

This course is suited to those wishing to study English who have a good intermediate knowledge of the language. The course will include a Berlitz English book, audio CDs and website access. The course will also include use of DVDs and a Berlitz compiled magazine containing contemporary articles of cultural interest. The goals for each lesson will cover a range of pronunciation practice, vocabulary work, listening activities based on real life situations, reading tasks and writing exercises to help focus on accuracy and grammar to enhance effective communication. Supplementary material may be included according to the changing language needs of the learner. The course will include learning strategies to enable students to develop their language skills outside the classroom.

Orientation Welcome to the Berlitz Centre by staff

Invitations, Dressing for events

- Extending invitations
- Giving/accepting compliments
- Accepting/declining invitations
- Asking for advice (on what to wear)

LEARNING STRATEGIES

- Being an active learner

Introductions, Small talk

- Introducing yourself and others
- Starting a conversation and expressing interest
- Interrupting
- Ending a conversation and saying goodbye

Unfamiliar foods and utensils, Second servings

- Asking about a dish
- Coping with unfamiliar foods and utensils
- Asking for seconds
- Declining food and drink

Difficult conversation situations

- Asking for repetition/clarification
- Checking comprehension and rephrasing
- Avoiding /changing the subject
- Cutting a conversation short

The culture of money

- Offering to treat someone to a meal
- Discussing who is paying
- Handling uncomfortable money questions

When things go wrong

- Agreeing and disagreeing
- Objecting and criticizing
- Expressing annoyance, anger and frustration
- Asking for and accepting forgiveness

Uncomfortable situations

- Asking permission
- Asking someone not to do something
- Promising not to say anything and asking favors
- Accepting and avoiding a commitment
- Changing your mind

Worries and concerns, Helping others, Warnings

- Expressing worry and concern
- Offering reassurance
- Offering assistance
- Expressing relief and giving warnings
- Expressing gratitude

Jokes, Sarcasm, Euphemisms, Loan words

- Introducing a joke
- Saying you didn't understand
- Telling and judging jokes
- Understanding foreign words
- Giving and responding to news
- Giving praise and congratulations
- Expressing sympathy and offering condolences

Review

Language review (grammar and vocabulary) and/or Role Play
 DVD based lesson
 English Passport magazine lesson
 Level Check
 Your turn presentations

Leaving Certificates for students finishing course

Time will be given each day in order to focus on the following objectives and language input

- Inviting a client out and extending an invitation
- Accepting, declining an invitation and expressing thanks
- Complimenting the host and discussing weekend activities
- Talking about entertainment, activities and events
- Choosing a movie and describing travel experiences
- Voicing a complaint
- Describing products and identifying product features
- Explaining purpose of a device and getting technical assistance
- Talking about the stages of life and describing important events
- Sharing exciting news and responding to announcements

- *Would like + pronoun + infinitive*
- *Polite requests with would and could*
- *So vs. such*
- *Modal auxiliary verbs so/too/either/neither*
- *Review of passive voice*
- *Passive – progressive forms*
- *Relative clauses – definitions and adding information*
- *Past perfect and past perfect progressive tenses*
- *Time clauses*