

MAGIC BAG OF
**30 TRANSCRIPTION
TRICKS**



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<https://www.allegistranscription.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/lady-headset.jpg>
http://www.plaqueoff.com/animal/img/_SDC/plaqueoff-page-DOG-LISTENING.jpeg

When Just
EARS
Aren't
Enough!



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1. YOUR EARS AND BRAIN

- Your trick of first resort:
Listen **CAREFULLY**, listen **CLOSELY**,
listen **AS MANY TIMES AS NECESSARY.**



DOES WHAT YOU WROTE MAKE SENSE?



■ *In Michigan, the medal winner there is a good chance to wider touch freeze.*

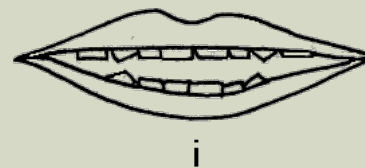
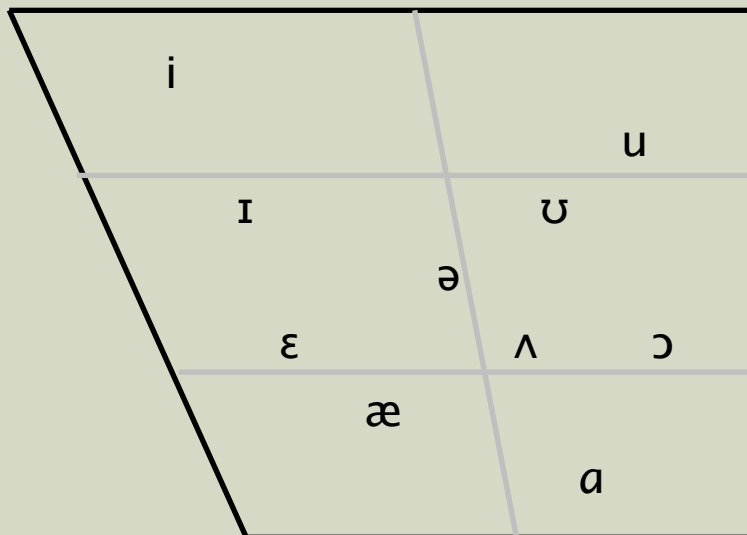
IF NOT, YOU MAY NEED TO PULL SOME
OTHER TRICKS OUT OF YOUR BAG!



2. VOWELS MATTER!

- Your vowels must be **CORRECT** and **PRECISE**.
No sloppiness allowed –
train yourself every day!

A E I O U Y



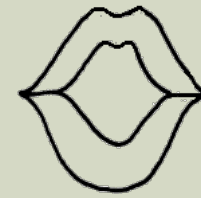
i



u



a



ɔ

USE MERRIAM-WEBSTER AND THE FREE DICTIONARY!

- Listen – Echo – Repeat till it's PERFECT!
- If you can SAY it correctly, you'll HEAR it correctly!



http://www.merriam-webster.com/images/downloadables/search_homepage_google1.jpg
<http://www.thefreedictionary.com/raid>

3. LEARN BASIC PHONICS RULES FOR VOWELS

- Silent “e” and double vowel letters: diphthongs and “long” vowels
- Single/double final or double medial consonant letters: “short” vowels

Name: _____

Roll a Long Vowel Team

Long a Color it GREEN 	Long e Color it BLUE 	Long i Color it PINK 	Long o Color it ORANGE 
train	bite	meat	same
beach	float	drive	goat
team	rain	side	skate
paint	rose	reach	weed
play	tile	rake	soak
nose	steam	toast	time

FIND A WORD WITH PHONICS RULES

You hear

['lɪrɪŋ]

quite clearly,

but don't know this word.

What might it be?

FIND THE BASE WORD

- Take off the **-ing** ending from **['lɪrɪŋ]**. You get:

['lɪr]

- What rhymes with **['lɪr]**?

USE RHYME TO FIND PHONIC SPELLINGS

- Spellings to try based on RHYMES for ['ɪr]:

dear

deer

here

clear

beer

mere

fear

cheer

near

CHECK DIFFERENT POSSIBLE SPELLINGS

■ lear

■ leer

■ lere

CAPITALS, ARCHAISMS, DIALECT FORMS

You can often **rule out**:

- Words that start with a **capital letter**, i.e. proper nouns, i.e. personal and place names, brand and company names
- Archaisms and obsolete words, i.e. very **old, outdated** and **rare words**
- **Dialect** forms

CAPITALIZATION

- If all/almost all the dictionaries in OneLook and Google spell your word with a capital letter, it's probably a proper noun and not what you want, e.g.

- **Bari**

- **Tokay**

- **Debs**



LEAR

“**Lear**” mostly appears in dictionaries and on Google with a **CAPITAL LETTER**, so it’s not a good candidate (it’s a company or personal name)

LEER

- “**leer**” in Merriam Webster:
- to look at someone in an evil or unpleasantly sexual way
- to cast a sidelong glance; *especially*:
to give a leer

This fits well!

LERE

“**lere**” is a word, but Merriam-Webster says:

- **archaic Scottish:** learn

It also notes:

- Popularity: Bottom 30% of words

“**lere**” is an **old, rare, Scottish dialect** form, so it’s an **unlikely candidate!**

4. IS THE FINAL CONSONANT VOICED OR VOICELESS?

■ To distinguish **voiced** vs. **voiceless** final consonants:

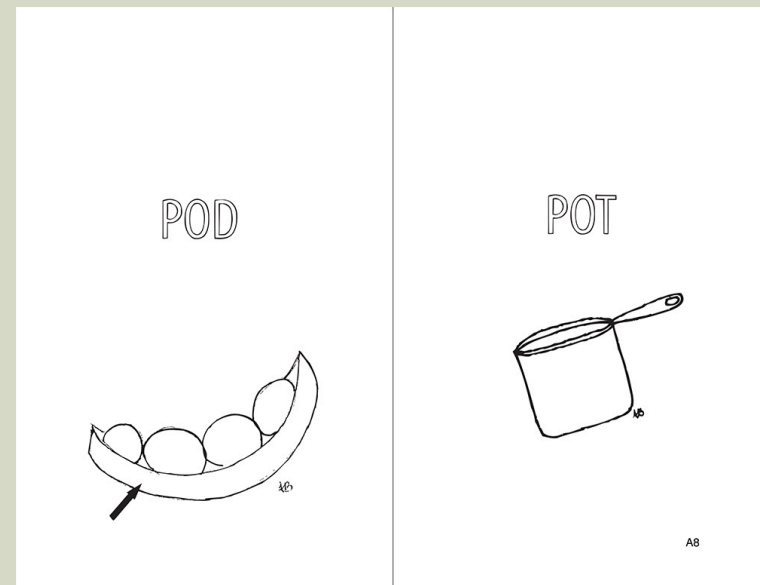
1. Vowel length 母音長度
2. Final voicing (not always clear)
詞尾子音有聲或無聲
3. Listen for the final creak
吱嘎音 as in 「我」
4. Lower pitch 音高較低

