

Improve your (Business) English autodidactically! You should ...

- Listen to English radio programs (BFBS, BBC World etc.), watch American and English films and movies, watch the news on TV;
- Subscribe to "daily vokabelmail" under www.business-english.de;
- Subscribe to Merriam-Webster's "Word of the Day" under www.merriam-webster.com;
- Read the news in English provided by our federal government on <http://www.bundesregierung.de>, dann (oben links) auf 'English' klicken;
- Read Financial Times articles online with vocabulary <http://www.ftd.de/karriere-management/business-english>;
- Lustige Englisch-Lern-Übungen auf <http://www.ego4u.de/download/pdf/ego4u-calendar-2006.pdf>;
- Subscribe to Englishtown unter www.englishtown.com (auf der Seite unten Mitte: Community: free email lessons);
- Read English (American) newspapers, magazines, books etc.;
- Subscribe to "A Joke a Day" under www.langenscheidt.de;
- Subscribe to "one-word-a-day" under http://owad.de/service-add.php4?internal=textlink_homepage;
- Try to think in English, for example in the evenings, think what you have done during the day, try to write a diary in English;
- Do exercises in books that provide a key, test yourself;
- Read 'Spotlight' and/or 'Business Spotlight' and/or "World and Press" (Originalartikel aus der internationalen Presse mit Vokabular) or "Read On" (News and reports from Britain and America in easy English): www.read-on.de;
- Use tapes, listen to them wherever you are - at home, in your car, even when you exercise/work out. Listen to them as often as possible, and be sure to answer out loud;
- There are annual reports etc. by large companies issued in German and English; read those;
- Listen and repeat: You learned your native language by repeating what you heard other people say. the same is true for learning a new language;
- Speak up: Don't be embarrassed about trying the new accent. And don't be afraid of making mistakes. The main reason children acquire a new language faster than adults is their lack of self-consciousness. So seize every opportunity to use your new language;
- Don't translate: Avoid the temptation to compare the new language with your own. Repeat and answer, don't translate or analyze;
- Don't think about spelling: Surprisingly, writing and spelling are counterproductive to learning to speak a new language. It's a distraction and leads to mispronunciation; once you develop your oral skills, you'll find the transition to reading and writing easy;
- Keep to your schedule: The more exposure you have to your new language, the faster you'll learn it. So try to keep the intervals between lessons as short as possible. That way you'll spend more time covering new material and less time reviewing.