



## Skills for ESL Learning:

### *Checklist & Self-Assessment*

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#### Do you use these ways to learn & study English?

##### Listening

- listen for the general idea
- listen for important details
- listen for grammatical forms
- listen to tapes or radio programs about your personal interests
- check your progress with comprehension questions
- \_\_\_\_\_

##### Reading

- read quickly for the general idea (skimming)
- read silently without moving your mouth
- read carefully for important details
- notice word order and grammatical patterns while reading
- find the most important words and highlight only these words
- read about your personal interests in English
- check your progress with comprehension questions
- \_\_\_\_\_

##### Vocabulary

- repeat new words in speaking and writing
- gesture while repeating a new action verb
- list new words by topic
- read dictionary entries thoughtfully
- check dictionaries for all the meanings of a word
- check other similar-sounding or similarly-spelled words
- write hard-to-remember words on cards
- sort vocabulary cards into topics
- sort vocabulary cards alphabetically
- sort vocabulary cards by how well you know the words
- think about ways you can use a new word in your life
- make an example sentence with a new word
- speak or write your new words in real communication
- chart words by meanings – with similar and opposite meanings
- cut apart long compound words and identify prefixes, roots and suffixes
- study variant forms of prefixes, roots and suffixes
- \_\_\_\_\_

## Pronunciation

- test your hearing of similar but distinct English sounds
- use a mirror to see if your tongue and lips are in the correct position
- repeat difficult phrases to exercise your mouth muscles
- copy English speech rhythm with a drum or nonsense syllables
- check your progress by dictation to a native speaker
- \_\_\_\_\_

## Grammar

- compare the charts and explanations of one grammar point in different books
- compare English word order and grammar forms with your language
- use computer grammar practice for quick feedback
- listen for grammar
- practice grammar in speaking
- check progress with grammar tests
- \_\_\_\_\_

## Speaking

- rehearse model recorded conversations
- relax to develop fluency
- meet people who use English for conversation
- use English at certain times with friends or family members
- arrange a conversation practice group
- give a little speech about something of personal importance
- \_\_\_\_\_

## Writing

- study spelling rules
- learn cursive writing or italic calligraphy
- write your personal story in English
- write letters to a pen pal
- write a letter to a newspaper or politician
- write stories and practice irregular past tense forms
- write a report after reading something interesting
- translate something from your language then compare your English with a native speaker's translation to study word order and communication style.
- \_\_\_\_\_

## Self-assessment

I use \_\_\_\_\_ of these 55 study/learning skills.

I think my study skills are  excellent  good  average  poor  terrible

I think I  can  cannot improve my study skills.