EXAMPLES OF VOICED VS. VOICELESS FINAL STOPS

■ **cop** vs. **cob**

■ **lit** vs. **lid**

■ **duck** vs. **dug**



DO PRACTICE DICTATIONS

- They're **challenging!** But **stick with it** and eventually you'll get better at it!


Practice dictations


Below are dictations to help train your sensitivity to the sounds of English. Get a pen or pencil and paper ready, connect and put on a headphone set, then right-click on the speaker icon, then click on "Open in new tab" to play the audio file. Write down the words you hear, first in English orthography, then in IPA symbols. Each item will be read twice, and a pause will be left after the second reading. Pause or replay the file if you need more time to think and/or write. Finally, mark the line next to each number to reveal the answers and check your work carefully. Give yourself five points for each correct spelling, another five for each correct IPA transcription.

Each item must be completely correct to earn the points; no partial points are given. Add the points for each correct answer together to get a percentage score on the dictation. Above 80 percent is good; aim for 100. Getting below 80 percent on any of the quizzes means you need **more practice!**

The first examples in this series emphasize **English vowels** and **final stops**.

Here is an example to show how it works:

Example:  (Mark the area after the speaker icon with your mouse to reveal the answers.)

Dictation I.  1. boot [but] 2. bat [bæt]

Dictation II. 

Dictation III. 

Dictation IV. 

Dictation V. 

- <http://homepage.ntu.edu.tw/~karchung/phonetics/dictations.htm>

RECOGNITION CAN BE ASYMMETRICAL 不對稱

- One of a pair may be easy to recognize, while with the other you're not sure.
- This is **also a way to distinguish** the two sounds.
- When you're **sure**, it's "**kits**", when **not**, it's "**kids**"!

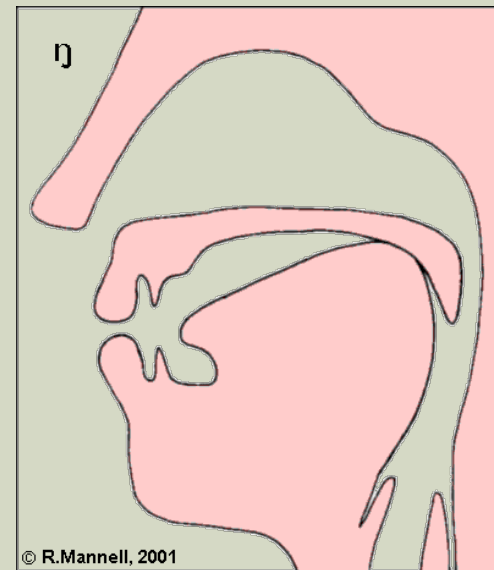
5. WORK ON NASAL FINALS

/-m, -n, -ŋ/


- Practice with **minimal pairs** if you have trouble distinguishing the following endings:

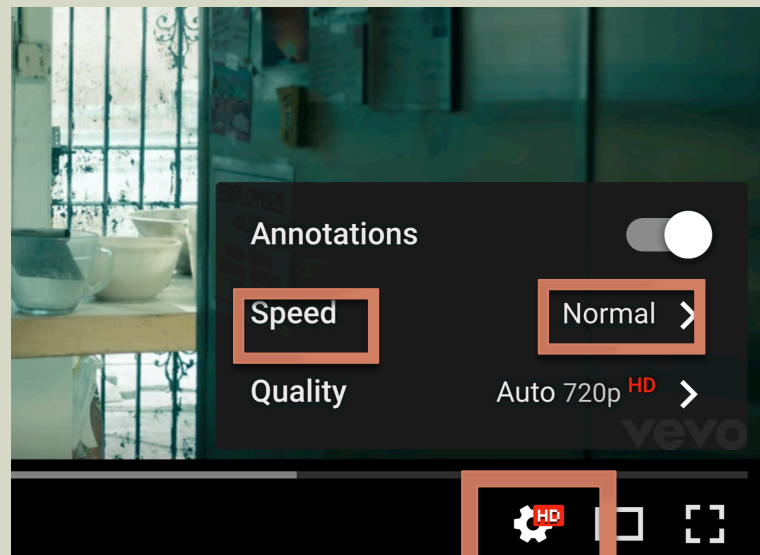
- ram ran rang
- Tim tin ting
- rum run rung

- Remember that final ***/-n/*** sounds like the ending of 马;
/-ŋ/ sounds like the ending of 尤



6. SLOW DOWN THE AUDIO

- Slowing down the audio can help you hear unclear portions more clearly.
- **YouTube:** Click on the **gear** icon , choose **Speed**, then **Rate**.
- **VLC:** Click **Playback**, then **Speed**, then move the **slider**.
- The same function should be available in other playback software.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...XsFE3I8>

7. LEARN REDUCED FORMS OF FUNCTION WORDS: I

Content words:

- nouns, verbs, adjectives, some adverbs
- Usually **STRESSED** and **CLEAR**, unless repeated
- Usually the easiest to understand

LEARN REDUCED FORMS OF FUNCTION WORDS: II

Function words:

- Articles (**the, a, an**)
- Conjunctions (**and, but, or, if, though**)
- Prepositions (**to, at, on, under, about**)
- Pronouns (**I, me, you, he, him, she, her, it, we**)
- Helping verbs (**am, is, were, have, has, had, will, can, could**)
- Some adverbs (**today, yesterday, now, here, there**)

LEARN REDUCED FORMS OF FUNCTION WORDS: III

Usually:

- Unstressed
- Fast
- Reduced
- Unclear
- Harder to understand

LEARN REDUCED FORMS OF FUNCTION WORDS: IV

Learn to recognize common reductions of function words:

- And
- In
- On
- Of
- To

8. PAY ATTENTION TO WORD STRESS!

- If the word you wrote has a different **STRESS** pattern (with the same number of syllables) than what you heard, it's probably not the right word, e.g. **MI**chigan couldn't be ma**CHINE**, sa**LI**va couldn't be **SLI**ver.



