



Enseñanzas Oficiales de Idiomas

Inglés Nivel C1.2

Lesson 4

What Next?: Keep on truckin'

Focus on

Get Thinking

Who is the most successful person you know?

What makes a successful person? And a successful language learner?

What success stories do you have of studying English?

Watch the following short video about success and compare the narrator's definition of success with your own.



Success
de Lara Lee

01:41

Video in [Vimeo](#)

Top tips

This is a list of advice for language learners from [The Guardian](#):

1. Make realistic, specific goals
2. Remind yourself why you are learning
3. Focus on exactly what you want to learn
4. Read for pleasure
5. Learn vocabulary in context
6. Ignore the myths: age is just a number
7. Do some revision of your native language
8. Don't underestimate the importance of translation
9. Beware of fluency
10. Go to where the language is spoken



Image by Scott in [Flickr](#). CC.

Do it yourself

Get Listening

Listen to a profile of Mikaela Shiffrin, the best Slalom skier in the world.

00:00 07:33

Now answer these questions.

Most experts are not impressed by Shiffrin's style of skiing.

☐ Verdadero ☐ Falso

Falso

She draws in casual viewers and awes the experts.

People tend not to support the most talented competitors and this is the case with Shiffrin too.

☐ Verdadero ☐ Falso

Falso

There's something about transcendent talent that causes people to root for it, no matter their allegiances or their usual embrace of the underdog.

The Olympics are just a small part of a five-month ski season.

☐ Verdadero ☐ Falso

Falso

The Olympics are a brief fever dream in the middle of the five-month odyssey of the ski season.

Shiffrin is an insecure skier.

☐ Verdadero ☐ Falso

Falso

Shiffrin is a stone-cold killer on snow.

Although she lives in Colorado, her sporting home is in the East Coast.

☐ Verdadero ☐ Falso

Verdadero

The Northeast is Shiffrin's home turf. She lives in Vail, Colorado, but her formative training years were spent on the East Coast.

At Killington, in Vermont her results were excellent.

☐ Verdadero ☐ Falso

Falso

She took fifth in the giant slalom, a disappointment. She won the slalom, but by less than a second, which was, by her standards, a narrow margin.

A psychologist helped Shiffrin.

☐ Verdadero ☐ Falso

Falso

Shiffrin had a couple of consultations with a psychologist.

At just sixteen, she became the youngest skier ever to win a U.S. national championship.

☐ Verdadero ☐ Falso

Verdadero

At just sixteen, she became the youngest skier ever to win a U.S. national championship.

When he first saw Shiffrin skiing, the author was impressed by her revolutionary technique.

☐ Verdadero ☐ Falso

Falso

What I saw was a skier who looked flawless and smooth but not revolutionary or enthralling.

Skiing techniques are complex and difficult to analyse.

☐ Verdadero ☐ Falso

Falso

The subtler mechanics of the ski turn are obscure, even to most people who know how to make a good one.

Shiffrin is not a genius, but a hard worker.

☐ Verdadero ☐ Falso

Falso

She's as stark an example of nurture over nature, of work over talent, as anyone in the world of sports.

Here you have the audioscript.



Do it yourself

Match the following expressions from the text with their definitions. Write the number.



Image by Alexander Lindquist in Flickr. CC.



it's a fair bet	<input type="checkbox"/>	01. destroy utterly, wipe out
root for	<input type="checkbox"/>	02. ancestors
underdog	<input type="checkbox"/>	03. territory
stone-cold	<input type="checkbox"/>	04. it's almost sure
home turf	<input type="checkbox"/>	05. support
forebears	<input type="checkbox"/>	06. person that is well known by the public
obliterate	<input type="checkbox"/>	07. perfect
household name	<input type="checkbox"/>	08. completely
flawless	<input type="checkbox"/>	09. a competitor thought to have little chance of winning
on an equal footing	<input type="checkbox"/>	10. from the very beginning
full of it	<input type="checkbox"/>	11. be in a heightened emotional state, such as that of fear, anger, or excitement
from the get-go	<input type="checkbox"/>	12. with the same conditions
freak out	<input type="checkbox"/>	13. talking nonsense

Enviar



FOCUS ON

Learn some vocabulary related to skiing [here](#).



1.1. The Ever-Changing English Language



When talking to my advanced students, I often compare learning a language to swimming against the current: if you stop swimming you go backwards. Learning a language is a life-long pursuit.

In a metaphorical sense, swimming against the current means going against prevailing opinion or thought, as in *I'm voting for him even if that is swimming against the current*. Shakespeare used a similar metaphor in *Henry IV* "You must now speak Sir John Falstaff fair, which swims against your stream." You can also say swim against the stream or tide. The antonym is swim with the tide.

Do it yourself

Working With Words

Match the following "swimming" idioms with their definitions.

swimming with the fish

swim with sharks

make someone's head swim (or spin)

sink or swim

swim in something

in the swim

in the swim

Comprobar

Get Listening

Now take a break from all those idioms and listen to Nightswimming by REM.

R.E.M. - Nightswimming (Official Music Vi...



