

5 Tips to Improve Your Speaking Skills in English

(A-Level, Basic)

This is a handout for [a basic speaking skills lesson](#).

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A Very Brief Summary

Tip 1. Have a positive attitude. A positive attitude is important for anything you do.

Tip 2. Focus on communicating your ideas. There is a time to learn the language and a time to use it. When speaking, focus on communicating your ideas.

Tip 3. Remember that fluency is not about speed. Speak at a comfortable speed.

Tip 4. “Speak around” unknown vocabulary and structures. Use words and structures you do know or remember to communicate your ideas.

Tip 5. Practice speaking in different situations. Speaking in a new situation can be uncomfortable, so practice in as many situations as possible.



Reflection

1. What makes speaking such a complex activity?
2. Which of the above tips are the most helpful? Why?
3. Which of the above tips may not be very helpful? Why not?
4. Besides the above tips, what else do you think is helpful to improve your speaking skills?
5. What is your attitude toward learning in general?
6. What is your attitude toward learning English?
7. How do you feel when you make mistakes while speaking?
8. How do you feel when others make mistakes when they are speaking English? Why?
9. According to Franco, why is it important to focus on communicating your ideas rather than speaking “perfect English?”
10. In your experience, do students judge each other for how they speak? If so, why do you think they do that?

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