- However, many words also have one or more syllables with **SECONDARY STRESS**; sometimes the **main stress** will move to one of these, e.g.

GOOD **AFT**er***NOON** but **AFT**ernoon ***TEA**

9. WATCH FOR COMPOUND NOUN STRESS

- If the second of two nouns is not stressed, it may be a COMPOUND NOUN. Knowing this can help you decipher the word, e.g. ***BACK**pack, ***SCHOOL**bus.



http://images.sportsdirect.com/images/imgzoom/71/71302703_xxl.jpg

http://moparent.com/Websites/moparent/images/School_Bus_Hot_Wheels.jpg

10. LEARN BASIC INTONATION RULES: RULE 1

The three rules of sentence intonation:

- **Rule 1:** Stress the stressed syllables of all the **content words** in a sentence (like *taxi, run, red*; do *not* stress **function words**, like *in, the, my*); and the stressed syllable of the **last content word** in the sentence, the **tonic stress**, is pronounced with a **high, falling intonation**.

1. *Who's* that ***girl**?
2. **This** is a ***park**.
3. A **man** is **sitting** on a ***bench**.



INTONATION RULES: RULE 2

- **Rule 2:** After a subject has been introduced, any **new** information is **stressed**; **old** information is **not stressed**.

1. **Who's** that ***girl**?
The ***tall** girl?
No, the ***short** girl.
Oh, that's ***Jane**.



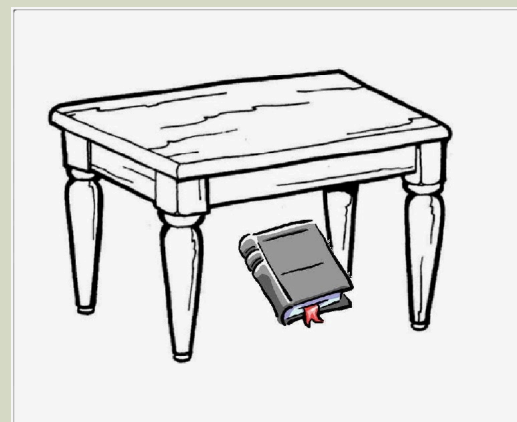
2. This is a ***park**.
There are **trees**, **flowers**, and ***birds** in the park.

INTONATION RULES: RULE 3

- **Rule 3:** Stress words that contrast information. Any word, including function words, may be stressed for purposes of contrast.

1. Is the **book** on the ***table**?
No, it's ***under** the table.

2. Is **that** for ***Mary**?
No, it's ***from** Mary.



YES-NO QUESTIONS

- **Yes-no questions** usually have a **rising** intonation:



Are you HUNgry?

Did I get that RIGHT?

Have you seen PAT?

WH- QUESTIONS

- **Wh- questions** usually have a **falling** intonation:



What's **YOUR** NAME?

What's the **DEPARTURE** time?

















Who is **HOWARD** ROURKE?

When's **DINNER**?

PHRASING: LISTEN FOR BREAKS

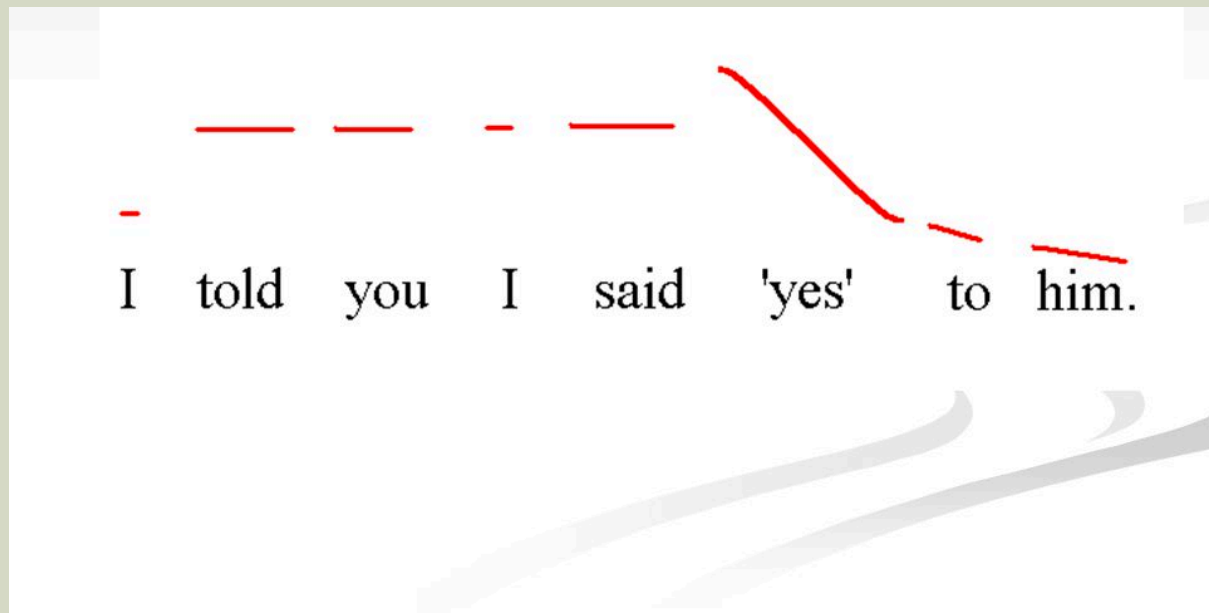
Five places to **pause** in English:

- After the complete subject
- Before “that” and other clauses
- At most punctuation marks
- Before conjunctions
- Before prepositions

 comma	 semicolon	 colon	 full stop	 exclamation mark	 question mark
 apostrophe	 quotes	 double quotes	 hyphen	 dash	
 stroke or slash	 parentheses or (round) brackets	 square brackets	 ellipsis	 asterisk	

TONIC STRESS

- The last stressed syllable of a compound, phrase or sentence receives ***TONIC STRESS**.