Video in [Youtube](#)

You can listen again and follow the lyrics [here](#).

Do it yourself

Another reason why we are language learners for life is the fact that language changes as our world changes. Our everyday vocabulary is full of neologisms, expressing ideas that we wouldn't even have understood not long ago. Words like blog, mansplaining, mashup, sexting, bromance, muggle or to google did not exist 20 years ago. All these words entered the language very recently.

Guess if the following words entered the English language in the 60s, 70s or 80s.



Image by Banalities in [Flickr](#). CC.

affirmative action

workaholic

wannabe (noun)

space shuttle

designated driver

downsize

fast food

junk food

bottom line

future shock

quasar

no-show

empty nester

bomb (meaning fail)

all-nighter

couch potato

hardliner

microwave oven

carpool

gridlock

hit list

happy camper

jet lag

Find out the meaning of the words you do not know.

Comprobar

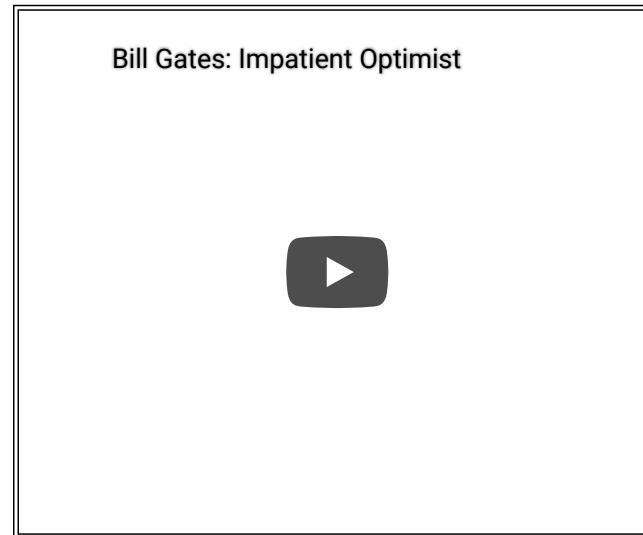
FOCUS ON

The Oxford English Dictionary is updated on a quarterly basis. [Here](#) you can check out updates from March 2000 to the present.

Do it yourself

Get Listening

Matthew Herper, writer of the Forbes Magazine article, talks in the following video about some of the things he learned about Bill Gates and his charitable work. Watch it and answer the questions.



Video in [Youtube](#)

Gates is mainly interested in fighting world hunger.

☐ Verdadero ☐ Falso

Falso

He is interested in vaccines

Gates thinks the number of deaths caused by infectious disease should be reduced significantly.

☐ Verdadero ☐ Falso

Verdadero

Gates gives more than money to his foundation.

☐ Verdadero ☐ Falso

Verdadero

Gates thinks his charitable work and his work at Microsoft are totally different.

☐ Verdadero ☐ Falso

Falso

What he does in charity relates to his previous work

Gates is focused on numbers more than people.

☐ Verdadero ☐ Falso

Falso

He is talking about saving lives

People are not making much money on vaccines currently.

☐ Verdadero ☐ Falso

Falso

They are making money

Gates is innovative in his charitable work.

☐ Verdadero ☐ Falso

Verdadero

Do it yourself

Match the phrases in each column to make complete sentences from the video. Write the number.

You had an unusual	<input type="checkbox"/>	1. clear human need.
We've only	<input type="checkbox"/>	02. around for a dozen years.
It obviously isn't the	<input type="checkbox"/>	03. are stronger than you might expect.
It's been	<input type="checkbox"/>	04. opportunity to meet with Bill Gates.
It's a pretty	<input type="checkbox"/>	05. terms of the way they can save the most lives.
He and Melinda both think in	<input type="checkbox"/>	06. eradicated one disease.
A baby in Africa is worth every	<input type="checkbox"/>	07. on vaccines right now.
Well, really it was as simple	<input type="checkbox"/>	08. bit as much as one in the U.S. or Europe.
The similarities	<input type="checkbox"/>	09. first time readers have read about Bill Gates.

Fortunately, people are making money



10. as creating a market.

Enviar

Top tips

Truly generous people are often successful in life. Not just at work or in the community, but in their personal lives as well. One striking find in a research report was the beneficence of Nobel laureates. In general, when a scientific paper is published, the author who did the most is listed first. There are exceptions to this, and this can vary from field to field. But Nobel laureates are first authors of numerous publications early in their careers, but quickly begin to give their junior colleagues first authorship. And this happens far before they receive the Nobel Prize... By their forties, Nobel laureates are first authors on only 26 percent of their papers, as compared to their less accomplished contemporaries, who are first authors 56 percent of the time. Nicer people are indeed more creative, more successful, and even more likely to win Nobel prizes.

Source: <http://time.com/18659/the-five-paths-to-being-the-best-at-anything/>



Image by Enokson in [Flickr](#). CC.

2.1. Formal vs Informal

Language Mechanics

We use formal and informal language in different situations. The choice of words, grammar and tone differ greatly between formal and informal language.

When do we use Formal Language?

