

# English Speaking Strategies

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## About the Author

Mohamed Hussein Ahmed, known as King\_Laacib, is a Somali writer and English language mentor who has dedicated his time to helping others improve their English speaking abilities. His passion for languages and education has inspired many to speak with confidence and clarity.

Mohamed believes that anyone, regardless of background, can become a fluent English speaker with the right mind set and guidance.

## Dedication

This book is dedicated to every English learner who dreams of speaking fluently and confidently. May your journey be full of progress, patience, and purpose.

## Acknowledgements

Special thanks to my family, friends, and all those who supported and encouraged me throughout this project. Your belief in my mission made this book a reality.

## Introduction

Welcome to English Speaking Strategies!

This book is your companion on the journey to becoming a fluent and confident English speaker. You don't need to be perfect or memorize complicated grammar rules — you only need the right strategies and a little **dedication**.

Inside this book, you'll find:

- \* Easy grammar explained simply
- \* Practical sentence-building techniques
- \* Real-life conversation examples

\* Tips to boost your speaking confidence

Whether you're a beginner or just want to speak better English, this book is for you!

Let's begin your speaking transformation.

## **Chapter 1: Basic Grammar for Speaking**

In order to speak English effectively, it's essential to understand the core grammar rules that form the foundation of communication. Grammar is not about memorizing difficult rules — it's about understanding how words fit together to form clear, meaningful sentences. In this chapter, we'll explore the key grammar concepts that every English speaker must know.

### **1.1 Sentence Structure: Subject + Verb + Object (SVO)**

Most English sentences follow a basic structure:

> Subject + Verb + Object

> (Who? → Does what? → To whom or what?)

#### **Examples:**

\* I read books.

\* She drinks water.

\* They watch movies.

\* We study English.

Note: Always begin with the subject when forming a complete sentence in English.

Mini Exercise:

Try making your own sentences using:

\* He + [verb] + [object]

\* They + [verb] + [object]

## 1.2 The Verb "To Be" (am, is, are)

The verb "to be" is one of the most important and commonly used verbs in English. It describes identity, condition, and location.

| Subject | To Be |

| I | am |

| You | are |

| He/She/It | is |

| We/They | are |

### Examples:

- \* I am a student.
- \* She is tired.
- \* We are ready.
- \* They are at school.

Hint: Use "am," "is," or "are" based on the subject.

## 1.3 Present Simple Tense

The Present Simple Tense is used to talk about:

- \* Daily habits
- \* Facts and truths
- \* Repeated actions

### Structure:

- \* I/You/We/They → verb (base form)
- \* He/She/It → verb + s/es

### Examples:

- \* I go to work at 8 AM.
- \* He plays football every Saturday.

- \* They speak Somali and English.
- \* Water boils at 100 degrees Celsius.

Remember: Add “s” or “es” only for He/She/It.

### **Practice Sentences:**

- \* My mother \_\_\_\_\_ (cook) delicious food.
- \* We \_\_\_\_\_ (travel) every summer.
- \* He \_\_\_\_\_ (study) hard for exams.

### **1.4 Negative Sentences**

To make a negative statement in the present simple tense, use:

- \* do not (don't) for I/You/We/They
- \* does not (doesn't) for He/She/It

### **Examples:**

- \* I don't eat meat.
- \* She doesn't like coffee.
- \* They don't speak French.

Note: In negative form, the main verb stays in base form (no “s”).

### **1.5 Yes/No Questions**

To form simple yes/no questions, use do/does at the beginning:

Subject	Helping Verb
I/You/We/They	Do
He/She/It	Does

### **Examples:**

- \* Do you play music?
- \* Does he drive a taxi?

\* Do they live in Hargeisa?

**Answers:**

\* Yes, I do. / No, I don't.

\* Yes, she does. / No, she doesn't.

**1.6 Wh- Questions** (What, Where, When...)

Use question words to get more information:

| Question Word | Use For | Example |

| What | Things | What do you do? |

| Where | Places | Where do you live? |

| When | Time | When do you wake up? |

| Why | Reasons | Why are you late? |

| Who | People | Who is your teacher? |

| How | Manner / Way | How do you study English? |

**Chapter 2: Sentence Building Techniques**

Building strong and clear sentences is the key to speaking English fluently. In this chapter, you will learn how to start with simple sentences and gradually make them more advanced by adding time expressions, adjectives, adverbs, and connectors.

**2.1 Basic Sentence Structure**

The most basic sentence still follows this pattern:

> Subject + Verb + Object

> But we can add more details like:

> Subject + Verb + Object + Place + Time

**Example:**

\* Basic: I eat rice.

\* Expanded: I eat rice at home every evening.

Start small. Then add one detail at a time.

## **2.2 Using Adjectives (Sifooyin)**

Adjectives describe nouns (people, places, things).

### **Examples:**

\* She is a beautiful girl.

\* We bought a new car.

