

Chat/Discussion

The live chat site for learners of English, **SchMOOze University**.
<http://schmooze.hunter.cuny.edu/>

The ESL Cafe's Student Discussion Boards.
<http://www.eslcafe.com/discussion/#student>

Dictionaries

Cambridge Dictionaries on-line, including the *Cambridge International Dictionary of English*, *Cambridge International Dictionary of Phrasal Verbs*, *Cambridge International Dictionary of Idioms* & the *Cambridge Dictionary of American English*. <http://dictionary.cambridge.org/>

VoyCabulary - "VoyCabulary makes the words on any webpage into links so you can look them up ... by simply clicking on the words." A site to use when the text you are using has a number of unfamiliar / unknown words. <http://www.voycabulary.com/>

Research It is a collection of dictionaries, including one for pronunciation, a translation dictionary (translates to and from various different languages), and a thesaurus. <http://www.itools.com/>

WordNet - a Lexical Database for English. A searchable online English dictionary organised semantically rather than alphabetically, with full hypertext-annotated definitions, and including slang terms. You can also download your own copy from the site.
<http://wordnet.princeton.edu/>

Roget's Thesaurus. An online search form for the famous English thesaurus.
http://humanities.uchicago.edu/orgs/ARTFL/forms_unrest/ROGET.html

World Wide Words: exploring the English language. A fascinating and highly browseable site containing the derivation and history of hundreds of English words and phrases, including very recent terms. Indexed and searchable. Recommended.
<http://www.worldwidewords.org/>

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University's English Language Centre's EAP pages have recordings of student seminars and presentations; see under Audio-visual Materials, <http://elc.polyu.edu.hk/eap/Audio-visual/default.htm>

short lectures with transcripts; see Listening under Resources,
<http://elc.polyu.edu.hk/LanguageLearningResources/default.htm>

Using English for Academic Purposes: A Guide for International Students: Listening, <http://www.uefap.co.uk/listen/listfram.htm> (recommended above): a range of speeches, lectures and other listening texts with tasks.

Conversations with History, at the University of California Berkeley's Institute of International Studies, recordings of interviews and lectures with a range of famous politicians, scholars, writers etc. from around the world (i.e. a range of different accents); includes tapescripts.
<http://globetrotter.berkeley.edu/conversations/>

Dictionaries & Vocabulary

Cambridge Dictionaries,: searches in the dictionaries for Learners, Advanced Learners, Phrasal Verbs, Idioms and American English
http://dictionary.cambridge.org/define.asp?key=dictionary*1%2B0

Longman Web Dictionary,: includes British and American English; the dictionary stays in the background even if you close the main site.
<http://www.longmanwebdict.com/>

iTools: a collection of dictionaries and other language tools
<http://www.itools.com/lang/>

Academic Phrasebank, , by John Morley, University of Manchester: phrases for various functions in an academic text (e.g. describing methods).
<http://www.phrasebank.man.ac.uk/>

Dictionary of same-sounding words (homophones):
<http://www.business-words.com/dictionary/>

Listening

Randall's ESL-Lab: Many free listening exercises, graded at three levels : easy, medium, difficult. <http://www.esl-lab.com/>

WGBH Free online lectures: very useful for IELTS listening and preparation for university to Master level. Some lectures have transcripts.
<http://www.forum-network.org/wgbh/>

English Language Listening Lab Online:
<http://www.elllo.org/>

Accents in English with eViews. Weekly comprehension exercises based on recorded interviews (MP3, RealAudio) in different English accents, which subscribers can download from the site. Subscription is charged to EFL teachers, but is free to students. There's also a list of EFL-related Internet links, some of which are annotated.
<http://www.eviews.net/>

Accents and dialects of English: includes recordings from a range of countries and regions. <http://www.collectbritain.co.uk/collections/dialects/>

BBC Learning English, has a range of activities based around the BBC World Service news (the home BBC site at www.bbc.co.uk is also a huge source of information)
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/>

Here's an example, a report on a hurricane called Michelle, which struck Cuba in 2001:
http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/news/words/general/011105_witn.shtml