We mostly use formal language when writing. Think of academic articles, business emails or reports, but we also use formal language when giving lectures or presentations, or in a job interview. In these situations the language and tone is less personal, we do not use casual language or colloquialisms.

When do we use Informal Language?

Informal language is mostly used while talking as it is more impulsive and casual, think of everyday conversations with your family and friends. Informal language is not just used when we are talking however, we can also use informal language when we are writing such as writing a postcard to a family member or sending a text message to a friend. In these situations we use casual, colloquial language and our tone is a lot more personal.

How does the tone differ?

The tone we use with formal language is a lot more rigid and less relaxed or friendly. Whereas the tone we use with informal language is more personal and relatable.

How does the grammar differ?

We don't use contractions in formal language.

Formal language doesn't use the first person pronouns.

Informal: *I planned many different outcomes for the company.*

Formal: *Many different outcomes were planned for the company.*

Informal: *We feel that the target is unrealistic.*

Formal: *It is felt that the target is unrealistic.*

Relative clauses must have the relative pronoun whom when using formal language

Informal: *The secretary I talked to yesterday was very rude.*

Formal: *The secretary whom I talked to yesterday was very rude.*

How does the vocabulary differ?

Informal: show, start, free, let, find out, go against, go up, go down, keep...

Formal: demonstrate, commence, release, permit, discover, dispute, increase, decrease, retain...



Image by OIST in [Flickr](#). CC.

Focus on

One of the areas in which your writing and speaking will be assessed is your ability to write or speak for a specific purpose, choosing language that's appropriate for the particular reader or audience. This writing activity practises the appropriate register. Choose whether the phrase is used in formal or informal writing.

Formal and informal writing

Try these exercises to see how well you can use formal and informal language.

[Exercises formal vs informal language I](#)

[Exercises formal vs informal language II](#)

Exercises formal vs informal language II

Change informal into formal

Change formal into informal



3. Experiment and Innovate

Get Reading

William Shakespeare is one of the most famous British poets and writers. He had quite turbulent and dynamic professional life and all those conditions did influence the quality and trajectory of his work.

He was born in Stratford upon Avon in 1564. His father sold gloves and became an important person in the town. William, one of eight children, was the eldest son and was probably educated at the local grammar school. He married when he was only 18 and his wife, Anne Hathaway, was eight years older than him. They had two girls and a boy (who died aged 11).

Nobody knows how Shakespeare began to write or when he entered the theatre, but we know that he became a leading member of the theatre troupe known as 'The Lord Chamberlain's Men'. The company proved very popular and later, when King James I granted them the right to perform at his court, the troupe became known as 'The King's Men'. Shakespeare wrote over 30 plays for 'The King's Men', making it the most important theatre company in the country, and he often wrote parts for particular actors. He was very successful and wealthy in his time, and his work has remained very popular ever since.

His early plays were written in the traditional style for that time –nevertheless he is also very well known for the innovative moments in his writings. Sometimes he would adapt the traditional style to his own needs, using metaphors and rhetorical phrases that didn't always naturally follow the story plot. He didn't fear using new words in front of the audience like 'captious', 'intenable', 'multitudinous' and 'incarnadine' which quickly found their place in the English vocabulary. He didn't stride from experimentation and innovation. In order to survive in the world we need to be brave, try new things and take risks.

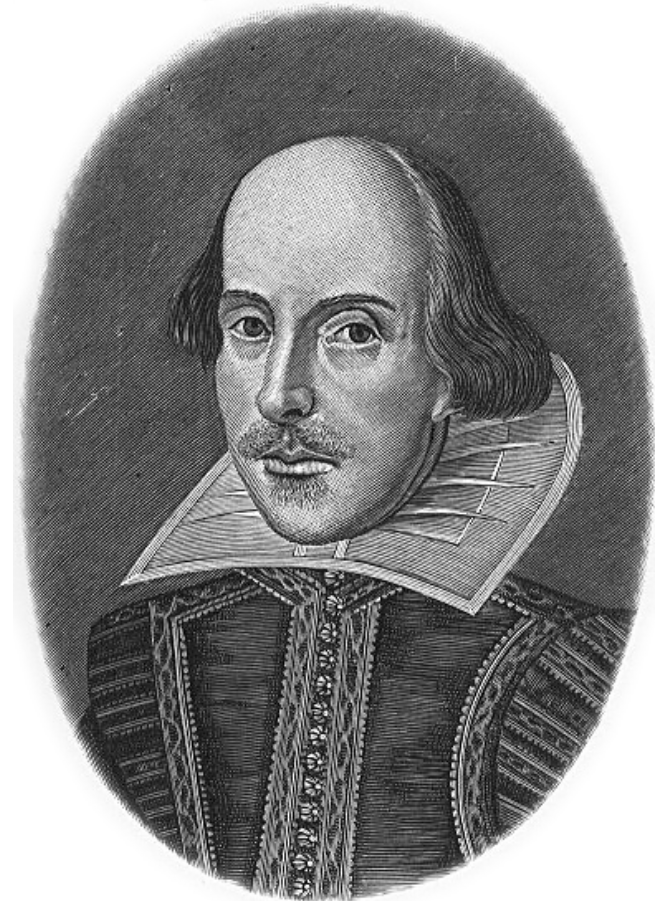


Image by Unknown Author in [Wikimedia](#). [Public Domain](#).

