



The English Circle

Learn English



10 EASY STEPS TO SUCCESS / BY BARBARA HALL

Learn English -10 Easy Steps to Success

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Learn English -- English Immersion

Learning a new language can be difficult -- but with practice and the right resources, you can quickly learn to speak fluent. How can you stay motivated? Take action. Get started on these 10 easy steps to learning. Research shows that action isn't just an effect of motivation— it is also the cause of it. Once you make a little progress on your English, you'll feel inspired to do even more.

The key to success is ***language immersion***. What does this mean? This means creating an environment where you surround yourself with English. Make a study plan and establish a daily practice routine. Once you have made a plan, stick to it!

Learning English can be broken up into four core areas: speaking, listening, reading and writing. You need to work on everything, but first focus on speaking. Aim for steady progress, not perfection. Don't be afraid to make mistakes.

In this article I recommend that you follow ***10 easy steps to success*** so that you can quickly become fluent in English.

1/ Find a Teacher

Take an English Course

Take classes at a school, language school or college. Taking an English course will teach you basic vocabulary and grammar and ensure you are learning everything correctly. This is extremely important when you are just getting started. Online courses may also be an option for some students.

Try a Private Tutor

Private tutoring is an excellent choice for customized learning particularly at more advanced levels. Make sure your tutor is qualified to teach ESL.



2/ Teach Yourself

Learn independently.

Learning English doesn't stop in the classroom. Don't ignore the resources all around you that you can use to work on improving your speaking, listening, reading and writing skills. Spend your free time studying and use your English as often as you can.

Take advantage of online tools and phone apps. There are many online tools for helping you to learn English faster. For example, see the Internet resources listed on our website at <http://theenglishcircle.com/>



3/ Speak Up!

Don't Be Shy- Start Talking

Don't be shy, make yourself speak. The more you speak the easier it will become. It doesn't matter if you talk slowly and your grammar isn't perfect. The important thing is to get the words flowing.

Join groups and go to places where you can meet and make friends with native English speakers. At home, if you have no one else to talk to, then talk with yourself and practice conversational dialogues.

Most people don't mind helping you with English. Ask for directions - even if you don't need them. Talk to customer support staff when you shop online or by phone.



4/ Read, Read, Read!

Read books, newspapers magazines- even comics

Reading is an essential part of learning a new language. Reading will increase your vocabulary and will also help you learn grammar. When you read you will encounter many new words that you wouldn't encounter in everyday conversation.

Almost anything published can provide good practice. Well-known books are good because you can find out something about the book before you start. Some students like to read children's books or classic mystery stories like the novels by Agatha Christie. Newspapers are also a good way to learn the basics of the language, because they include current topics and are usually written in a way that is easy to understand.

Do make an active effort to understand what you're reading. It is okay to first read quickly or skim over the text to get the gist of what the article is about—but do go back and read for in-depth understanding. You should try reading aloud. This will allow you to improve your reading comprehension while working on your pronunciation at the same time.

5/ Practice Writing

Create a Writing Diary.

Writing is usually the most difficult part of language development, but it is essential to allocate some time to work on written English. Writing can help improve your sentence structure, vocabulary, grammar and spelling.

One suggestion is to keep a diary where you can write down a few sentences every day. You can pick any topic. Try to create new sentences and don't repeat phrases you already know. You can also keep a small notebook to write down new words as you encounter them. If possible, get an educated native speaker to look over what you have written and check for errors.



6/ Build Vocabulary

Love Your Dictionary

Carry an English monolingual dictionary with you (book or a phone app). Look at it in spare moments throughout the day. Keep a notebook of your new words and commit them to memory by using them in at least three sentences. Working out different uses of the word will help expand your English vocabulary memory bank. Repetition and using words in context will help you to remember the words.

It's important to keep using your new words. Review your new vocabulary at least once a week and say the words out loud. Sounding words out loud is yet another effective strategy for retaining words in your memory.

Words are everywhere. Pay attention to billboards, signs, advertisements, magazine stands, and names of organizations. Work with small sets of words. Don't work from long vocabulary lists. Learn only a few words at a time and make sure you know today's words really well before moving on to learning new words tomorrow. It is possible to learn 10 or 20 words per day. If you don't have time to do this, however, then focus on learning 10 new words a week. Taking small steps will still help you to reach your goal.

7/ Learn With Music

Talk and sing to yourself.

Singing songs is a great way to help you learn the sounds of English pronunciation. Songs also almost always contain a lot of useful vocabulary, phrases and expressions. The latest tunes include current popular language and useful colloquialisms. Musical tunes also seem to remain in our minds, so learning through music can help you to remember English words.

Listen to the words/lyrics of your favorite songs.

Build up your vocabulary with lyrics. Song lyrics can help you expand your vocabulary, learn popular idioms and improve spelling.



8/ TV, Films and Radio

Watch TV including news, series and soap operas in English

Learning through TV is different than learning in the classroom.. Television gives you a chance to hear language in use. With TV you have the opportunity to hear different accents and feel the rhythm of the language. If you watch dramas you will be able to observe how language conveys emotion. You will understand more if you observe the expressions and gestures of the speakers. Watch what is happening on the screen for clues to what people are speaking about.

Watching movies can also make you familiar with the sounds of English and will increase your vocabulary. You may be able to find film reviews and get some idea of the storyline before you start. Start watching with subtitles on, but try to turn the subtitles off.

Listen to English radio or podcasts. Download English-language podcasts or radio apps to improve your English listening comprehension.

9/ Videos

Check out the Videos on YouTube.

Videos are the next best thing to taking a classroom course -- and can even show us many things we can't see or hear in the classroom. Look for video tutorials that encourage active participation and provide practice.

Videos are great for listening to English conversation. They are also an excellent tool for English pronunciation. For example, when demonstrating different sounds a video can also show a close-up of how the mouth is shaped and the tongue is positioned for each sound.



10/ Social Media



Make Friends on Social Media

On Facebook and other social media you can read and write posts in English as well as making new online friends. You will also get inside information about news and videos in English.

Join Online Forums

Join online English forums where the focus is on teaching and learning English. There may be forums for other subjects that you are interested in.

In forums you can ask questions and share experiences. Participate by answering questions posed by other people – or post your own questions and have a conversation with others.



Final Tips -

Don't be afraid of making mistakes. You won't achieve your goals without making a lot of mistakes first. Fear of making mistakes is an obstacle that frequently stands in the way of learning a language.

Stop translating. Going back and forth inside your head translating from one language to another wastes both time and energy. Think of your brain as having on/off switches for different languages and turn English "on" when you are operating in English mode. Train your brain to focus on the meaning, or the concepts that words represent, rather than on literal translation.

Stay motivated. Never give up on your goal of fluency. Discipline and practice are the keys to outstanding success.

Good Luck! - Visit The English Circle website at <http://theenglishcircle.com/>