via Google NowVoice Command. Go and whatsapp your friends using this sophisticated app.
- **Seagull tandem** project. <http://seagull-tandem.eu/> Learning each other's language in tandem. seagull: the tandem partner finder with lots of ideas and materials.
- **Skype tandem activity** aims at improving your linguistic and intercultural skills, while having some fun meeting new people of your age. To participate in this activity that is voluntary in 3er year and compulsory in 4th year, you have to get in contact with the English language teachers to get your skype tandem pair. The instructions are in the tips box.
- **Snapchat** is a good way to be able to communicate with other people from different countries. It is useful if you also use it to exchange impressions from English students from other parts of the world.
- **Language café:** it consists of a language exchange. Different people meet in a cafeteria and talk about different subjects and matters in a foreign language. There are different languages and different levels to choose from. It is a great opportunity to meet new people, new cultures and to lose the fear of talking. (In Valencia: Portland, Café Artysana, Englishcafé, Valencia Language Exchange).
- **English accent coach:** students can use this app to improve their pronunciation, it is available also online.




VIDEO OPPORTUNITIES

Why videos?

- You might already have books or classroom lessons, but having a variety of materials is good.
- You can pause and rewind whenever you need to.
- Many of the videos let you see the speaker's mouths. This way you can better understand how their mouths move.
- One of the most useful aspects about learning English on videos is that most of the lessons are short, but convey a lot of information in easy-to-understand ways. There's no chance of you losing your focus.
- By dipping into one short lesson a day you will soon notice the difference in your ability to speak English.

- **Ted talks** (Technology, Entertainment, Design) are short conferences carried out around the world by relevant people in all fields. <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAuUUnT6oDeKwE6v1NGQxug>
- **BBC Learning English:** From one of the world's most famous broadcasting companies (the British Broadcasting Corporation) comes a bunch of free English language learning lessons. They're in a variety of formats such as real-life situations, cartoons and interviews. There's also a really cool collection of videos for words you'll hear in the news. The videos are short but filled with a lot of really good information. <https://www.youtube.com/user/bbclearningenglish> **Speak English with Misterduncan:** He uses humor a lot of the time to help you learn. Misterduncan teaches English to the world for free and has had a channel on YouTube since 2006. There are many lessons on topics like the senses, slang, news, fashion and money. They're easy to watch and are about how the language is spoken instead of grammar. <https://www.youtube.com/user/duncaninchina/videos>
- **Learn English with EnglishClass101.com:** designed for rapid English language learning, these interesting video lessons cover many aspects of American and British culture. So you can discover more about the countries as you learn their language. <https://www.youtube.com/user/ENGLISHCLASS101>
- **Real English:** is one of the best channels for English language beginners and has a large library of free access lessons. Each one includes two videos, one with subtitles and one without and a handful of exercises. It has real people and real life situations, so you get a true feel for how people really speak English. <https://www.youtube.com/user/realenglish1/about>
- **VOA Learning English:** is something a bit different. The channel offers subtitled news reports that are read out at slower speeds than normal. This gives the viewer time to hear every word clearly and to see the shape of the announcer's mouth as he or she reads the script. VOA also posts its Google+ Hangouts where callers from around the world discuss in English the stories that have been making the news. Other Hangouts provide tips on grammar and different aspects of speaking the English language. <https://www.youtube.com/user/VOALearningEnglish#p/a>
- **Jennifer ESL.** English with Jennifer is a rich collection of more than 200 videos that are grouped into easy to use playlists. There are lessons for beginners, lessons to improve your writing in English, lessons on grammar and many more. What marks them out as a cut above the rest is the fresh and simple presentation and the special focus on pronunciation. There are no scripts and no actors, just real, natural English language speaking. In common with many other language learning channels, there is interactivity as well. <https://www.youtube.com/user/JenniferESL>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EF podEnglish: are slick, bite-sized 5-minute English lessons that are aimed at English language learners at every level, from absolute beginners to advanced students. They're well-structured with a three-part lesson plan: watch, learn and try and there's a great range of topics too. These include families, pets, directions, weather, films and technology. Some of the lessons use humour to get the points across. These are welcome touches that make learning easier and ensure that new words are memorized. https://www.youtube.com/user/podEnglish • Real English: it is very interesting to learn English because you can listen and practise English in real situations and explore words and idiomatic expressions used in the daily life by English speakers.
	THE NEWS, TALK SHOWS & OTHER EDUCATIONAL WEBSITES IN ENGLISH
<p>“When in Rome, do as the Romans do.” That is, when you're trying to adjust to a new place, you should behave like the people who live there.</p> <p>So, do what English speaking people do by browsing English websites and watch English shows and news. There are a few categories for these sites.</p> <p>In addition, Pop culture and humour are some of the best ways to learn English. Thus, if you want to learn conversation through culture and humour, there's a special type of TV show you can't miss: talk shows or varieties shows. These shows have a <i>host</i> (the person hosting or running the show) who has different celebrities as guests on each episode and interviews them. They talk about <i>upcoming</i> (soon to come) projects, play games and have short comedy segments.</p> <p>This is a different work that the one done with TV series since they also are very scripted and can have really unusual situations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informative websites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ News websites like CNN https://edition.cnn.com/ , BBC https://www.bbc.com/news , BBC radio http://www.bbc.co.uk/radio , Voice of America https://www.voanews.com/-english/portal.cfm , Al Jazeera English https://www.aljazeera.com/ Vaughan Radio https://grupovaughan.com/vaughan-radio/ can be your go-to for English-language breaking news in current events as well as science and technology. • Infotainment websites: (informative and entertaining): these sites feature weird news stories, fun and interesting true facts, and funny commentary. Some of the top <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ English infotainment sites include Snopes https://www.snopes.com/ , Boing Boing https://boingboing.net/ and Cracked http://www.cracked.com/ • Podcast websites. Boing Boing and Cracked in particular are known for one of the web's top forms of infotainment: English podcasts. The Cracked podcast and the Boing Boing group of podcasts feature informative talks and conversations by English speakers. ou can also find many other great ones through specialized podcast websites like iTunes https://www.apple.com/es/itunes/download/ , Stitcher https://www.stitcher.com/ or Earwolf https://www.earwolf.com/ . • Entertainment news. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There are tons of entertainment news sites—Entertainment Weekly https://ew.com/ , People Magazine https://people.com/ , , etc.—that provide lots of English reading and listening practice. English-language entertainment fan communities also give you a chance to interact with other TV, movie and music fans in English. At places like TVFanForums.net



