

EnglishConnect 3: Strategy Instruction

Speaking

1. Pronunciation

Practice pronunciation to improve your speech. You can improve pronunciation by listening to the pronunciation of the different sounds. Watch movies or videos, listen to music, download listening apps, or complete listening activities online. Not all English words are pronounced as they are spelled.

- Listen and practice the voiced and voiceless “th”.
<http://www.learning-english-online.net/pronunciation/the-english-th/>
- Pronounce the short “i” correctly.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-BAYrt2oER8&list=ECB043E64B8BE05FB7&index=22>
- Practice vowel sounds
<http://engfluent.com/english-pronunciation-exercises-main-sounds/>
- Practice American Pronunciation <http://www.manythings.org/pp/>

2. Language Rhythm and Stress

Practice stress and rhythm to improve your speech. English speakers stress words by making words louder, longer, or higher in pitch. Stress content and focus words and destress function words. Stress main verbs and nouns. Destress articles and conjunctions.

- Rhythm practice: Stress + Destress
<http://www.elementalenglish.com/rhythm-practice-stress-de-stress-english-pronunciation-lesson/>
- Raise and lower intonation for statements and questions. Lower intonation for statements and wh questions.
<http://www.learning-english-online.net/pronunciation/stress-and-intonation/>

3. Grammar

Practice grammar strategies to improve your speaking fluency. Spend time listening to conversations. Practice reading text out loud by yourself so you can become more comfortable

speaking out loud. Worry more about communication than perfect grammar. You can improve your fluency by practicing your writing and reading skills. Try to think in English instead of translating.

- Practice using the correct verb tense
 - Simple Past:
<http://content.edufind.com/english-resources/english-grammar/simple-past-tense/>
 - Correct: I ate pancakes for breakfast this morning.
 - Incorrect: I eat pancakes for breakfast this morning.
- Make sure your subjects and verbs agree.
<http://grammar.yourdictionary.com/parts-of-speech/verbs/subject-verb-agreement-worksheets.html>
 - Correct: He watches the movie. They watch the movie.
 - Incorrect: He watch the movie. They watches the movie.
- Some words are plural because they are counted. Some cannot be counted.
<http://content.edufind.com/english-resources/english-grammar/countable-and-uncountable-nouns/>
 - Correct: One cat, two cats, tea, sugar, equipment
 - Incorrect: teas, sugars, equipments
- Repeating the subject is a common mistake
<https://www.englishgrammar.org/duplicate-subjects/>
 - Correct: My sister went to the store.
 - Incorrect: My sister she went to the store..
- Practice using both gerunds and infinitives
<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/627/04/>
 - Correct: I am eating lunch.
 - Incorrect: I am to eat lunch.
 - Correct: I love to eat lunch.
 - Incorrect: I love to eating lunch.

4. Appropriate Word Usage

Practice speaking in different scenarios. Know when to be polite and when to be funny. English words may not translate into words similar to your own language. Learn new vocabulary words and study the most common words in English. This will help you communicate your ideas better.

- Know the difference between formal and informal language.
<http://www.really-learn-english.com/language-register.html>
- Study the most common words in English
<http://content.edufind.com/english-resources/english-vocabulary/>