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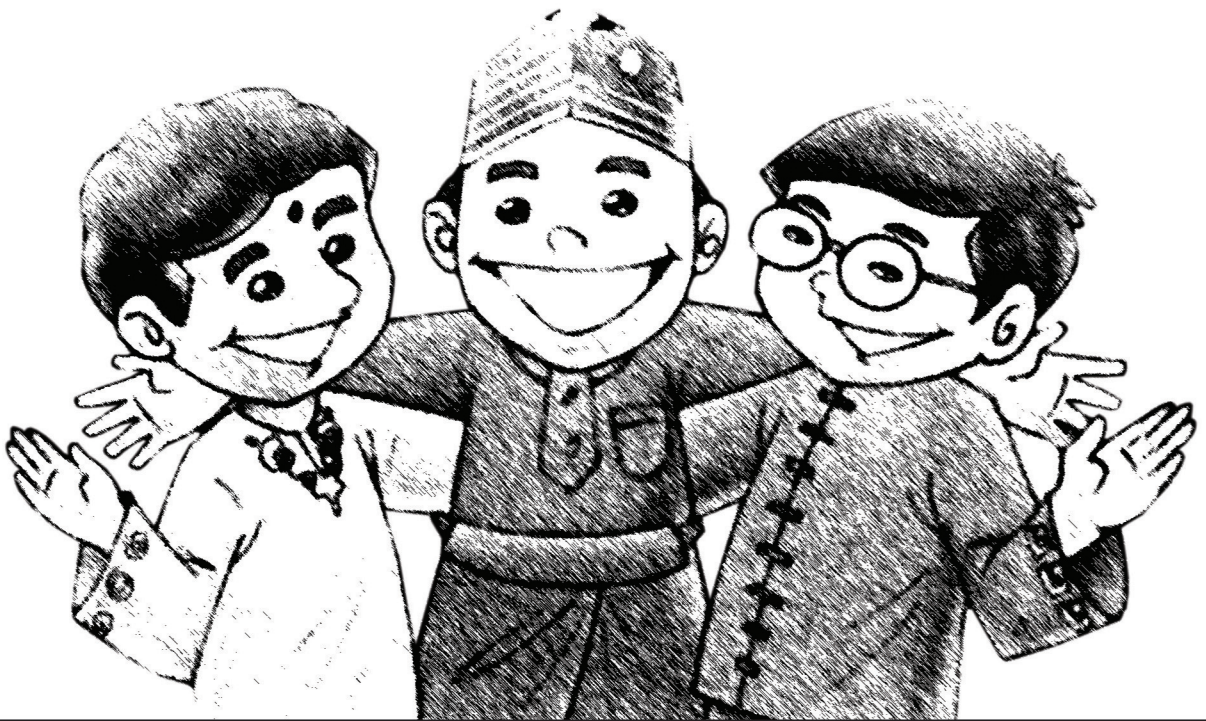
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LET'S TALK

basic talk



Noraien Mansor

LET'S TALK

basic talk

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INTRODUCTION



How do we acquire language? Language can be acquired in a formal way or in an informal way. Some may learn English through reading, grammar and writing. That is the formal way. In an informal way, they prefer to learn a language by listening to the spoken language

and trying to reproduce it in the spoken form. In my lesson, we will learn English through listening and speaking to certain expressions in various contexts. By the end of the lesson, it is hoped that you will be familiar with various social expressions in English to be practiced in your real life.

You have to remember that, having good communication skills in English language is imperative for your success in your career, business and everyday life. Why do you think that our students and workers are still weak in communication skills especially in English language? Well, first of all, they are afraid to speak in English language as they might make mistakes for example: grammatical errors, wrong pronunciation of words, incorrect sentence structure and most importantly, they are not interested at all to learn or to communicate in English language.

Then, how can we improve our English language communication skills? Remember, great communication skills take practice and "Practice makes perfect". Your ability to express yourself will grow almost daily as long as you apply yourself in improving English language communication skills.

Tips to Improve English Language Communication Skills

1. Chatting is a good way to practice informal English as chatters usually use short sentences. Sometimes they are not even sentences, but just a few words that are not really correct grammatically but may be typical of the way we speak in a quick conversation with friends. Now we have quite a number of internet-based applications for interactions such as Facebook, Twitter, Blogger, Myspace etc. So try to participate in those applications. But always remember to use a proper language with correct spelling and correct sentence structure.

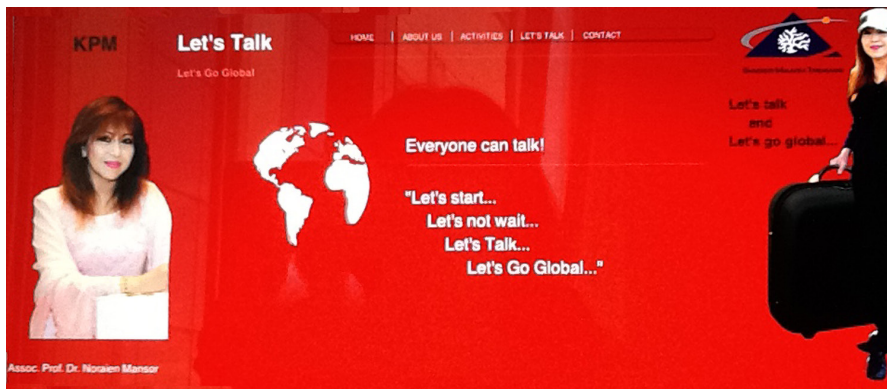


Facebook communication

2. Read as much in English as possible – daily English newspapers, magazines, English textbooks, advertisements, story books, comics, jokes, poems, articles from the Internet, blogs etc. and try to learn new words in it.




