

Learning English with Internet Resources

A. General

British Council: Practice the 4 skills, grammar, vocabulary, and Business English online using these high-quality resources.

<http://www.britishcouncil.org/learnenglish-central-word-games-archive.htm>

BBC Learning English: Skills, grammar, vocabulary, business English, general English and IELTS

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/index.shtml>

Dialang: a placement test that tests reading, writing, listening, structures (grammar), and vocabulary separately. It adjusts itself to your level after taking the general placement test and includes feedback at the end to help you know what mistakes you made. It takes a good half hour per test, but it is worth it!

<https://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/596232.html>

B. Reference Works

Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary with exercises & new words. It has fewer words than Merriam-Webster but gives more information about how to use each word, including pronunciation and example sentences.

<http://oald8.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com/>

Linguee: German/English and English/German dictionaries (never use LEO again)

<http://www.linguee.de/>

Merriam-Webster: An online: English/English dictionary, thesaurus (a synonym dictionary), and word of the day.

<https://www.merriam-webster.com/>

Oxford Dictionary of Collocations. It is a dictionary that extracts common word combinations from the British National Corpus. It will help you to make your English sound more natural.

<https://www.freecollocation.com/>

Ozdic Dictionary of Collocations. This is the collocation dictionary also shows B2-users of English common word combinations, but the entries are easier to read and contain less information than the Oxford Dictionary of Collocations.

<http://www.ozdic.com/>

Sketch Engine is a state-of-the-art cloud tool for building, managing and exploring large text collections in dozens of languages. It helps with synonyms as well as provides numerous examples in context. These examples are more reliable than Linguee, but Sketch Engine doesn't have the translation function that Linguee does.

<https://skell.sketchengine.co.uk/run.cgi/skell>

Visual dictionary: If you don't know what something is called in any language, then the visual dictionary may help. For example, objects in the sciences or plants and animals.

<http://www.visualdictionaryonline.com/index.php>

C. Writing & Grammar

Academic Phrase Bank:

<http://www.phrasebank.manchester.ac.uk/>

AWE (Academic Writing in English): A great review of academic English with exercises. The web address is listed below but you can access it from your app store.

<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/english-usage/apps/awe/>

British Council: An app for Learning English Grammar. The web address is listed below but you can access it from your app store.

<http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/en/apps/learnenglish-grammar-uk-edition>

Grammar Girl: Educational podcasts and blogs by Mignon Fogarty. These short one-topic English grammar lessons are geared to native speakers but also helpful to B2+ and higher users of English.

<https://www.quickanddirtytips.com/grammar-girl>

Monash University's Language Learning Online: The basics of essay writing at the bachelor or graduate levels.

<http://www.monash.edu.au/lls/llonline/writing/general/index.xml>

Online Writing Lab at Purdue University: The most prolific online source about writing, grammar, punctuation and spelling. Explanations, exercises, and answer keys are available:

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/>

University of Toronto's Advice on Academic Writing:

<https://advice.writing.utoronto.ca/student-pdfs/>

D. Audio & Video

50 Best Podcasts:

<https://time.com/5524332/best-podcasts-to-listen-to/>

Academic Earth: Free online courses from top educators and researchers at Ivy League Universities (Harvard, Yale, etc.). C1-C2 level of English.

<https://academicearth.org/>

BBC Radio:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/radio/>

Breaking News English: Free English News Lessons in 7 Levels

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/>

TubeQuizard offers instant quizzes for any subtitled YouTube video. These tests can be used for practicing grammar, pronunciation, vocabulary, spelling, and more.

<http://tubequizard.com/>

YouGlish: Use YouTube to improve your English pronunciation. The search engines finds YouTube videos in which the word is spoken.

<https://youglish.com/>

Open Culture: Free Audio Books

http://www.openculture.com/2006/10/audio_book_podc.html

E. Style

Grammarly checks 7,060 grammar points. It also concentrates on wordiness, passive voice, sentence length, transitions, academic style, transitions, and grammar. It does not find mistakes the following mistakes: fragments/incomplete sentences, tense shifts, subject-verb agreement, apostrophe error, and idiotic ideas (Okay the programmers have a sense of humor). It uses a spotlight system and allows you to concentrate on one type of mistake at a time. Grammarly states that it does not save any data which is an advantage over Grammarly. Try it for your self: <https://grammarly.org/dist/#/>

The Punctuation Guide shows the current style of American punctuation.

<https://www.thepunctuationguide.com/index.html>

F. Vocabulary & Word Choice

Englisch Hilfen: Thematically organized fill-in-the-blank vocabulary exercises in context.

http://www.englisch-hilfen.de/en/exercises_list/alle_words.htm

Vocabulary.com is a free app for practicing and learning new vocabulary. It gives information about the context the word is used and it makes exercises for you. The web address is listed below, but you can access it from your app store.

<https://www.vocabulary.com/>

WordUp is an AI-powered free app for vocabulary learning from A1 to C2 levels of English. It starts with the most useful words and helps you to figure out how many words you know in English (native speakers have 10,000+ words). It includes numerous videos and sentences in which the words are used in context. WordUp will allow you to review words up to a year after which time the words should have become active vocabulary that allows you to recall the words when you need them). Read about it on the web, and then download the app from your appropriate store. After a while, you'll get some advertisements, but they are easily ignored.

<http://www.wordupapp.co/>

last updated

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