



# Improving Your English Communication Skills at University

## **Join UNSW clubs and societies:**

[www.arc.unsw.edu.au](http://www.arc.unsw.edu.au)

## **Join UNSW Professional Speakers (Toastmasters):**

Improve your public speaking skills

[www.unswtoastmasters.org.au](http://www.unswtoastmasters.org.au)

## **Improve fluency and vocabulary through reading and practice:**

Spend at least 10 minutes a day reading a newspaper article, magazine or novel.

Read online newspaper articles [www.smh.com.au](http://www.smh.com.au) and watch the videos such as those on "The Sydney Morning Herald" website. Crosswords may be found in the paper copy of "The Sydney Morning Herald" and other newspapers, in crossword books and on crossword websites.

## **Speak English as much as possible**

To everyone you can!

## **Download podcasts:**

Via iTunes:

Go to [www.itunes.com](http://www.itunes.com).

Australia Network videos are also available here.

Listen to podcasts about Australian slang, culture etc.

[www.podcastdirectory.com](http://www.podcastdirectory.com)

This is also available as a free podcast on iTunes

listen and repeat to improve pronunciation

## **Listen to news on the radio:**

Go to [www.abc.net.au/radio/](http://www.abc.net.au/radio/)

## **Watch English language programs on TV:**

Watch Australian news programs and shows such as "Home and Away" (Channel 7) and "Neighbours" (Channel 10). Make a note of new words and expressions you come across.

## **Join and use your local public library:**

Books and DVDs may be borrowed free of charge. DVDs may be played again and again, paused, fast forwarded etc. Try watching without the English subtitles. Libraries are usually run by your local council. See:

[www.randwick.nsw.gov.au](http://www.randwick.nsw.gov.au)

[www.botanybay.nsw.gov.au](http://www.botanybay.nsw.gov.au)

[www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au](http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au)

[www.waverley.nsw.gov.au](http://www.waverley.nsw.gov.au)

[www.woollahra.nsw.gov.au](http://www.woollahra.nsw.gov.au)

For a full list of public libraries in New South Wales see:

[www.nswnet.net](http://www.nswnet.net)

### **Attend classes and workshops – and speak up!**

Attend Lunchtime Careers Conversations workshops

Practise your English in a professional setting and meet international and local students

[www.careers.unsw.edu.au](http://www.careers.unsw.edu.au)

Use the UNSW Learning Centre and benefit from workshops and individual consultations to improve your academic skills

<http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/workshop.html>

UNSW Institute of Languages

<http://www.languages.unsw.edu.au/coursesMain.html>

Sydney Community College

<http://www.sydneycommunitycollege.com.au>

City East Community College

<http://www.escc.nsw.edu.au/courses/languages+&+communication/english>

WEA Sydney

<http://www.weasydney.nsw.edu.au/index.php>

### **Get a part-time job**

See [www.careers.unsw.edu.au](http://www.careers.unsw.edu.au) for paid and volunteer roles. You may also like to look at the website for the Centre for Volunteering at [www.volunteering.com.au/](http://www.volunteering.com.au/)

### **Mentor a new UNSW student**

See [www.international.unsw.edu.au/current/currenthome](http://www.international.unsw.edu.au/current/currenthome)

See [www.counselling.unsw.edu.au/for-students/peer-mentoring](http://www.counselling.unsw.edu.au/for-students/peer-mentoring)

Student Development International

<http://www.international.unsw.edu.au/current/currenthome.html>

The Learning Centre

<http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/>

**If you're doing well in your studies, offer to tutor another student.**

**Follow the suggestions in the article: "70 Ways to Improve Your English"**

[www.usingenglish.com/articles/70-ways-to-improve-your-english.html](http://www.usingenglish.com/articles/70-ways-to-improve-your-english.html)