Do it yourself

Match Shakespeare quotations with the play they come from. Write the number.

To be, or not to be: that is the question.	<input type="checkbox"/>	01. The Merchant of Venice
Men at some time are masters of their fates: The fault, dear Brutus, is not in our stars, But in ourselves, that we are underlings.	<input type="checkbox"/>	02. A Midsummer Night's Dream
...be not afraid of greatness. Some are born great, some achieve greatness, and some have greatness thrust	<input type="checkbox"/>	03. Twelfth Night

upon 'em.	<input type="checkbox"/>	03. Twelfth Night
Life's but a walking shadow, a poor player That struts and frets his hour upon the stage, And then is heard no more. It is a tale Told by an idiot, full of sound and fury, Signifying nothing.	<input type="checkbox"/>	04. Hamlet
Now is the winter of our discontent	<input type="checkbox"/>	05. Romeo and Juliet
If you prick us, do we not bleed? if you tickle us, do we not laugh? if you poison us, do we not die? and if you wrong us, shall we not revenge?	<input type="checkbox"/>	06. Richard III
The course of true love never did run smooth.	<input type="checkbox"/>	07. As you like it
If music be the food of love, play on.	<input type="checkbox"/>	08. Julius Ceasar
All the world 's a stage, and all the men and women merely players. They have their exits and their entrances; And one man in his time plays many parts.	<input type="checkbox"/>	09. Macbeth
What's in a name? That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet	<input type="checkbox"/>	10. Twelfth Night

Enviar

Macbeth is one of Shakespeare's best-known plays. There are all sorts of reasons for this but perhaps the main one is that the basic story still strikes a chord with modern audiences. It is a bloodthirsty tale of ambition, and the evils we will go to in order to get what we want. We follow the central character, Macbeth, as he plots and kills in order to become king. And as soon as he is crowned, we watch as his world falls apart around him.

The play is considered very unlucky - actors shouldn't even say the word 'Macbeth' if they aren't on the stage performing it. So that's why people talk about 'The Scottish play', or 'The Comedy of Glamis', or even just 'The Play'. In fact, anything but *Macbeth* (luckily, it's okay to write it). One reason for keeping quiet is that some people thought Shakespeare didn't just include witches as characters in his play, he actually wrote real magic spells in some of the lines. Because of this, the play was cursed - legend has it that an actor died on the opening night, and lots of others have died since.

The play opens as three witches plan a meeting with the Scottish nobleman Macbeth, who at that moment is fighting in a great battle. When the battle is over, Macbeth and his friend Banquo come across the witches who offer them three predictions: that Macbeth will become Thane of Cawdor and King of Scotland, and that Banquo's descendants will become kings.

Banquo laughs at the prophecies but Macbeth is excited, especially as soon after their meeting with the witches Macbeth is made Thane of Cawdor by King Duncan, in return for his bravery in the battle. He writes to his wife, Lady Macbeth, who is as excited as he is. A messenger tells Lady Macbeth that King Duncan is on his way to their castle and she invokes evil spirits to help her slay him. Macbeth is talked into killing Duncan by his wife and stabs him to death. No-one is quite sure who committed this murder and no-one feels safe, but Macbeth is crowned king.

Now that Macbeth is king he knows the second prediction from the witches has come true, but he starts to fear the third prediction (that Banquo's descendants will also be kings). Macbeth therefore decides to kill Banquo and his son, but the plan goes wrong - Banquo is killed but his son escapes. Macbeth then thinks he is going mad because he sees Banquo's ghost and receives more predictions from the witches. He starts to become ruthless and kills the family of Macduff, an important lord. Macbeth still thinks he is safe but one by one the witches' prophecies come true, Lady Macbeth cannot stop thinking about Duncan, becomes deranged and dies. A large army marches on Macbeth's castle and Macbeth is killed by Macduff.

Adapted from: http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/english_literature/dramamacbeth/1drama_macbeth_plotrev1.shtml

Macbeth Summary video



Video by Dyanne Pennekamp on [youtube](#)

Do it yourself

Test your knowledge of the play by choosing the correct answer from the three choices for each question. Some answers you may get from the summary above and some from the video.

At the beginning of the play, three witches meet on a heath to cause trouble. The first witch chants: "When shall we three meet again? In thunder, lightning or..."

- ☐ ...in pain'
- ☐ ...in rain'
- ☐ ...insane'

Incorrecto

Opción correcta

Incorrecto

Solución

1. Incorrecto
2. Opción correcta
3. Incorrecto

After the battle, Macbeth and Banquo come across the three witches. They predict that:

- ☐ Macbeth will be Thane of Cawdor and King of Scotland, and Banquo's sons will be kings.
- ☐ Banquo will be Thane of Cawdor and Macbeth will be King of Scotland.
- ☐ Macbeth and Banquo's sons will be thanes and kings.



