

Week 1: Focus on Reading Comprehension

Day 1	Reading Activity
	Magazine Article: http://www.sciencemag.org/news/2016/02/even-ebay-women-get-paid-less-their-labor Focus: identifying the main idea, unfamiliar vocabulary
Day 2	Reading Activity
	Newspaper Article: http://www.nytimes.com/2016/02/21/technology/apple-sees-value-in-privacy-vow.html?ref=todayspaper&_r=0 Focus: identifying the author's point of view & arguments, unfamiliar vocabulary
Day 3	Reading Activity
	Persuasive Essay: http://www.presentationmagazine.com/persuasive-speech-social-networking-1348.htm Focus: identifying the author's arguments & supporting evidence, unfamiliar vocabulary
Day 4	Reading Activity
	Informational Text: A brief history of the British Monarchy http://www.royal.gov.uk/MonarchAndCommonwealth/Canada/Historyandpresentgovernment.aspx Focus: identify the key events & why they were significant (list the key items), unfamiliar vocabulary
Day 5	Reading Activity
	Informational Text: Tea Time in England: What it means http://www.historic-uk.com/CultureUK/afternoon-tea/ Focus: identify the most important information (list the key items), unfamiliar vocabulary
Day 6	REST
Day 7	Integrated Practice
	Text: Short Story http://www.martinadevlin.com/short-story-singing-dumb.html
	Recording: http://www.thestoryplayer.com/listen-to-singing-dumb-by-martina-devlin/
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Listen to the native speaker read the short story. Listen again, as you silently read along. (Listening Comprehension) 2. Reread the text, but this time out loud without the recording. (Speaking Practice - pronunciation) 3. Identify the key moments in the story 4. Summarize the story in your own words (250 words).

Week 2: Focus on Listening Comprehension

Day 1	Listening Activity
	Neil deGrasse on being yourself https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BOKFfvTGuGk
	Focus: North American accent, identifying the main idea & the point of view of the speaker
Day 2	Listening Activity
	How to make the perfect cup of tea https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dkQSnbo7urA
	Focus: English accent, identify most important point, identify what might make a <i>bad</i> cup of tea based on her advice
Day 3	Listening Activity
	Interview with Nicole Kidman (by Ellen) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9DrPJlzdZK8
	Focus: Australian accent, identifying Nicole's point of views about how to deal with the "loss" of loved ones.
Day 4	Listening Activity
	Song: Class of 1999; Wear Sunscreen https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sTJ7AzBIJoI & https://www.google.com/webhp?sourceid=chrome-instant&ion=1&espv=2&es_th=1&ie=UTF-8#q=sunscreen%20song%20lyrics
	Focus: American accent, unfamiliar vocabulary & expressions, identify the message of the song
Day 5	Listening Activity
	How do you read so much? https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2zUmAnlyXjs
	Focus: English accent, identify the audience of the video, why is reading a challenge for so many people? How does she manage to read so much?
Day 6	REST
Day 7	Integrated Practice
	Lyrics & Song: You're my best friend by Queen https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tN_HVup9oOg

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Listen to the singer sing without reading the lyrics. Listen again, reading the lyrics. 2. Reread the lyrics, speaking (or singing) out loud without the recording. 3. Identify the message of the song. 4. Rewrite the message of the song in prose (in at least 150 words)
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Week 3: Focus on Writing Skills

Day 1	Writing Activity
	<p>Prompt: It is generally believed that the Internet is an excellent means of communication but some people suggest that it may not be the best place to find information. Discuss both these views and give your own opinion. (from: http://www.ielts-exam.net/ielts_writing_samples_task_2/958/)</p> <p>Write a practice essay (250 words in 40 minutes)</p>
Day 2	Writing Activity
	<p>Infographic about how much it costs to live in Bali compared with London: https://e27.co/infographic-working-beach-bali-new-cool-20151216/</p> <p>Summarize the visual data in a paragraph (150 words in 20 minutes).</p>
Day 3	Writing Activity
	<p>Prompt: Many people believe that media coverage of celebrities is having a negative effect on children. To what extent do you agree? (from: http://www.ielts-exam.net/ielts_writing_samples_task_2/903/)</p> <p>Write a practice essay (250 words in 40 minutes)</p>
Day 4	Writing Activity
	<p>Your luggage was lost on a recent trip. Write a letter to your insurance company (150 words) describing the details of your trip, what happened, what was in the bag (and what the items were worth), and make a request for compensation. Complete within 20 minutes. Repeat until satisfied.</p>
Day 5	Writing Activity
	<p>Income, education, & race graph: http://www.demos.org/sites/default/files/imce/fig_2.png</p> <p>Summarize the visual data in a paragraph (150 words in 20 minutes)</p>
Day 6	REST

Day 7	Integrated Practice
	Video (with transcript): Discussion about “genius” https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MqESTwxVulk
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Watch the interview, rewatch while reading subtitles. 2. Read the transcript out loud without the recording 3. Identify the main points and key figures in the report 4. Summarize the report in 150 words.

Week 4: Focus on Speaking Skills

Day 1	Speaking Activity
	Prompt(s): Your Family, Your Work, Your Favorite Hobbies
	To do: Practice speaking, record, listen, repeat, trying to improve
	Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R9CdgpSW0I
Day 2	Pronunciation Practice: th sounds
	Speaking Activity
	Prompt(s): How has the internet changed our lives? What are some benefits and disadvantages?
	Look at prompt, note main ideas (timed: 1 minute); speaking about the topic for 2 minutes straight using notes (repeat 3x)
Day 3	Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DfxDfaOPJi0
	Pronunciation Practice: sh / ch distinction
	Speaking Activity
	Prompt(s): Your best friend, your favorite films, your favorite food
Day 4	To do: Practice speaking, record, listen, repeat, trying to improve
	Videos: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iH-9lqrGbBU
	Pronunciation Practice: r / l distinction
	Speaking Activity
Day 4	Prompt(s): Why do you think families are smaller these days? How has the concept of family evolved?
	Look at prompt, note main ideas (timed: 1 minute); speaking about the topic for 2 minutes straight using notes (repeat 3x)
	Videos: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b1FEKbJgtOM
	Pronunciation Practice: vowels
	Speaking Activity

Day 5	Prompt(s): How much television is too much television? Has its role in family life changed?
	Look at prompt, note main ideas (timed: 1 minute); speaking about the topic for 2 minutes straight using notes (repeat 3x)
	Videos: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z5iL_pu5CNs
	Pronunciation Practice: s / z distinction
Day 6	REST
Day 7	Integrated Practice
	Video: Michio Kaku on Asperger's – the supergenius: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vue8jsLqPbo
	1. Watch the video. Rewatch, reading the transcript while listening
	2. Read the transcript out loud without the recording
	3. Note the main ideas of Michio's video a
	4. Write a summary (250 words)