END OF A **SENTENCE**: TONIC STRESS + FALL

Listen for SENTENCE-FINAL **FALLING INTONATION**:

If you are at the end of a SENTENCE or a SEMI-COLON:

- The stressed syllable in a word with tonic stress has a VERY HIGH PITCH;
- The pitch FALLS SHARPLY and doesn't go up again.
- The remaining syllables, if there are any, are read with VERY LOW, EVEN PITCH.

END OF A **PHRASE**: TONIC STRESS + FALL + GENTLE RISE

Listen for the **CONTINUATION RISE**:

If you are only at the end of a **COMPOUND** or **PHRASE** (and **NOT** the end of the sentence):

- The last stressed syllable gets a **HIGH PITCH**.
- The pitch **FALLS SHARPLY**.
- The pitch now **GENTLY RISES** over the same syllable, if there are no more syllables in the phrase, or over the remaining syllables, if there are any, to signal that it is not the end of the sentence, and that more is still coming.

11. LISTEN FOR DISCOURSE MARKERS

Discourse markers can help orient you and get you ready for what's coming.

- **OK, so...**

A common way to start a story.

- **...right?**

A way to check and see if our listeners are still following our story.

- **“Hey,...”**

One way of starting a casual conversation out of the blue with someone.



12. THE GRAMMAR MUST BE CORRECT!

- Use your knowledge of grammar to check what you've written – it MUST be **GRAMMATICAL!**

X *Every seat have hold two people.*

X *I didn't care they punched.*

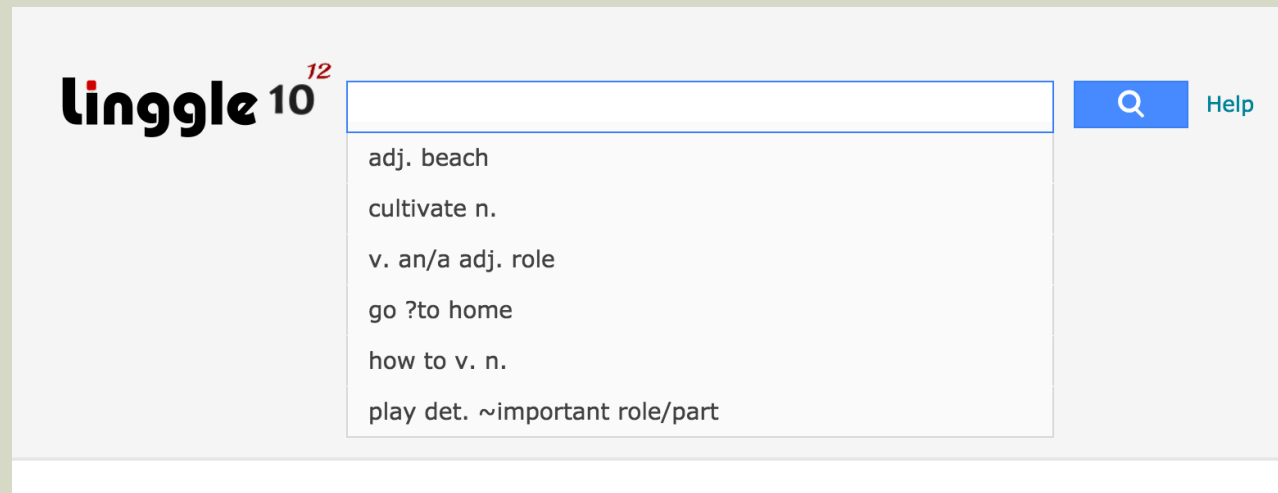
13. CHECKLIST: VERBS, NOUNS, PRONOUNS

- Is the verb **intransitive**? Make sure it's followed by a **preposition**, and the right one!
- Does the **verb** form **agree** with the subject, i.e. **-s** for **third person singular**?
- Is the verb in the right **tense**? Is it "**I heard**," "**I've heard**" or "**I'd heard**"?
Listen carefully!
- Is the noun **countable**?
Listen for an **article**
and/or a **plural marker**
- Is the noun **uncountable**? No **-s**!
- Do you have the right **pronouns**?



14. MEET LINGGLE AND NETSPEAK!

Google is great for checking almost anything. But there are also specialized tools for checking collocations, like Linggle and Netspeak.



Netspeak

One word leads to another.

I KEPT WALKING ? THE AISLE.



<http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-gpbeSy65Y50/ToE5QoNaL-I/AAAAAAAAACB0/YUEgVqx-64s/s1600/aisle+bus.jpg>

FORMAT FOR LINGGLE SEARCHES

-	search for any word
~ Term	search for the similar words of Term
~ Term #N	the top N similar words of Term
? Term	search for Term optionally
*	match zero or more words
Term1 / Term2	with either Term1 or Term2
part-of-speech	search for word with specific part-of-speech. v. (verb), n. (noun), adj. (adjective), adv. (adverb) and prep. (preposition), det. (determiner), conj. (conjunction), pron. (pronoun), interj. (interjection)

WALK_THE AISLE

linggle 10

walk_the aisle



Help

walk **down** the aisle

91 %

32,854



walk **up** the aisle

7 %

2,511



walk **across** the aisle

< 1 %

135



walk **in** the aisle

< 1 %

117



walk **through** the aisle

< 1 %

96



walk **along** the aisle

< 1 %

52



walk **to** the aisle

< 1 %

42



STINK PREP. N.