Reading materials



English education website
<http://letstalkletsglobal.umt.edu.my/>

3. Learn at least 3-5 new words daily or weekly and look up for the meaning in a dictionary. Then try to use these words in your daily work and in your communication.



My Vocabulary

"treat"

**1 - BEHAVE TOWARDS
SOMEBODY/SOMETHING**

Examples:

- She treats me like one of the family.
- Daniel treated his car almost as tenderly as he did his wife.

2 - DEAL WITH SOMETHING

Examples:

- Please treat this information as completely confidential.
- Maya treats everything I say as a joke.

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4. Attend English speaking classes as frequent as possible or if you are really a shy person, then you may employ a personal tutor.
5. Make more English speaking friends and make a determined effort to speak only in English, even if you keep forgetting words, or tend to stammer or your friends tend to laugh at you. This will require a lot of will power but believe me you will soon improve.

6. Listen to English songs everyday.
7. Read aloud in English for 15 - 20 minutes. Research has shown it takes about 3 months of daily practice to develop strong mouth muscles for speaking a new language.
8. Sing karaoke in English.
9. Play English language learning games.



10. Watch English language news, TV programmes and films with English subtitles.
11. Prepare a vocabulary list and go through it several times everyday.
12. Keep a diary in English and try to write everyday what you have done or what you are going to do.
13. Do your grammar exercises everyday as practice makes perfect.
14. Use an English-English dictionary.
15. Listen to English programmes on air such as “Let’s Talk” on TerengganuFM.
16. Be confident – give yourself auto suggestions that you have a good English.
17. Start a blog in English as this is one way for you to practice your writing. You can blog on something that you like to do so. Write everyday.

18. Learn new phrases, idioms or proverbs a day and try to use it in your daily life. When you come across a saying that you like, write it down and its meaning in your notebook.

 <h3>My Idioms</h3> <p>"United we stand, divided we fall"</p> <p>Definition: People who join together as a group are much harder to defeat than they would be separately.</p> <p>Example: Coach Mustaffa said to his football team, "If we want to win this game, we have to work as a team. United we stand, divided we fall!"</p>	 <h3>My Lyrics</h3> <p>Coming back into you once I figured it out</p> <p>You were right here all along</p> <p>It's like you're my mirror</p> <p>My mirror staring back at me</p> <p>I couldn't get any bigger</p> <p>With anyone else beside of me</p> <p>And now it's clear as this promise</p> <p>That we're making two reflections into one</p> <p>'Cause it's like you're my mirror</p> <p>My mirror staring back at me, staring back at me</p>
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19. Speak English as much as you can – speak the language whenever or wherever you can.
20. Write a sentence a day or a paragraph a day on anything that you would like to write, for example expressing your feelings.
21. Practice! Practice! and Practice! Start using English today and Let's Talk!



- Let's talk about "I LOVE MALAYSIA".
- Tell your friends why you love your country, Malaysia.
- How do you show your love towards your country, MALAYSIA?
- Why do we need to love our country, Malaysia?



Assoc. Prof. Dr. Noraïen Mansor is currently the Director of Penerbit UMT, Universiti Malaysia Terengganu (UMT). She holds a Certificate of Education in TESOL, Bachelor of Education in TESL and a Masters Degree in Educational Technology from Universiti Putra Malaysia. She managed to attain her Doctor of Philosophy from University of Nottingham in Applied Linguistics at the School of English Studies within the duration of two years and five months.

Owing to her keen interest in language teaching and learning, and her wide experience in teaching the English language courses, she was tasked to create various English language activities as part of the Knowledge Transfer Programme with the community. She inspired a programme entitled “Let’s Talk and Let’s Go Global” an expansion of her initial programme “Let’s Talk” with TerengganuFM. These programmes demand her to propose varieties of activities to enhance students English language communication skills. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Noraïen has attended various in-service academic courses and professional training as well as conferences, workshops/seminars at national and international level to enhance her knowledge in language teaching and learning. She has been involved in numerous administrative duties and other responsibilities at the university, national and international level.

Although she is very busy with administrative task and career advance responsibilities, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Noraïen has completed various research activities manily focusing on Teaching English as a Second Language and managed to publish more than 100 publications including refereed journal papers, books, monographs, teaching modules, proceeding papers, technical reports and articles in magazines. Currently she is the Managing Editor of Journal of Sustainability Science and Management (JSSM) and Journal of Business and Social Development (JBSD) as well as Chief Editor for INFOKUS magazine of UMT. Apart from academic research, she is also committed in training postgraduate students for Ph.D and Masters degree.

Currently, she is responsible for the development of publication matters at UMT apart from teaching English language courses and participating in seminars at national and international level. Though it’s a tough row to hoe in a diversified world of education and administration, she tries to cruise along with her motto “Love your work and explore the world”.



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