Opción correcta

Incorrecto

Incorrecto

Solución

1. Opción correcta
2. Incorrecto
3. Incorrecto

The quickest way for Macbeth to become king is to murder King Duncan...

- ☐ and Macbeth is really up for it.
- ☐ but Macbeth almost chickens out and Lady Macbeth has to bully him into it.
- ☐ but Macbeth is too noble to do such a terrible thing.

Incorrecto

Opción correcta

Incorrecto

Solución

1. Incorrecto
2. Opción correcta
3. Incorrecto

Why is Banquo murdered?

- ☐ He has an affair with Lady Macbeth.
- ☐ He suspects Macbeth is Duncan's murderer.
- ☐ The witches' predictions about Banquo's sons make Macbeth paranoid.

Incorrecto

Incorrecto

Opción correcta

Solución

1. Incorrecto
2. Incorrecto
3. Opción correcta

Lady Macbeth becomes ill and starts trying to scrub her hands in her sleep. Why?

- ☐ She has Obsessive Compulsive Disorder.



Image by Unknown Author in [Wikimedia](#). Public Domain.

- ☐ Castles were dirty places in those days.
- ☐ She dreams that her hands are covered in blood.

Incorrecto

Incorrecto

Opción correcta

Solución

1. Incorrecto
2. Incorrecto
3. Opción correcta

The witches tell Macbeth not to worry because he won't be in danger until Birnam Wood moves to Dunsinane castle. What happens?

- ☐ Malcom's army cover themselves in leaves for camouflage.
- ☐ The wind blows the leaves up the hill to the castle.
- ☐ Macbeth stays safe. Trees can't move.

Opción correcta

Incorrecto

Incorrecto

Solución

1. Opción correcta
2. Incorrecto
3. Incorrecto

The witches tell Macbeth that his life is charmed; he cannot be killed by any man "of woman born". So how does Macduff manage to kill him?

- ☐ Macduff was a test-tube baby.
- ☐ Macduff was found under a cabbage patch.
- ☐ Macduff was born by caesarean section.

Incorrecto

Incorrecto

Opción correcta

Solución

1. Incorrecto
2. Incorrecto
3. Opción correcta



Mediation

Image by Leandrosciola in [Openclipart](#). [Share](#)

You have a class assignment with a classmate. You and your partner have to give a 5-minute presentation on Shakespeare and one of his works. Your classmate doesn't know much about Shakespeare and they don't like to read. Choose the information you want to give about Shakespeare, choose the work that you want to speak about, prepare a brief summary, so your classmate knows enough to be able to give the presentation with you.

3.1. Nothing like the Sun

Properly Speaking

Intonation is the rise and fall of pitch in a phrase or sentence. Each person will unconsciously copy the speech patterns of his native language or dialect, starting from the time he first begins to talk. In the British Isles there are many variations of intonation in all areas of regional speech. Compare, for example, someone who comes from Liverpool with someone born in Birmingham. Different languages will have their own patterns of intonation, which in most cases will be very different from Received Pronunciation (RP).

As well as practising the various speech patterns, we recommend that you also pay attention to the intonation and copy it. The most successful way to achieve native-like intonation is to listen to audiobooks, tv programmes, radio..., copying and repeating small sections at a time. You have to absorb the tunes and rise and fall of the language.

Inflection refers to the gentle rise and fall of the voice in a word or syllable. On listening to English speakers it is important to have what we call a "good ear". In other words, to be able to hear the differences in the rise and fall of the voice. There are six basic inflections, but within these there are many varieties.

Compare Alan Rickman's and Daniel Radcliffe's reciting of Shakespeare's immortal Sonnet 130, the one that starts "My mistress' eyes are nothing like the sun"?



vs



And here is Benedict Cumberbatch reading "The Seven Ages of Man" speech from *As You Like It*, which contains some wonderful descriptive moments, ripe for reuse, including "mewling and puking" and "the lean and slippered pantaloon":

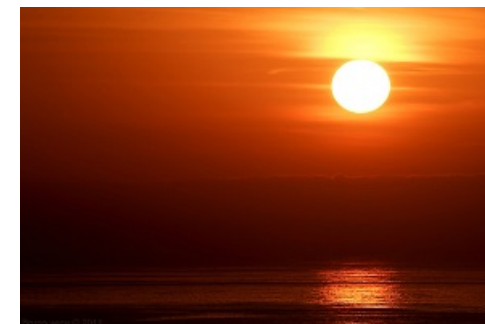


Image by BrunoAmaru in Flickr. CC.

FOCUS ON



Image by Coelacanth0624 in Wikimedia Commons. CC.

A 1960 painting by Edward Hopper is called *Second Story Sunlight*. Click [here](#) to see it. Now write a short story about it.

Remember that you can:

- write about the whole painting or one of its details;
- write about the theme or the technique of the painter;
- write about the painting factually or the feelings it evokes;
- write about what you see or what one of the characters in the painting sees;
- ask yourself questions about what is outside the frame: what is unsaid or mysterious about the painting.

For tips on how to describe a painting click [here](#).

To learn more about Edward Hopper [here](#).