linggle 10¹²

stink prep. n. |



Help

stink of Metal

24 %

stink of hog

5 %

stink on ice

4 %

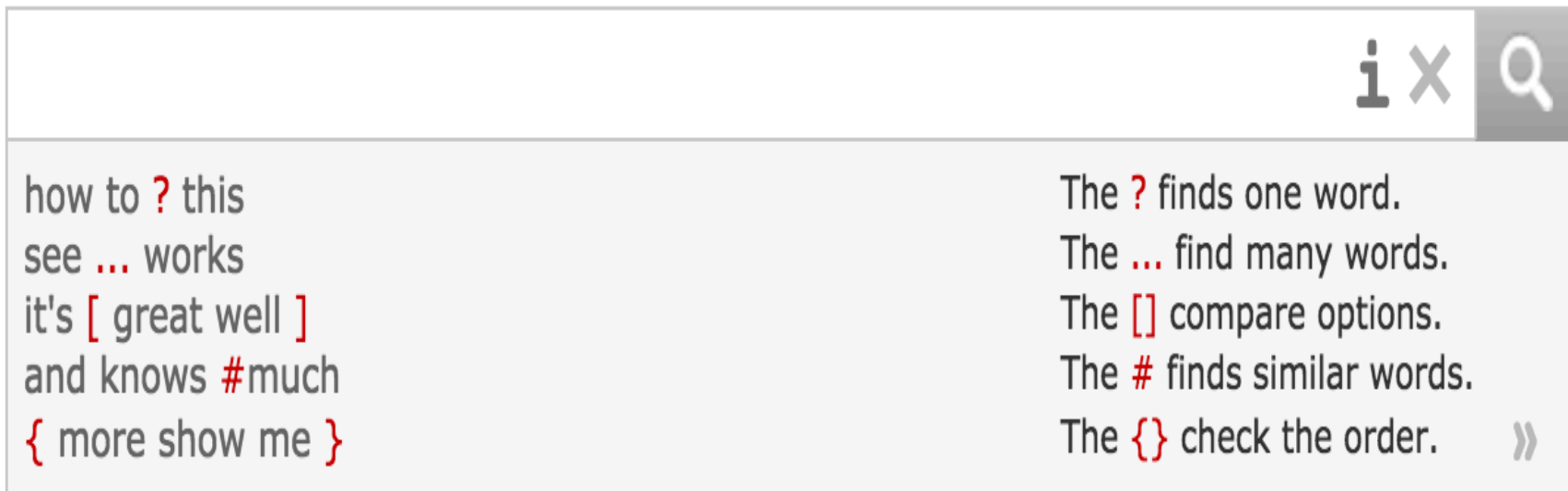
stink of death

3 %

stink of smoke

3 %

FORMAT FOR NETSPEAK SEARCHES



The screenshot shows a search bar with a magnifying glass icon and a close button (iX). Below the search bar, there are two columns of text. The left column lists search examples with special characters highlighted in red. The right column explains the function of each character, also with the character highlighted in red. A double arrow icon is at the bottom right of the right column.

how to ? this	The ? finds one word.
see ... works	The ... find many words.
it's [great well]	The [] compare options.
and knows #much	The # finds similar words.
{ more show me }	The {} check the order. »

A ? OF LAND

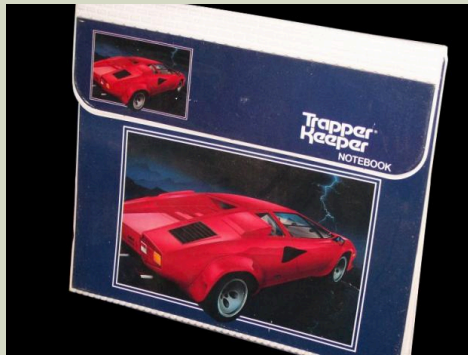
a piece of land	100,000	24.4%	+
a parcel of land	91,000	22.2%	+
a tract of land	70,000	17.2%	+
a plot of land	45,000	11.0%	+
a strip of land	24,000	6.0%	+
a lot of land	18,000	4.6%	+
a variety of land	11,000	2.7%	+
a grant of land	8,100	2.0%	+
a portion of land	7,000	1.7%	+
a block of land	6,400	1.6%	+
a point of land	6,200	1.5%	+
a result of land	5,500	1.4%	+
a number of land	5,300	1.3%	+
a section of land	5,300	1.3%	+
a bit of land	4,900	1.2%	+

15. USE



IMAGES

- Check **Google IMAGES** to know at a glance what unfamiliar objects look like, also commercial brands and other proper nouns



Trapper Keeper



Scooby-Doo
(cartoon)



Mobile home

http://images.mentalfloss.com/sites/default/files/styles/insert_main_wide_image/public/lamborghini-trapper-keeper.jpg
<http://aarcs.com/mobilehome1.jpg>
http://static.tvtropes.org/pmwiki/pub/images/new_scoow_doow_7704.png

16. RECOGNIZE SELF-CORRECTIONS!

- “...our commitment to the rule of law; our commitment to human rights...”

- **Q:** I could swear I heard something between “rule of law” and “our commitment,” or is there something wrong with my ears?



- **YOU CAN EDIT OUT MISTAKES AND HESITATIONS!**

- "We have to judge our commitment to the rule of law; [our trad...our] our commitment to human rights can't be measured..."

17. INCONSISTENT TENSES IN STORYTELLING

- If you are listening to a story, the speaker will often use the “**historical present**,” also called the “**narrative present**” to make listeners feel like they’re in the middle of the action
- But in fact it is much more natural and automatic to speak of things in the past with the **past tense**
- As result, the **present** and **past tenses** are often **mixed** in storytelling
- But.. do **NOT** use this as an excuse to be sloppy with tenses!
- Note: “**He’s like...**” = “**He goes...**” = “He says/said...”

THE HISTORICAL PRESENT

Examples:

- I hear you resigned
- In jokes and imaginative writing it gives **dramatic immediacy**: The battle rages all around him (dear reader) We see the brave Captain Francis Drake standing by the wheel with the Spanish Amada burning as he continued to attack and destroy the Spanish fleet. As the fighting ends.....

18. LINKING CAN HELP YOU!

- You may be able to hear an **unclear final consonant** of a word at the **BEGINNING** of the **NEXT** word if it starts with a vowel

- **turn** around?
or: **turn****ed** around?

