

Learning English: 5 golden rules

and how we can help you

You understand that in this globalized world it is very important for you to be fluent in English. After 25 years helping students to achieve fluency there are some useful things that we have found out.

1. **No-one is going to 'teach' you English.** It is not an academic subject. You have to acquire the language.
2. **Listening is the most important skill.** The higher your level of listening and understanding, the easier it is to speak.
3. **Reading is very important.** The more you read, the better your vocabulary and writing etc.
4. **Becoming fluent in English takes a long time.** This varies from person to person but usually requires between 1,000 and 2,000 hours. If you attend class for 2 hours per week for 8 months per year this might take 20 to 40 years.
5. **Doing things in English at home is essential.** Internet and, at a high level, television, provide lots of listening and reading opportunities. Individualized online courses help you to succeed at exams in a much shorter time.

How we can help you

In class:

- Speaking and correction of written work that has been done at home, usually in preparation for exams e.g. PET, FCE, CAE and CPE etc. Talks, discussions, presentations, team work etc. as preparation to meet the challenge of being a globalized citizen.
- Offering interesting and dynamic sessions, with a wide range of topics, that help you stay motivated.
- Guiding you towards exam success with practical tips and 'tricks'.



BRAYS

Online:

- Access to hundreds of videos at the appropriate level, with record sheets.*
- Weekly recommendations from staff and fellow students to useful websites on a range of subjects, using 'Eyejot This'*
- Opportunity to submit talks, presentations, opinions etc. via video email.*
- Free materials via Dropbox.
- Brays individualized Online English Courses covering all the main exams with 50 – 150 exam papers in each course. (PET, FCE, CAE, BEC, IELTS etc. etc.)

Library:

English Libraries with hundreds of books at all levels at Los Castros, Madre Soledad and Getafe, Madrid.*

Conclusion

To move up one complete level normally takes about 200 hours. With blended learning, using online courses and classes for speaking and correction of writings you can, genuinely, reduce this time to 100-150 hours. (10 to 15 weeks if you do 10 hours per week.) Most people's aim at present, at least in Spain, is to pass B2. In the future job market you will probably need C1 (CAE) at least.

And, finally: The most successful students are the ones who find language learning enjoyable. Luckily there is now a wealth of interesting material online. We will try to find you the best. Take advantage and you WILL succeed.

Enjoy your English!

Note: * = Completely free for any student of English from any academy, school, university, workplace or country.

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