Top tips

A frequent listening activity is a gap fill or a complete the phrase exercise.

Listen to Dr. Beth Harris & Dr. Steven Zucker describe Hopper's painting *Nighthawks*.

Hopper, Nighthawks



Video in [Youtube](#)

Moving on

Complete these sentences using NO MORE THAN FOUR words.

After attempting the exercise, go to the Youtube video and click on **script** to listen and read along.

1. Beth says she can hear _____ on the sidewalk.

Answer

her own footsteps

2. This painting depicts _____.

Answer

wartime alienation

3. One thing that implies that alienation is that there _____.

Answer

is no door

4. This work is similar to a prism which _____ the silence and the sense of light.

Answer

amplifies and intensifies

5. The pulled blinds make us imagine the _____.

Answer

inhabitants may be asleep

6. There is no clear narrative regarding the role _____ who have come into the diner.

Answer

of the people

7. The height of WWII was a time of _____.

Answer

great fear and anxiety

7. Hopper's rendering of _____ was typically American.

Answer

new urban spaces

8. The composition is full of _____.

Answer

geometric shapes

9. Despite the painting's emptiness, Hopper _____ to place the observer in an American place and time.

Answer

has left clues

10. Hopper cleverly places with _____ and _____ to allow us to know we have been there, but it could be anywhere.

Answer

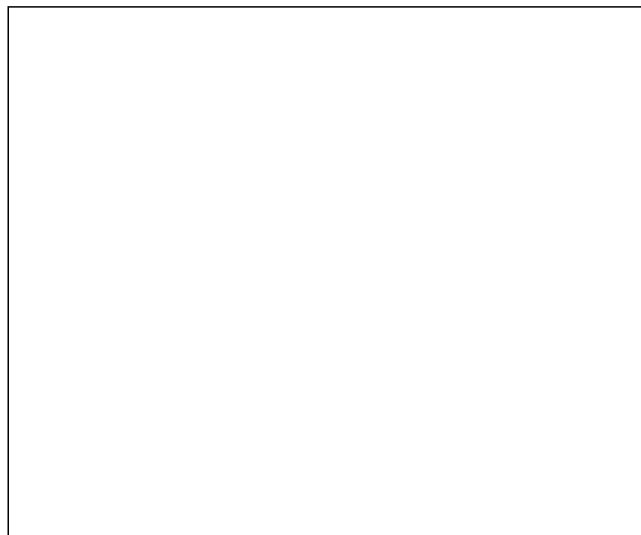
generalization and specificity

3.2. The Sunscreen Song

Get Listening

The Sunscreen Song is a piece of advice for you from the authors of this course.

Wear Sunscreen is an essay written as a hypothetical commencement speech by columnist Mary Schmich, originally published in June 1997 in the Chicago Tribune. It gives various pieces of advice on how to live a happier life and avoid common frustrations. The essay became the basis for a successful spoken word song released in 1999 by Baz Luhrmann.



Here are the [complete lyrics](#).

Do it yourself

Get Reading

Twenty years after Schmich first wrote *Wear Sunscreen*, she told *The Telegraph* its story. Match the questions with the answers. Write the number.

01. Before it went viral, did you have any unusual reaction to the column when it ran in print?
02. How did it start to gain traction?
03. Where did the idea come from?
04. Did you think, when you filed it, that it was a particularly resonant piece of writing?
05. Do you stick by the advice in it?
06. But your words comprise a hit song.
07. Was that advice things you wish you'd known, or advice you'd already given?
08. It reads very differently when you know that it was written by a woman. Were you speaking to a younger self?
09. How long did it take to go viral?

09. How long did it take to go viral?

10. So how did it get on the air?

11. How did Baz Luhrmann get in touch?

12. Would you mind being known for Wear Sunscreen?

13. Is there any that you'd add in?

14. And did Luhrmann pay you?

☐ . It was a Friday, I was on my third column of the week and I was out of ideas. But I was walking to work along Lake Michigan and I saw this young woman out sunbathing. And I just thought, "I hope she's wearing sunscreen". I kept walking and I thought, it's graduation time, I could write a mock-graduation speech for my column. I was 43 then, an age where I thought I had all this advice I would like to administer to young people. So I sat down and I wrote what I would tell 18 to 24-year-olds.

☐ . Where does the stuff you write come from? I have no idea. Looking back I have a whole mythology about how that column happened. I was just channelling something, whatever came to my head. It really was not super carefully considered, that was written in four hours.

☐ . There was no such thing as online publishing at the time. Email was relatively new, I know this is hard to imagine, but there were some people who didn't have email and the people who did were excited by it still. So this thing started going around in the early internet. It was one of the first viral things, people just started emailing it to each-other. It went viral by email, mostly.

☐ . It was about a month after I wrote it. All of a sudden, in the course of about two days, it exploded. I don't know at what point it got into the ether, but it was later in that summer I got several emails one Friday morning from people saying: "I just got this email, a graduation speech, which says it's by Kurt Vonnegut but I remember reading it your column. What's going on?"