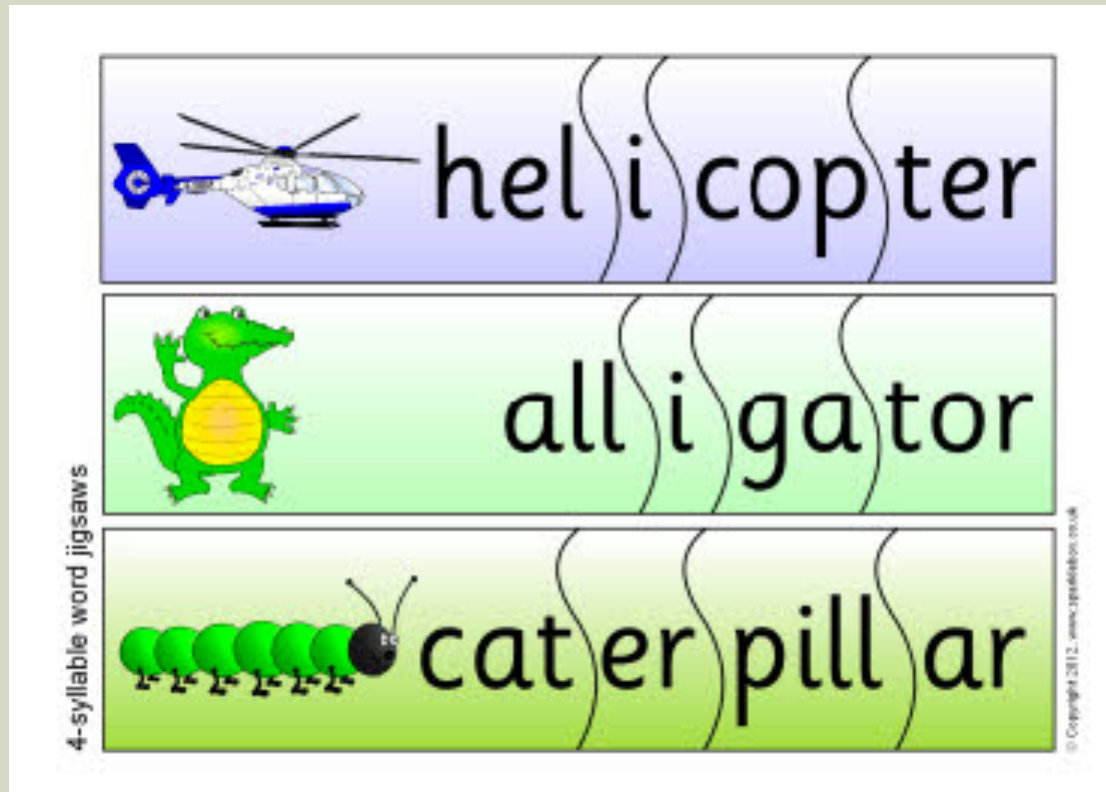
Listen for:

- **Tur** **n**around **vs.**
- **Turn** **d**around



19. COUNT THE SYLLABLES!

- The word you write MUST have **the right number of syllables** – if it doesn't, it must be a different word!



HOW MANY SYLLABLES?

This trick is VERY useful!

- **Present or past tense?**

If the verb ends with “-t” or “-d,” it will have an **extra syllable** in the regular “-ed” past tense, e.g. start, started**ed**; dread, dreaded**ed**

- **Singular or plural?**

If a word (noun or verb) ends with a sibilant: /s, z, ʃ, ʒ, tʃ, dʒ/ and has a **final “es”** to mark a plural or third-person singular verb, or a possessive “’s”, it will have an **extra syllable**, e.g. rose**es**, roses**es**; choice**es**, choices**es**

- So sometimes you can determine if a word is present or past, singular or plural by **counting syllables!**

20. TELL YOURSELF A STORY IN CHINESE

- When part of the story is unclear, think carefully **about what you DO hear clearly**
- Sit back and tell the part you know to yourself as a story **IN CHINESE**
- Your brain will often **AUTOMATICALLY fill in the blank** with the right word(s) in Chinese
- Now listen to the passage again, and **translate** your Chinese story into English!



THE WORDS WILL COME OUT AUTOMATICALLY!

- Example: **Every seat**

(2 syllables) **two people.**

- Chinese: 每一個座位

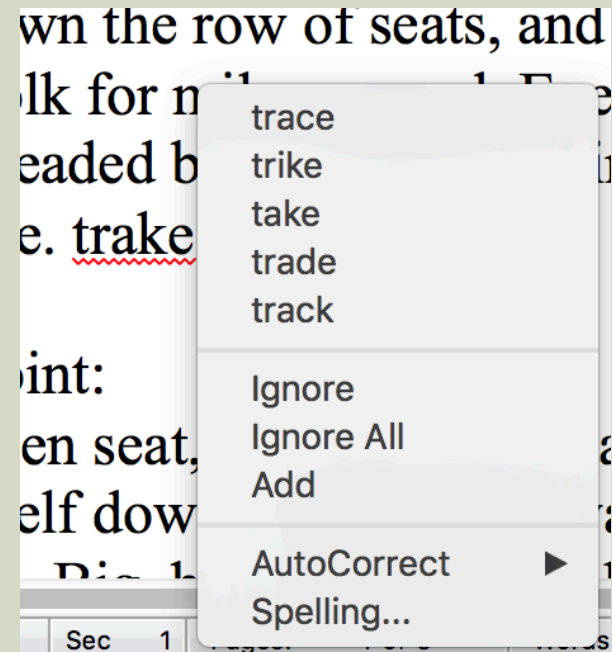
兩個人。

- **English?**



21. RIGHT-CLICK FOR POSSIBILITIES

- When you're not sure of a word or how to spell it, or when you see a **red, squiggly line, right-click** in **Word**, and it will show you some words that are similar to what you've typed, with the correct spelling!



- **OneLook** and **Google** will also show a **contextual menu** of options as you type in your query – don't ignore them! They may be just what you need!

22. USE ONELOOK'S SEARCH TOOLS

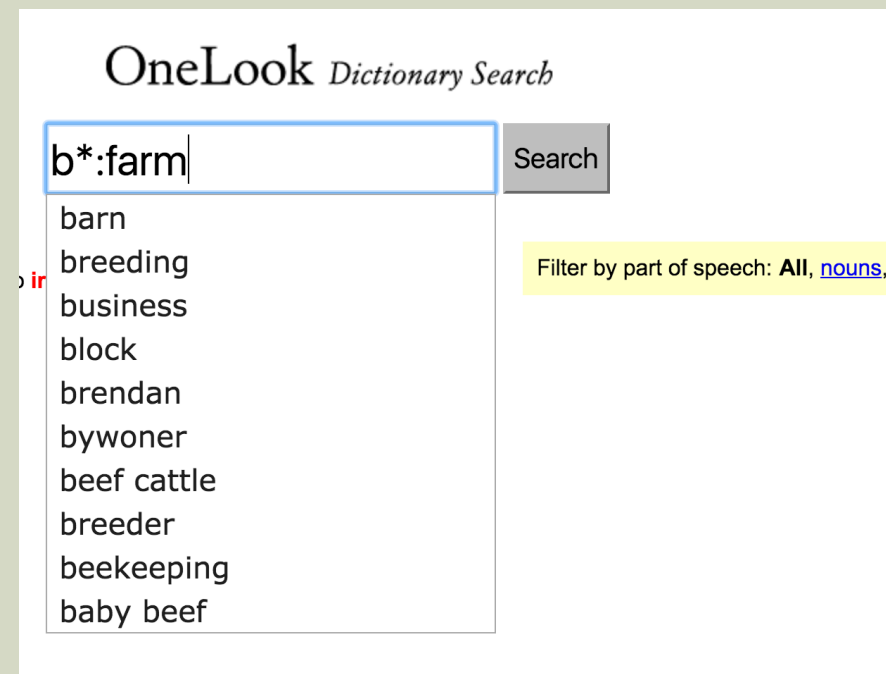
- You can find words with “**wildcards**”:
 - ? stands for **one single character** 字元
 - * stands for **any number of 若干letters/characters**
 - # stands for **one consonant**
 - @ stands for **one vowel**
 - Use **expand:nasa** for **acronyms**
- Make sure you click on “**Common words only**” to narrow down the choices

