

## **Useful websites for practising English**

### **News and general culture**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/english/features/news-report>

Read and listen to news stories. Key vocabulary definitions are given in English below the text. Can be downloaded in PDF format.

**Practice exercise** : read the introduction to a news article, then listen without reading the article. Take notes on the main points as you listen, then check your understanding with the text.

<http://www.france24.com/en/>

International News 24/7, the same items available in both English and French. Useful both for checking your comprehension and for seeing how concepts are translated.

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

News stories to read and listen to, with a wide selection of comprehension and vocabulary exercises to complete (with answers). Can be downloaded as MP3 and PDF files.

**Practice exercise** : before listening, study the T/F exercise, then listen and choose the correct answers. Read the transcript to check your answers.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/english/features/witn/ep-150715>

“**Words in the News**” is a series of audio programmes that focuses on commonly used words in news stories. Includes practice exercises, downloadable scripts and recordings.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/english/features/the-english-we-speak/ep-150630>

“**The English we speak**” exposes you to some idiomatic expressions through conversations. Downloadable scripts and recordings.

<http://www.theguardian.com/uk> British newspaper website

<http://www.independent.co.uk/> British newspaper website

<http://www.nytimes.com/> American newspaper website

<http://edition.cnn.com/> American TV news website

### **Grammar (see also “Essential Grammar Reference” on AREL)**

<http://www.e-anglais.com/>

English grammar lessons and related exercises (explanations in French)

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

General English grammar explained (in English), with a nice variety of interactive exercises that you can self-correct.

**Practice** : Do the online exercises and correct them. If you don't understand the solutions given, print/copy the exercise and bring/send it to your teacher for further explanation.

<http://www.perfect-english-grammar.com/index.html>

Grammar explanations and exercises, all in English.

<http://www.englishpage.com/verbpage/verbtenseintro.html>

Explanations (in English) of the main verb tenses, with exercises that you can self-correct. The problem with this site is that it indicates which of your answers are wrong, but does not provide the solution ! I recommend that you note the sentences that you don't understand then ask your teacher to explain them.

## **Listening**

<http://www.elllo.org/english/home.htm>

About 1000 interviews with speakers of English from all over the world, on a wide range of subjects. Listen with or without the transcript, do the online comprehension and vocabulary exercises. More recent interviews are downloadable as MP3 files and include comprehensive worksheets which you can also download.

<http://www.esl-lab.com/>

Listening activities to practise English in a variety of daily-life situations. Comprehension questions and a few simple vocabulary activities follow each recording. American English.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/english/features/6-minute-english>

Six-minute conversations on various current topics. Scripts and podcasts can be downloaded. A huge archive of recordings.

<http://www.rong-chang.com/englishbaby.htm>

A new lesson from englishbaby.com each day, including conversations with audio.

<http://www.manythings.org/listen/>

Listen and read along to news stories from Voice of America, reports on topical issues, short stories.

<http://www.talkenglish.com/Listening/listen.aspx>

Listen to general English conversations at basic, intermediate and advanced levels, with MCQs and transcripts to check your comprehension.

<http://www.esl-lounge.com/student/listening.php>

Listen to general American English conversations at four levels from elementary to advanced. Transcripts available.

<http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/en/listen-and-watch>

Video, audio and reading materials accompanied by useful language practice activities.

## **Games**

<http://www.esltower.com/games.html>

Interactive grammar and vocabulary games (snakes and ladders, hangman, matching games, crosswords...)

<http://quizlet.com/>

Create your own lists of vocabulary. Quizlet will transform them into interactive games to help you learn them.

## **Pronunciation**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/english/features/pronunciation>

Free videos, recordings and quizzes to help you learn about and practise English pronunciation.