☐ . I did get a lot of snail mail, and a little bit of email, about it. I got a lot of response to it, there were people who liked it and I thought that was nice, then moved on.

☐ . When I filed it I had some feeling for it. It's not that I thought, "That is the world's best column", but I had some feeling for it. It made me feel something.

☐ . Maybe, I don't know. With writing, you sit down and it comes. You can overthink it later, but when you're doing it, when it's working, it's just happening. People have said to me, "I knew that wasn't Vonnegut the minute I read the line, 'You are not as fat as you imagine'. That is something a woman would write". And I said, "You're absolutely right".

☐ . One of the people who got it in his emails was a young man named Anton who was working with Baz. He took it to Baz, and they were in the process of putting together a CD of music that had been used in various movies. You've got to remember that Baz wasn't known to many people outside of Australia. I happen to know he was because I'd seen Strictly Ballroom, but almost nobody I knew had heard of him. So I get this voicemail from a man with an Australian accent, and it's Baz, saying, "I have an idea for the material". He's explaining that he thought it was Vonnegut and they'd tried to get in touch with him, and then they discovered it was me. He had an idea of taking those words and putting them over some music that he had used in William Shakespeare's Romeo + Juliet. I've heard him say that he was just planning to use it as hold music for their office phone line.

☐ . When Baz made it, it was seven minutes long. You can't run anything in the US radio market that's seven minutes long. But it became a big hit in Australia very quickly. And I thought, "That's cool, big hit in Australia". Then there were a couple of radio stations in the US, one in Santa Monica, California, that were playing the seven-minute version, because they played alt music. Another was in Portland, Oregon, and they stripped out the two minutes of musical interlude and they had a five-minute spoken word piece. They started playing it, and it became a huge hit in Portland. What changed everything was when a freelance writer in Portland did a little blurb for the New York Times Magazine about this cult hit in Portland. Then the whole thing took off. The following day, my phone started exploding with radio DJs and reporters wanting to interview me about it. Somehow my home phone number got on some list so every DJ in America had my number and was calling to get me on live.

☐ . Well, technically the words belong to The Chicago Tribune. But Baz was very generous with me. Once it became clear what was happening, that this song was going to sell, he was quite generous with me. I have no complaints. I get royalties, although it doesn't make me a rich woman, I'd like to point that out. I'm a hard-working, average journalist! But yes, in its heyday, I got a significant payment, and to this day I still get a little bit. But it was never calculated, I never tried to write a hit song.

☐ . That's the lesson in it, about writing. Especially for journalists. We come in and we do it, day after day, and you're never sure what's penetrating. And it's work, even if you like it, it's work. But if you just do it, and do it, and do it, and do it, every now and then, when you least expect it, something pop outs into the universe and resonates in a bigger way than you ever anticipated.

☐ . No, I'm very fond of it. I like the idea that it seems to have meant a lot to many people. I've written so much in my life, I've been a journalist for 37 years. To have even one thing that endures is very gratifying.



Image by Tom Newby in Flickr. CC.

☐ . I do, although the world has changed. I look at it sometimes and it seems a little dated. "Throw away your old bank statements"? Nobody has bank statements anymore! Nobody even has love letters anymore! Keep your love emails.

☐ . Oh, people ask me that sometimes. I'm sure there are, but most of them would probably be things that my mother used to say: "It will always look better in the morning", and "there's more than one way to live". To me, the whole little piece comes down to that idea, that there's more than one way to live.

Adapted from: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/music/artists/wrote-four-hours-woman-responsible-wisdom-baz-luhrmanns-wear/>

Enviar

Do it yourself

What is the meaning of the phrase "All's well that ends well"?

Mostrar retroalimentación

John Heywood included it in *A dialogue conteinyng the nomber in effect of all the prouerbes in the Englishe tongue*, 1546:

Lovers live by love, ye as larkes live by leekes
Saied this Ales, muche more then halfe in mockage.
Tushe (quoth mine aunte) these lovers in dotage
Thinke the ground beare them not, but wed of corage
They must in all haste, though a leafe of borage
Might by all the substance that they can fell.
Well aunt (quoth Ales) all is well that endes well.

Shakespeare was well acquainted with Heywood's work and wrote *All's Well That Ends Well* in 1601. It is not only as the title of the play, but line appears in the text too.

HELENA:

Yet, I pray you:
But with the word the time will bring on summer,
When briers shall have leaves as well as thorns,
And be as sweet as sharp. We must away;
Our wagon is prepared, and time revives us:
All's well that ends well; still the fine's the crown;
Whate'er the course, the end is the renown.

Source: <https://www.phrases.org.uk/meanings/29800.html>

Set in France and Italy, Shakespeare's *All's Well That Ends Well* is a story of one-sided romance, based on a tale from Boccaccio's The Decameron.

Helen, the orphaned daughter of a doctor, is under the protection of the widowed Countess of Rossillion.

In love with Bertram, the countess' son, Helen follows him to court, where she cures the sick French king of an apparently fatal illness.

The king rewards Helen by offering her the husband of her choice. She names Bertram; he resists.

When forced by the king to marry her, he refuses to sleep with her and, accompanied by the braggart Parolles, leaves for the Italian wars.