FIND RELATED WORDS IN THE ONELOOK REVERSE DICTIONARY

- If you can't hear a word clearly, and you've never learned the word before, what can you do?
- Type in the letters of the sounds you hear, then *****: then the topic, e.g.

b* : farm

- First match:
the target word
barn



OneLook *Dictionary Search*

b*:farm | Search

barn
breeding
business
block
brendan
bywoner
beef cattle
breeder
beekeeping
baby beef

Filter by part of speech: All, [nouns](#),

ONELOOK REVERSE DICTIONARY

Use OneLook **Thesaurus/Reverse Dictionary filters**:

- **Synonyms**
- Starts with
- Number of letters
- **Also related to**
- Rhymes with
- **Sounds like**
- Vowels like
- Number of syllables
- Phrases, e.g. ****birds****

<http://www.onelook.com/thesaurus/>

The screenshot shows the OneLook Thesaurus/Reverse Dictionary interface for the word "cologne". The word "cologne" is entered in a search box at the top. Below the search box, there is a definition: "cologne: a perfumed liquid made of essential oils and during the 15th century as a member of the Hanseatic". To the right of the definition, there is a "Filter: 7" label. Below the definition, there are three input fields: "Starts with...", "Num letters...", and "Also rel...". Below these fields, there are tabs for "All", "Nouns", "Adjectives", "Adverbs", and "Verbs". The "All" tab is selected, and a list of 29 related terms is displayed in two columns. The first three terms are highlighted in yellow: "1. Eau De Cologne", "2. Koln", and "3. cologne water". The remaining terms are: "4. perfume", "5. fragrance", "6. scent", "7. smell", "8. Eau", "9. flavor", "21. Eau De Toilette", "22. deodorant", "23. aftershave lotion", "24. lotion", "25. musk", "26. hair gel", "27. shampoo", "28. patchouli", and "29. Chypre".

OR USE A CONVENTIONAL THESAURUS

The screenshot shows the website thesaurus.com with the word 'yell' entered in the search bar. The page displays the definition of 'yell' as a noun meaning 'loud communication'. Below the definition, there are filters for Relevance, Complexity, and Length. A section titled 'Synonyms for yell' lists various words in a grid format. A red box highlights the word 'yelp' in the second column of the grid.

Thesaurus.com synonyms

yell see definition of yell show

noun **loud communication**

Relevance A-Z Complexity + Length

Synonyms for yell Common

noun **loud communication**

hoot	whoop	cry	ululate
howl	yelp	howler	vociferate
screech	bawl	lament	weep
shriek	bellow	roar	yap
squawk	call	scream	yip
squeal	cheer	shout	
wail	complain	shrill	

<http://www.thesaurus.com/>

OR WORDNET

WordNet Search - 3.1

- [WordNet home page](#) - [Glossary](#) - [Help](#)

Word to search for:

Display Options: (Select option to change)

Key: "S:" = Show Synset (semantic) relations, "W:" = Show Word (lexical) relations
Display options for sense: (gloss) "an example sentence"

Noun

- **S: (n)** [cry](#), [outcry](#), [call](#), **yell**, [shout](#), [vociferation](#) (a loud utterance; often in protest or opposition) *"the speaker was interrupted by loud cries from the rear of the audience"*
- **S: (n)** [cry](#), **yell** (a loud utterance of emotion (especially when inarticulate)) *"a cry of rage"; "a yell of pain"*

Verb

- **S: (v)** [shout](#), [shout out](#), [cry](#), [call](#), **yell**, [scream](#), [holler](#), [hollo](#), [squall](#) (utter a sudden loud cry) *"she cried with pain when the doctor inserted the needle"; "I yelled to her from the window but she couldn't hear me"*
- **S: (v)** **yell**, [scream](#) (utter or declare in a very loud voice) *"You don't have to yell--I can hear you just fine"*

<http://wordnetweb.princeton.edu/perl/webwn>

23. TRY BOY/GIRL BABY NAME PAGES FOR UNFAMILIAR PERSONAL NAMES

- Girls and Boys are listed separately, usually alphabetically
- On some sites you can do an “Advanced Search,” where you can input some of the letters and the number of syllables
- Names will often have an independent intonation, with each name stressed, and tonic accent on the last stress:

CHARles **RO**bert***DAR**win

Mamello	♀
Marcello	♀
Marino	♀
Mary-Jo	♀
Maryjo	♀
Masako	♀
Massimo	♀

24. LISTEN FOR REPETITION

- **Repeated** material gives you a second or third chance to hear the same word(s) again
- However, because it is old information, it will often be pronounced very quickly and less clearly the second or third time around. In this case, **go back to the first mention** to hear it more clearly.

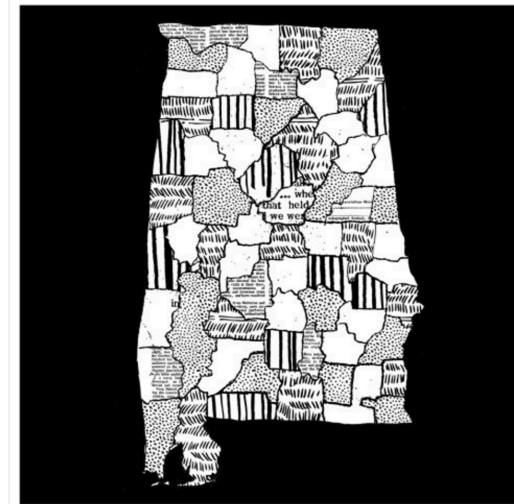


EXAMPLE OF REPETITION

- Example: In “**Just Mercy**”:
“...how we treat the rich,
the powerful, and the
privileged. We have to
judge our commitment to
justice, to the rule of law, to
human rights, by not
looking at how we treat the
rich, and the powerful, and
the **privileged**.”