\* It's a hot day.

Adjectives usually come before the noun.

### **Practice:**

\* Write 3 sentences using adjectives to describe people or objects.

\* Example: "He has a \_\_\_\_\_ phone."

## **2.3 Using Adverbs (Fal-ku-tilmaame)**

Adverbs describe verbs — they explain how, when, or where something happens.

| Type | Example | Sentence |

| Manner | quickly | She runs quickly. |

| Time | yesterday | I studied yesterday. |

| Frequency | always, often | He always comes late. |

| Place | here, there | They are waiting there. |

Most adverbs come after the verb.

## **2.4 Making Longer Sentences with Connectors**

To combine two ideas, use connectors (linking words):

| Connector | Use For | Example |

and	Adding ideas	I like tea and coffee.
but	Showing contrast	She is tired but she's working.
because	Giving reason	I'm late because of the rain.
so	Result	It's raining, so I stayed home.
or	Choice	Do you want tea or coffee?

### **Practice:**

Write a sentence with "but" and one with "because".

## **2.5 Questions and Answers – Building Interaction**

Creating conversations starts with good questions and clear answers.

### **Example Dialogue:**

A: What do you do every day?

B: I go to work in the morning and study at night.

A: Where do you study?

B: I study at home because it's quiet.

Practice asking and answering questions with a friend or in your mind.

Quick Practice Time!

Fill in the blanks or complete the sentences:

- \* She reads a \_\_\_\_\_ book.
- \* They arrived \_\_\_\_\_ (quickly / loudly)?
- \* I went to the market \_\_\_\_\_ I needed vegetables.
- \* He speaks English \_\_\_\_\_ Somali.
- \* My brother plays football \_\_\_\_\_ Saturday afternoons.

## **Chapter 3: Common Speaking Situations**

In this chapter, we'll explore real-life situations where you need to speak English. These include greetings, shopping, asking for directions, talking on the phone, and more. Knowing what to say in common situations will help you speak naturally and confidently.

### **3.1 Greetings and Introductions**

Basic Greetings:

- \* Hello!
- \* Hi!
- \* Good morning / afternoon / evening
- \* How are you?

Responses:

- \* I'm fine, thank you.
- \* I'm good. How about you?
- \* Not bad.
- \* I'm doing great!

Introducing Yourself:

- \* My name is Mohamed.
- \* I'm from Somalia.
- \* I'm a student / teacher / worker.
- \* Nice to meet you!

Tip: Always greet politely and smile.

### **3.2 Asking for Directions**

Common Phrases:

- \* Excuse me, where is the bank?
- \* How can I get to the hospital?



- \* Is there a supermarket near here?
- \* Can you show me on the map?

Useful Words:

- \* Left
- \* Right
- \* Straight
- \* Next to
- \* Behind
- \* In front of

**Example:**

- > A: Excuse me, where is the bus station?
- > B: Go straight, then turn left. It's next to the school.

### **3.3 Shopping and Prices**

Common Questions:

- \* How much is this?
- \* Do you have this in a larger size?
- \* Can I try it on?
- \* Do you accept credit cards?

**Example Dialogue:**

- > A: How much is this shirt?
- > B: It's \$15.
- > A: Do you have it in blue?
- > B: Yes, here it is.

Tip: Practice with clothes, food, and markets vocabulary.

### 3.4 At the Restaurant

#### Ordering Food:

- \* I'd like a chicken sandwich, please.
- \* Can I see the menu?
- \* I'll have a bottle of water.
- \* Is it spicy?

#### Talking to the waiter:

- \* Can we have the bill, please?
- \* The food was delicious!
- \* Thank you very much.

#### **Example:**

- > A: Are you ready to order?
- > B: Yes. I'll have the grilled fish with rice.

### 3.5 On the Phone

#### Useful Phrases:

- \* Hello, this is Ahmed speaking.
- \* May I speak to Mr. Ali?
- \* I'm calling about the meeting.
- \* I'll call you back later.

#### **Example:**

- > A: Hello, can I speak to Ayaan?
- > B: Speaking.
- > A: Hi, I just wanted to confirm our appointment.

> B: Sure! It's at 10 AM, right?

Tip: Speak slowly and clearly when using the phone.

### **3.6 Emergencies and Help**

Important Phrases:

- \* I need help!
- \* Call the police!
- \* I'm lost.
- \* I feel sick.
- \* Is there a doctor nearby?

Learn these phrases well. They may save your life!

Quick Practice

Translate these into English:

- \* Waxaan rabaa in aan helo meel aan cunto ka cuno
- \* Sideen u tagaa saldhigga booliska?
- \* Tani waa qaali – ma jirtaa mid jaban?
- \* Waad ku mahadsantahay caawintaada.

## **Chapter 4: Confidence-Building Strategies for Speaking**

One of the biggest challenges for English learners is not grammar or vocabulary — it's confidence. Many people understand English but are afraid to speak. This chapter will teach you how to overcome fear, build confidence, and speak English with ease and pride.

