



Language Classes and Workshops Program

English Classes

Book: American Headway

English Level I: Book Basic and Book 1

Students have little or no prior knowledge of English. Students are carefully and methodically led through the beginning stages of the language process, which not only includes grammar and vocabulary development, but also conversation, pronunciation, reading and listening activities.

English Level II: Book 2

Students build on what they have learned in Level One and revisit language topics from a new angle. Students practice Level One grammar in new situations in order to reinforce their knowledge, while also learning new vocabulary and grammar structures. Students see longer reading and listening selections and engage in more writing activities. Students continue to be exposed to rules of pronunciation.

English Level III: Book 3

Students extend their knowledge of tenses and continue to be exposed to a larger area of language. Students begin to see the subtle differences between the tenses and practice them in combination. In addition, students are exposed to longer and more detailed reading and listening selections and participate in more discussions to put new grammar to use.

English Level IV: Book 4

Students extend their knowledge of the language to include more advanced grammar structures to express more complex ideas. Students learn to use the language to convey their attitudes and opinions. Stress, intonation, and fluency of the language become a larger focus in this level. Students engage in longer and more advanced discussions as well as continue to read and write about more complex topics.

English Level V: Book 5

Students explore subtleties and shades of meaning of English and experiment with multiple modals and tenses. Level Five includes longer reading and listening assignments and extensive writing activities. Students are encouraged to increase their fluency while maintaining their accuracy of the language.

Intermediate English Conversation

Students who have completed Level II or who have tested into Level III or Level IV will fit in well in this course. Using short articles, videos or audio clips, students will participate in weekly discussions, debates and friendly conversations, as well as occasional presentations. Students will see a new topic each class and will discuss a wide variety of subjects over the course of the semester. Students will develop their vocabulary, increase their fluency and improve their pronunciation. Additionally, students will practice a variety of helpful grammar structures and expressions. Most importantly, students will have a comfortable space to practice their English skills and have fun!

Advanced English Conversation

If you have completed Level IV and/or Intermediate English Conversation, or tested at Level V this is the right course for you. Using primary source materials, such as news media, magazine articles, TED Talks, short documentary films, essays, short stories, etc, you will participate in discussions on a broad range of topics. You will be encouraged to give short presentations and lead discussions throughout the semester.

As needed, time will be devoted to pronunciation, phrasal verbs and idiomatic expressions, and review of challenging grammar structures.

Pronunciation

"Americans don't understand me!" "I can't communicate on the telephone." "I wish I could sound like an American!"

You don't actually need an American accent in order to be understood by Americans. But learning how words are linked, learning to hear the 'music,' or rhythm and phrasing of English, and understanding how stress carries meaning are all keys to being better understood. This workshop will open the door to better communication skills. Once you can 'hear' American English with 'new ears', you are on your way to clearer speech.

Correcting your own patterns of speech requires lots of focused and intentional practice. This workshop will guide you in analyzing your specific pronunciation challenges, provide individual attention and give you lots of practice. Please note that for real improvement, in addition to the class time, you will be expected to practice on your own.

Advanced Writing:

This 8-week advanced writing workshop will help students write more **carefully, clearly, directly, and concisely**. Students will practice skills during the weekly lessons and do short homework assignments of one page or less (e.g., emails, narratives, opinions). We will work on common errors and strategies to improve sentence structure, sentence variety, linking, and wordiness in noun, adverb and adjective clauses.

French Classes Program

Intermediate:

Good foundation in French is needed to succeed at this level. Communication topics include daily routine, questions asked while traveling, preferences and various information and dialogues. Grammar reviews include comparison of "passé composé and imparfait", pronouns and irregular verbs. French and Francophone cultural topics are discussed. Other supports are used on a weekly base and a variety of topics are discussed in depth. French videos and literature will be part of the material.

Advanced:

This class will help students obtain a general understanding of French culture and society and its relation to the Francophone world, such as the French former colonies as well as its overseas departments through analyzing current affairs, literature and historical references.

We will discuss environmental, health, economic, leisure, and travel topics by tackling them through revues and newspapers articles. These factors will aid students to obtain a deeper understanding of the written language and acquire additional lexical knowledge.

In order to improve oral understanding and expression, we will watch current affairs on television news and discuss the different issues presented. Pronunciation will be improved through tongue twisters, songs and phonological oral exercises. Syntax will be systematically worked in context and through structural exercises.

All students will be able to participate in this class through fun and cheerful exchanges. Field trips to museums and French sites of interest can also be agreed upon as a class. French cooking recipe classes can be organized according to typical French year round traditions such as "Galette Des Rois", crêpes during "La Chandeleur", as well as regular recipes such as "Quiche Lorraine". Classical French movies can also be watched as a class topic and be discussed among the students.