Why talk shows?

- **Natural conversations.** The great thing about talk shows is while they have games and activities, the style is more like an interview. The host has to ask questions and keep the conversation going, so this is great for learning how to have a long conversation naturally.
- **Variety of accents,** since the people who are guests can be from anywhere in the world, the way they talk is always different. This helps you practice your listening skills for understanding different accents.
- **Pop culture and slang.** Whatever movies, books or TV shows are out at the moment will come up on talk shows, as well as any new slang terms. There are also a lot of parts that mention politics, so you'll get to see new political terms in context.
- **New episodes regularly.** Talk shows also air (are on TV) every weekday or weekend, so they can easily be added to your routine.
- **Easily available.** Finally, they are available to watch on TV or online, so these shows are easy to find and watch!

Tips for learning English with talk shows:

- Pause and answer open questions.
- Outline the conversations and reenact. Jot down notes or outline the conversation while watching. Then afterwards, try to have your own conversation using just your notes on one of the topics. So don't try to memorize word-for-word,

<http://www.tvfanforums.net/> Check out the **Fanpop forum**

<http://www.fanpop.com/recentforums> for movies, TV, music, comics, video games and other areas of popular culture. **Time:** A good way to improve punctuation is through reading and this magazine publishes very interesting articles for students to read. You can download it for free!

