

Language

Exchange

I'VE FOUND MY LANGUAGE BUDDY!

WHAT'S NEXT?



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www.uwe.ac.uk/students/studysupport

Visit us in the Community Hub (Octagon, Frenchay), Monday—Friday,

9:30-16:30

CONGRATULATIONS!

Please read the following advice to ensure your involvement is an enjoyable experience:

- Arrange your meetings in a public space, where you will both feel safe and relaxed. Make sure it is not too loud to talk but lively enough to spark conversation.

! Why not meet back at the Octagon – where Café Lingua is held?

- Avoid late night meetings. If you are meeting in the evening to attend an event together, make sure you consider how you will get home afterwards.
- Remember you do not need to reveal detailed personal information until you feel comfortable.
- It is important that you look after yourself and exercise good judgement.
- Always feel comfortable in the activity you are undertaking and secure personal belongings.

Why are you taking part? This will keep you motivated!

- ? Why am I learning this foreign language?
 - ? What are my goals in learning this language and when do I want to reach them?
 - ? Questions on your learning style: how/when/where do I learn best of all?
 - ? How much time can I devote to the Language Exchange? Which days and times am I free to meet my buddy?
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THE FIRST MEETING



Establish a Schedule with your Buddy:

- ? How often and how long do we want to meet? (about 30 minutes per language, at most 2-3 meetings per week are recommended)
 - ? How long do we want to continue learning with each other?
 - ? What are our learning aims?
 - ? Do we want set some ground rules for meetings?
 - ? How do we want to correct each other?
 - ? How do we want to work? (what sort of material; mainly oral or written tasks)
 - ? Where do we want to meet next time?
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TOP TIPS!

1) Meet and Practice Regularly

- Start the sessions with language games, they can help you relax.
- If you are taking your first plunge into the language, try simple sentences.
- You could discuss your families, previous holidays or the holiday of your dreams, your interests and hobbies.

2) Make Sure You Both Practice

- Use a timer/watch to make sure everyone gets equal practice time.
- Remember: everyone speaks in one language then everyone switches to the other language.

3) Take Charge Of Your Own Learning

- Make an effort to speak out, even if you're shy.
 - Feel free to ask your partners to repeat, slow down, explain or translate when you do not understand something.
 - Before each meeting write out a few situations, sentences, questions, or words that you would like to practice in your meeting.
 - Reflect . This will help you prepare for the next meeting:
 - ? What did I learn in this meeting?
 - ? Am I on the right path to reach my learning aims?
 - ? What problems have come up? Why?
 - ? What have we talked about? Have we alternated topics?
 - ? Did we only speak? Or also write, read, and listen to something together?
 - ? Did we both practice enough?
 - ? How did I feel in the adviser and learner roles?
 - ? Was there a bit I did not understand?
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TOP TIPS!

4) Be Sensitive to Your Buddy's Needs

- Encourage your buddy to participate and make sure they can follow the conversation.
- Explain, repeat, write down or translate when necessary, and speak slowly.
- Try not to monopolize the conversation.

5) Giving Corrections

- The goal is to communicate and be understood. If both you and your buddy can express the intended ideas, the exercise should be considered a success.
- Don't correct grammar all the time, keep it light and fun!
- If someone insists on being corrected, ask what they want you to focus on: verbs, prepositions, pronunciation, gender, etc.

6) Have Fun!

- Why not go on a trip or do an activity together? There are many cultural and global events taking place through the University and local community.
- Keep an eye on UWE's 'What's On' calendar for all upcoming cultural activities and events, including Think International and iCon.



UWE's LINGUISTICS SOCIETY



UWE Linguistics Society is a group for anybody who is interested in language, no matter what you are studying. The society holds a number of talks throughout the year from Linguistics academics with topics varying from place names to puns! We also hold events and trips.



Details of LingSoc lectures, events and socials will be updated on our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/UWELingSoc

If you have any questions about Linguistics Society, contact us at uweling-soc@gmail.com

RESOURCES

www.uwe.ac.uk/students/studysupport

[UWE's Library Service](#)

www.uwe.ac.uk/library/

- **Newspapers** (English & foreign titles) – available on Level 2 of the Library (www1.uwe.ac.uk/library/usingthelibrary/searchforthingsa-z/databases/a-z/n.aspx)
- **Language resource packs, grammar books and workbooks** – available on level 4 (400s)
- **DVDs** (English and foreign language films)– available on level 5.
- **Foreign TV programmes & Films**— www1.uwe.ac.uk/library/usingthelibrary/searchforthingsa-z/tvon-demand.aspx
- **English Language Resources**— www.uwe.ac.uk/library/yoursubject/englishlanguagelinguistics.aspx

[Additional Web Resources](#)

- Grammar, alphabet and facts about different languages: www.bbc.co.uk/languages/
- Ideas for conversation topics: www.slf.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/tandem/tasks-en.html
- Information for Spanish learners: www.veintemundos.com/en/

[Join a UWESU Student Network](#)

Cultural Networks are an ideal way to meet people who share similar identities, cultures and beliefs—or explore a new one!

www.uwesu.org/representation/networks/



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**Kolik jazyků znáš, tolikrát jsi člověkem.
You live a new life for every new language you speak.
If you know only one language, you live only once.
(Czech proverb)**