Recordings of historic speeches by figures such as Martin Luther King, President Roosevelt etc. <http://www.americanrhetoric.com/>

National Public Radio (US English) Recordings and transcripts of radio programmes from 1996 to the present.
http://www.npr.org/templates/archives/rundown_archive_hub.php

Windows Media Radio Guide:

<http://www.windowsmedia.com/Mediaguide/Radio>

Video

Links page that includes sites with video:

<http://cla.univ-fcomte.fr/english/sites/video.htm>

EFL Club Movie Trailers:

<http://www.eflclub.com/6movies/movies.html>

Hollywood movie trailers:

<http://www.hollywood.com/movies/trailers.aspx>

TV Commercials: a good way to have fun and work on your listening skills!

<http://www.visit4info.com/>

English Trailers: a very good site with interactive exercises. Needs Quick Time Player to work.

<http://www.english-trailers.com/index.php>

Reading

National Geographic If you click on 'newsletters' and fill in the form, you will be sent articles, photos, competitions etc free every two weeks.

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/index.html>

The Bangkok Post "This site ... is designed to help people whose first language is not English learn to read a daily English-language newspaper..."

<http://www.bangkokpost.net/education/index.htm>

CNN Learning Resources interactive reading/listening texts and exercises

<http://literacynet.org/cnnsf/>

Arts & Letters Daily: Up-to-date articles, essays, opinions, books and news from the world of the Arts.

<http://cybereditions.com/spis/runisa.dll?SV:CYHOME:443235>

Scitech Daily Review: Features, opinions, articles, news and books from the world of science and technology.

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

Writing

The **On-line Writing Lab** at Purdue University (USA). This site includes links to many useful writing resources for EFL students.

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

Paragraphs and Topic Sentences: An excellent reference from Writing Tutorial Services at Indiana University Bloomington.

<http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets.shtml>

The Topic Sentence: on-line handout from The University Writing Center at Texas Tech University.

<http://english.ttu.edu/uwc/topicsen.html>

An Academic Writing Module: Paragraphs from the Language Learning Centre at the University of Victoria, Wellington, NZ. *Please email the authors to let them know what you think of this 'beta' version.*

<http://www.vuw.ac.nz/lc/academic-writing/index.html>

News channels

News for younger learners:

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/cbbcnews/>

The World: News from BBC, WGBH and PRI

<http://www.theworld.org/>

The Economist: in-depth coverage of political and economic issues. Fairly objective, but rather pro-business.

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

CNN: 24 hour news channel

<http://www.cnn.com/video/>

The Guardian

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/>

The New York Times

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

Manchester Online: e-version of the Manchester Evening News. You can get a free update to your e-mail address.

<http://www.manchesteronline.co.uk/>

Other Sites

The British National Corpus: A language concordancer that allows you to use a huge database to discover how the language really works. Give it a try!

<http://www.natcorp.ox.ac.uk/>

WordBot A translation tool with a difference. Load a WWW page via Wordbot, then click on a word and Wordbot will look it up in a dictionary of your choice (English, French, German, and Italian are currently available). A unique and imaginative service - recommended, particularly for teachers and learners of Italian.

Internet Grammar of English,

Detailed explanations and exercises

<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/internet-grammar/home.htm>

Acronyms and abbreviations:

<http://www.businessballs.com/acronyms.htm>

General activities on Grammar, Vocabulary etc.

E.L.Easton's English On-line: <http://eleaston.com/materials.html>

Internet TESL Journal's list of exercises: <http://a4esl.org/>

Flo-Joe practice exercises for the Cambridge Exams:
<http://www.flo-joe.co.uk/>

IELTS:

<http://www.ielts.org/>

<http://www.cambridgeesol.org/teach/ielts/index.cfm>

For speakers of Portuguese:
<http://www.sk.com.br/>

For speakers of Chinese:
<http://www.cc.nctu.edu.tw/~tedknoy/html/Jp-news2.htm>

Medical English:
<http://www.englishmed.com/>

Small Ads: Click on the link for Manchester to find or post a small ad (advertisement)
Good for part-time jobs, flat-hunting, buying and selling etc.
<http://www.gumtree.com/>