On the **second** mention, “the **privileged**” is fast and unclear; it sounds like [^lprɪzɪ] ([z] sounds like ㄹ)

Episode 45: Just Mercy



25. USE PARALLELISM AND RHYME

- **Parallelism** can help you retrieve missing words, e.g. Nobody's **RICH**, but some of us are really ?.
- **Rhymes**: Use **OneLook** or **Rhymezone** e.g.: It's showing signs of ? and tear. <http://www.rhymezone.com/>



The screenshot shows the Rhymezone website interface. At the top, the logo 'rhymezone' is displayed with 'rhyme' in colorful letters and 'zone' in grey. Below the logo is a search bar with the word 'tear' entered. To the right of the search bar are buttons for 'Search' and 'Find rhymes'. Below the search bar, there are several links: '[Rhymes] Lyrics and poems Near rhymes Synonyms / Related Descriptive words Definitions Homophones Similar sound Same consonants'. A dropdown menu is open, showing 'Highlight words related to...'. Below this, the text 'Words and phrases that rhyme with tear: (1018 results)' is displayed. Underneath, the section '1 syllable:' is followed by a list of words: '-sphere, -ware, 4-year, aer, air, arare, arriere, ayre, baehr, baer, bahr, bair, bare, bear, beare, beer, behr, bere, blair, blaire, blare, brere, briere, caere, caire, care, chair, chare, chear, cheer, cher, chere, clair, claire, clare, clear, cleere, crare, crear, creer, cyr, daire, dare, darr, dear, deer, deere, derr, derre, doucepere, drear, dreher, ere, err, eyre,'.

26. DROPPED “H-” IN PRONOUNS

The initial /h/ sound is often dropped in **unstressed non-initial** pronouns, e.g.:

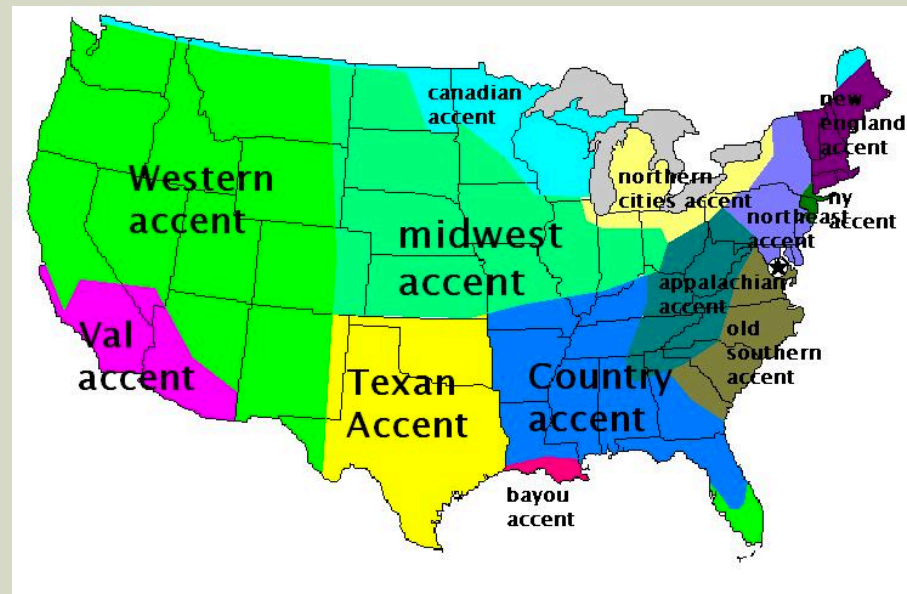
- he = 'e e.g. “Here 'e is!”
- him = 'im e.g. “Give it to 'im!”
- his = 'is e.g. “There's 'is sister!”
- her = 'er e.g. “Look at 'er go!”

Also:

- them = 'em e.g. “Tell 'em the answer!”

27. LEARN COMMON DIALECT EQUIVALENTS

- Learn and get used to some of the main features of **Southern** and **Black US English** and other major dialects
- Examples:
 - “I”: General American [aɪ] = Southern/Black US English [a]
 - “pen”: GA [ɛn] = S/BE [ɪn]



28. LOGIC, COHERENCE, BACKGROUND

- Translate the story into Chinese in your head. Does everything **fit together** and **make sense**? If anything is at all odd, follow up on it – there may be a **misunderstanding**.
- Make sure you understand something of the **background** of each story, for example, just how sensitive **race relations** are in the US.



https://i.guim.co.uk/img/media/37cb937a75ca9867bceb046172e56db5189f9576/0_0_5616_3370/master/5616.jpg?w=620&q=55&auto=format&usm=12&fit=max&s=6ab7e38ace2e990763e9712e40f0cdb4

COMBINE THESE TRICKS!

- You will often need to use **more than one** of these tricks in the same phrase!

LAST TRICK:

When all else fails...

29. GUESS!!!



<http://guessthemovie-answers.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/guessthemovie-lrg-138.jpg>

30. YOU'RE NOT FINISHED YET!!

Make sure you **PROOFREAD** your work **CAREFULLY** while **LISTENING** to the whole audio file **ONCE MORE!**

- Is everything **spelled** correctly?
- Is the **grammar** correct?
- Does it **make sense**?
- Is the passage **COHERENT**?

WHAT CLEVER TRICKS HAVE **YOU** DISCOVERED?

Please share them with us!



LINKS

Find us on !

Karen on Ivy League Analytical English

<https://www.facebook.com/Karen-on-Ivy-League-Analytical-English-234235001756/>

師德 articles on pronunciation and grammar:

http://homepage.ntu.edu.tw/~karchung/Karen/Karen_Chung_publications.htm#CET

Subscribe to our Email Updates list: <http://eepurl.com/505qT>

Online Phonetics course:

<http://ocw.aca.ntu.edu.tw/ntu-ocw/index.php/ocw/cou/101S102>

Practice Dictations:

<http://homepage.ntu.edu.tw/~karchung/phonetics/dictations.htm>

Mini-conversations with Echo files:

<http://homepage.ntu.edu.tw/~karchung/miniconversations/MC.htm>