- **Talk shows:**

- **“Late Night” (NBC):** This show has been on air since 1982. There are thousands of episodes and guests have mainly been musicians and actors, but also politicians. There are so many great jokes on the show. <https://www.nbc.com/late-night-with-seth-meyers>
- **“The Tonight Show” (NBC).** The show has been on air since 1954. This show is famous for its games, and clips (often shared on social media). <https://www.nbc.com/the-tonight-show>
- **“Jimmy Kimmel Live” (ABC):** it has celebrities and politicians as well, but they also have a lot of *segments* (parts of the show) with people on the street and people who submit their own videos. This show is more family-friendly and good to watch with children around. <http://abc.go.com/shows/jimmy-kimmel-live>
- **“The Ellen DeGeneres Show” (NBC):** it's made more for families and parents who stay at home during the day. Ellen interacts with the audience at her live show, has giveaways, plays games and also interviews celebrities. She talks to members of the audience a lot. <https://www.ellentube.com/>
- **“Oprah”:** Although there are no longer new episodes, her show aired for 25 seasons, from 1986 to 2011, so there are more than enough episodes to watch. Oprah does a lot of charity work, you can learn related phrases and ways to talk about current tough issues in the world. On her talk show, Oprah also recommended books and things to do. <http://www.oprah.com/index.html>
- **“Loose Women” (ITV)** has four women who talk with each other and interview guests. This show has the hosts chatting with each other about current events and gossip. You can watch this to see how to stay on topic and easily move things along when having conversations in a group. <http://www.itv.com/loosewomen>
- **“Chatty Man”** Channel 4 (in the UK). This is a show hosted by Alan Carr, who interviews celebrities and talks about news—both from the world and from pop culture. He talks faster, watching this show can help you keep up with fast talkers that you know. <http://www.alancarr.net/>



but rather use the outline as a base to create from.
Watch with subtitles

- **The Graham Norton Show:** is a British chat show presented by the comedian Graham Norton that host celebrities from all over the world. Each night is broadcast, one big celebrity name sits on Norton’s chair ready to be interviewed. Music and comedy are involved in this show that it will catch students’ attention for sure.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Graham_Norton_Show
- **Realities**
 - **Next in fashion:** is a reality show based on fashion design. If you watch it in its original version you get to hear different accents from all over the world. Besides, realities in general have people speaking in natural contexts, which makes it closer to reality.
 - **Family feud:** Here, you have the chance to challenge your brain at the same time the participants do and, if you are ready to participate, there is a website in which you can play that will totally make students improve their English.



GET SUBSCRIBED!

There was a time that if you wanted to learn something, you had to a) pay a bunch of money, and b) go to a school or classroom, a place specifically dedicated to learning.

Now, a profusion of apps, websites and institutions offer us a wider variety of (often superior) educational experiences than ever before- and we can access them from anywhere in the world, often for free.

The suggestions in the list range from magazines to publishers websites where you can attend one-hour webinars from free and:

- 1) listen to real English;
- 2) learn about methodologies and resources to become a teacher with a huge bag of materials and knowledge in your back.

TIPS to make the most of the webinars:

- **Busyteacher.** It is a free online magazine that could provide about 17,300 free printable worksheets and lesson plans for teaching English. It will give you a lot of reading in English, trying to make the decision on which materials to use! <https://busyteacher.org/>
- **Oxford University Press.** English Language Teaching. In this web you will be able to: learn about new concepts and theories in English Language Teaching; interact with trainers and authors, and have your questions answered; connect with teachers in other institutions, regions or countries and take part live, or access our library at a time that suits you. <https://elt.oup.com/feature/global/webinars/?cc=global&selLanguage=en>
- **Macmillan Education** provides you with guidance, support and inspiration on your professional development journey. As part of our Advancing Learning Academic Programme, they invite you to join a series of webinars hosted by ELT and educational experts presenting across a range of themes. All webinars are FREE to attend. All you require is an internet connection and lots of enthusiasm to take part, share and advance learning. <http://www.macmillanenglish.com/webinars/>
- **Cambridge English webinars** and Facebook Live sessions are a great way for teachers to stay up to date with the latest developments and to interact with our experts. Their webinars provide you with invaluable information about our exams, and cover a wide spectrum of subjects, including effective teaching methods, tips to improve student engagement and online professional development to help you develop your career. Each webinar is presented by a Cambridge English professional and they give you the opportunity to ask questions in our live question and answer sessions
<https://www.cambridgeenglish.org/teachingenglish/resources-for-teachers/webinars/>



