



# Improve your skills with the MCSE Independent Study Guide

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# Reading

## GUIDED READERS



<http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/>



<http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/>

Borrow one from the library! There are different genres (classics, romantic stories, crime stories) that you can read in your free time; on the way to school or in your free time.

Check every day, on the bus, train or metro! Read the headlines, predict the content of the articles from the headline and choose the most interesting one to read.

There are different headings you can choose from:

- **NEWS REPORT:** listen to authentic news stories
- **THE ENGLISH WE SPEAK:** catch up on the very latest English words and phrases
- **LINGOHACK:** listen and watch genuine BBC World news and learn key words and phrases
- **6 MINUTE ENGLISH:** listen to discussions on different topic and learn new vocabulary
- **PRONUNCIATION:** get familiar with a system of symbols for the sounds of English.
- **DRAMA:** watch and listen different dramas based on original books, film or plays.
- **WORDS IN THE NEWS:** listen to a story from the news



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



<http://www.manchester.gov.uk/centrallibrary>



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

## NewsFlash English

Free English Lessons

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

Practice your reading, listening and writing. There are new articles added every week.

- **DIFFERENT LEVELS (0-7)**
  - **SPEED READING**
  - **5-SPEED LISTENING**
- **DICTATION:** listen and write down what the speaker says

Visit our local library Central Library, become a member and borrow different books.

If you don't want to become a member of the library, you can just go in, choose a book and read it in the library!

Read real English books for free on this great website. These books are originals, not adapted for international students, so you can improve your understanding of grammar and vocabulary and **read like a native speaker.**

Read different articles arranged by topics and complete the activities.

# Speaking

Use the **Speaking Cards with IELTS** questions for each part of the exam. The Speaking File is in the Computer Room and our Library.

Discuss different topics with friends.

Give each other feedback and learn together!



# Writing



<http://www.bbc.co.uk/blogs/learningenglish>



<http://www.bbc.co.uk/skillswise/topic-group/writing>

- Write every day in your diary to improve your :
  - SPELLING
  - GRAMMAR in writing
  - HANDWRITING
  - STRUCTURE
  - VOCABULARY

After your teacher finishes marking your writing, try to **correct the mistakes** and re-write it without the mistakes. This will help you to understand grammar and improve your writing.

Visit the website, read messages on different topics and **add your own ideas, opinions and comments** on this exciting blog.

Visit **Skillswise** for different ideas and tips on writing skills.

# Listening and Vocabulary



<http://www.bbc.co.uk/voices/wil/>



<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/multi-speed-listening.html>



<http://www.esl-lab.com/>



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

Listen to people talk in **different accents** and try to understand what they are saying.

This site uses the media to create language exercises. You can **stay up to date and improve your English** at the same time, as new articles are added each week.

Each task is recorded, so you can also listen to the texts.

**On this site there are quizzes at different levels:** easy, medium and difficult.

There are a variety of **different tasks** here: General English, Basic Listening, Academic Purposes, 20-minute Vocabulary lessons, Long conversations with videos.

Listening exercises on this website can help you practise listening skills at **different levels** (elementary to advanced).

Each task **has exercises** that you can complete while listening. You can also practise **listening for Cambridge exams** (FCE, CAE, Business English)



<http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/>

Watch and listen to people discussing different topics and develop your **pronunciation skills** while learning about different cultures.



<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b01cq3b>

This is a fantastic conversation show on Radio 4.  
Listen to people **discussing different topics**.



<http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/en/>

On this website you can play games, read and listen to different stories and **complete listening & grammar exercises**.  
You will find lots of listening activities and video content in the Listen & Watch section of the site.