

Talk to yourself in English.



Most students spend a lot of time alone these days.

Here are some easy ways to practice English. Use these ideas.

Talk to yourself *silently* in English. This follows the units in *English Firsthand SUCCESS*.

Unit 1 – Meeting people. Turn on the TV, but turn off the sound. Look at the people. If you were meeting them, what would you ask? What would you say about yourself? ("Hi, I'm (name). I'm a student at (school)/ What do you do? ...").

Unit 2 – Fashion. Look at people on TV or in a magazine. In your mind, describe their clothing. ("He's wearing a blue t-shirt, and jeans. She has a red, striped dress and a silver belt. ...")

Unit 3 – Health and happiness. Take about 5 minutes. think about your life. How many good things can you think of? ("The weather is nice today. My family loves me. I ate chocolate today. It was delicious.").

Unit 4 – Giving directions. If you could go to school, imagine you are going by taxi. In your mind, you are giving the taxi driver directions in English ("Turn right at the next corner. See that signal? Turn left there.").

Unit 5 – Describing things. Take a walk around your neighborhood. How could you describe the things you see? ("That bag is made of cloth. She uses it to carry books. That car is made of metal and plastic. It is very small. Someone used it to go places.")

Unit 6 – The future. Think about when this virus problem ends. What do you want to do? Use as many verbs as you can. ("I'm going to meet my friends Saturday night? Maybe we'll go to (place)").

• Think about your life in 5, 10, 20 years into the future. What is your dream in English?

What little things can you do TODAY to help make that dream come true. (Someday, I'll travel around the world. Having good English will help me. Today I am practicing by thinking of English sentences right now!...").

Unit 7 – Past events Think about every thing you did today. How many different verbs can you use? ("I ate toast and drank coffee for breakfast. I took a shower and washed my hair...."). Think about what you used to do that you can't do now.

Unit 8 – Animals and nature Think of some animals you know (real or not). How can you describe them? ("My dog is really cute. But she isn't very smart. Doraemon is clever.).

Unit 9 – Abilities. Look at people on TV or in a magazine. What jobs do you imagine the people do? What abilities do they need? ("She's beautiful. She could be a model. A model has to be able to look good all the time. She looks like a business woman. Maybe she can do math well.").

Unit 10 – Likes and dislikes Take a walk around your neighborhood. What do you see that you like? What don't you like? ("That couple is holding hands. I like the feeling of love. Some guy is smoking. I dislike cigarette smoke.")

Unit 11 following the rules. What kinds of signs do you see? How would you explain the meaning in English? ("That sign means you cannot turn left. There's a sale at that store. You can save money. That's signal is green. We can go.). (Culture note: In English, we say the "go" color on a traffic signal is "green".) If there aren't many signs, think about things you can and can't do now. We have to wear masks. We can't stand too close to each other.

Unit 12 – Stories Search Google images for "interesting people." Find a website with photos. Look at the pictures. Make up a story about the person. ("She is really beautiful. Maybe she has lots of boyfriends. One day, one of the boyfriends took her to a fancy restaurant. But the waiter was another boyfriend! ...")