He says that he will only accept Helen if she obtains a ring from his finger and becomes pregnant with his child.

She goes to Italy disguised as a pilgrim and suggests a 'bed trick' whereby she will take the place of Diana, a widow's daughter whom Bertram is trying to seduce.

A 'kidnapping trick' humiliates the boastful Parolles, whilst the bed trick enables Helen to fulfil Bertram's conditions, leaving him no option but to marry her, to his mother's delight.

Trailer | All's Well That Ends Well | Royal S...



Video by Royal Shakespeare Company on [Youtube](#)

Focus on

Get Talking

If you were to tell us about the Titanic, would you include every detail? No, you wouldn't you would summarize it and highlight the points you found most interesting.

Click on [EC English](#) to see how they recommend you talk about movies.

Then, choose a film or TV series you like and talk about it for 3 - 5 minutes. Remember to follow: introduction, body and conclusion.

I stand corrected

Imagine a friend got the facts of the movie all wrong. How would you "politely" tell them to check their data?

Watch the video, then check out the basic expressions below.



Video by Learn English with Let's Talk - Free English Lessons on [Youtube](#)

Some rules of the thumb to correct people politely

Fairly polite:

I'm afraid that's not quite right.

Less polite and stronger:

I'm afraid you're mistaken.

I don't think you're right.

Blunt and very strong:

No, you've got that wrong.

If you check your facts, you'll find...

Rude: only to be used with close friends and family:

Rubbish!

You're talking rubbish.

That is a load of crap.

Insulting:

Where did you hear that?

Too harsh:

No, that's all wrong.

Common sense rules:

- Try to correct people in private, particularly in a working environment.
- Be gentle with your corrections so you do not offend the person you are correcting.
- Try to give an explanation of why a person is mistaken, so they do not make the same mistake again.
- Before correcting, think to yourself if the correction will really benefit the person you have corrected.

Get Talking

With a partner, think of situations where you could use the expressions above.

Share your situations with the rest of the group.

Were they similar, or completely different?

Great! You made it to the preparing for the test section!



Image by C Medina created in paint

Below you will find exam tips from different organizations and/or examining bodies. The exams may not be exactly the same as the one you are going to face, but the general advice will always come in handy. We don't want to obsess with the exam, but we do want you to be prepared. Go through the websites at your leisure and make a note of and practice what you think can help you.

1. Remember to read the exam guide that will be provided before the exam.
2. Read the instructions for each skill carefully.
3. **Write** the correct number of words. No more and no less! Remember the absolute basics if you are not good at writing:
 - good handwriting
 - watch your spelling, if you are not sure, use a synonym
 - divide your paragraphs: introduction, body and conclusion (3 at the very least)
4. **Speak** slowly. Don't rush through your presentation!
 - Be organized. Again: introduction, body and conclusion.
 - In your prep time, jot ideas down, but do not read from the paper.
 - In the interaction, don't hog the time! Turn taking is important. Remember how to take the floor and how to give it.

In both cases, remember to introduce more complex C1 language: inversion, type 3 conditionals or mixed conditionals, phrases, idioms and phrasal verbs.

[Compilation of Presentation Language](#)

[Compilation of Language for Interaction](#)

Reading

<https://www.caeexamtips.com/reading/#readingparts1and2>

Listening

<https://www.caeexamtips.com/listening/#listening1>

Writing.

<http://writingeo.blogspot.ae/p/preparando-el-w.html>

<http://www.historytoday.com/elliott-richman/how-write-essay-under-exam-conditions>

<http://www.cambridgeenglish.org/images/286979-improve-your-english-checklist-c1.pdf>

Speaking:

<http://www.cambridgeenglish.org/images/153276-what-to-expect-from-a-speaking-test.pdf>

<https://davidbradshawenglish.org/2013/05/27/speaking-exams-what-to-do-and-what-to-avoid/>

Vocabulary

Click on [Oxford](#) to access glossaries by topic.

Grammar

Click [here](#) for a link to an Advanced Grammar book.

Lots of exams to do:

<https://sites.google.com/site/eoivillaverde/modelos-examen-otras-comunidades>

<http://englishtests.ucoz.com/index/0-31>

Have fun practicing!

Image by CMedina in [CoolText](#)



Image by Anonymous in [Openclipart](#). *Public Domain*.

We established a number of expected results at the beginning of this final lesson. Click [here](#) and download the outcomes list. In the blank columns, fill in your trouble areas or areas you need to work on. Pay special attention to

- Vocabulary: Skiing; neologisms; idioms.
- Grammar: Formal vs Informal register.
- Pronunciation: Intonation and Inflection practice.
- Functions: Clarifying, rectifying, repeating, reformulating and summarising.
- Culture: Shakespeare; Edward Hopper.

Review all of your outcomes pages to focus on your weaknesses as you prepare for your exam. Good luck!



Junta de Andalucía

Contenidos y recursos educativos de Andalucía



(<http://www.juntadeandalucia.es/educacion/permanente>)

(<http://www.juntadeandalucia.es/index.html>)

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