### **4.1 Why People Feel Nervous**

Common Reasons:

- \* Fear of making mistakes
- \* Shyness or low self-esteem
- \* Lack of speaking practice
- \* Worry about how others will judge you

Reminder: Making mistakes is part of learning. Even native speakers make mistakes.

## **4.2 Change Your Mind set**

Confidence begins in the mind.

Tell yourself:

- \* “I don’t need to be perfect. I just need to speak.”
- \* “Mistakes help me improve.”
- \* “Every word I say is progress.”

Positive thinking leads to positive results.

## **4.3 Practice Every Day (Even If You’re Alone)**

You don’t need a classroom to practice speaking. Try these:

Self-Practice Ideas:

- \* Speak in the mirror: Pretend you’re talking to someone.
- \* Record your voice: Then listen and improve.
- \* Describe your day in English: “Today I woke up at 7 AM...”
- \* Talk to yourself about simple things: “What should I eat? I think I’ll have rice.”

## **4.4 Start Small, Then Grow**

Begin with easy sentences, then make them longer.

**Examples:**

- \* Easy: I am tired.

- \* Better: I am tired because I worked all day.
- \* Best: I am very tired today because I worked from morning until night.

Practice building sentences like this every day.

#### **4.5 Speak Slowly and Clearly**

You don't need to speak fast to sound fluent.

- \* Speak clearly, not quickly.
- \* Pause between sentences.
- \* Think before you speak — it's okay!

Clarity is more important than speed.

#### **4.6 Find Safe Practice Environments**

Look for people who encourage you:

- \* Friends who also want to improve English
- \* Online speaking partners (Zoom, WhatsApp, Telegram groups)
- \* Language exchange apps (like HelloTalk or Tandem)

Even one trusted friend is enough to build your confidence.

#### **4.7 Celebrate Your Progress**

Every step matters. Celebrate when:

- \* You learn a new word
- \* You speak without stopping
- \* Someone understands what you said
- \* You complete a conversation in English

Reward yourself, even with small things!

#### **4.8 Read Aloud**

Choose any English paragraph and read it aloud daily. It helps with:

- \* Pronunciation
- \* Confidence
- \* Sentence rhythm

Reading aloud is a secret weapon for speaking skills.

Quick Practice: Confidence Builder

- \* Stand in front of a mirror and say:

“I am learning. I am improving. I will speak English with confidence.”

- \* Choose one daily sentence and say it 5 times aloud.

Example: I am going to the market today.

- \* Record a 30-second voice message about your day.

Play it back and correct any mistakes.

## **Chapter 5: Speaking Practice and Exercises**

Learning grammar and vocabulary is important — but the only way to truly improve your English is to practice speaking. This chapter provides useful exercises to help you use real English in real situations.

### **5.1 Daily Speaking Routine**

Create a short speaking routine and say it every day. This helps you think in English and become confident.

Example:

> “Good morning. Today is a beautiful day. I am going to study English, the  
> I will eat lunch. In the evening, I will watch a movie and relax. Life is  
good.”

Repeat this every morning or night using your own words.

### **5.2 Talk About Your Day**

Practice describing your day using the past, present, and future.

Example:

\* Morning: "I woke up at 6:30 AM and brushed my teeth."

\* Afternoon: "I am studying English now."

\* Evening: "I will go out with my friends."

Try writing or saying this every day, even if only for 2–3 minutes.

### **5.3 Conversation Starters**

Practice asking and answering these common questions:

| Question | Sample Answer |

| What's your name? | My name is Amina. |

| Where are you from? | I'm from Somalia. |

| What do you do? | I'm a student / I work at a hospital. |

| What are your hobbies? | I enjoy reading and watching movies. |

| What did you do yesterday? | I studied English and helped my mom. |

Try to answer these questions aloud. Then, ask yourself new ones.

### **5.4 Role Play Practice**

Choose a topic and imagine a conversation with another person. Use a mirror or record yourself.

#### **Examples:**

At the Market:

> A: How much are the bananas?

> B: They're \$1 per kilo.

> A: I'll take two kilos, please.

At the Clinic:

> A: Hello, I need to see a doctor.

- > B: What's the problem?
- > A: I have a headache and a fever.
- >

## **5.5 Talk with AI or Voice Tools**

If no one is around to speak with:

- \* Use voice typing in Google Translate
  
- \* Try language apps like Elsa Speak, Duolingo, or HelloTalk

These tools give you instant practice and even pronunciation feedback.

## **5.6 Pronunciation Focus**

Choose 5–10 common words and say them slowly, clearly, and repeatedly.

**Example:**

- \* want / went / work / world / woman
- \* cat / cut / caught / coat / coat
- \* three / tree / think / thank / thing

Record your voice and listen back.

## **5.7 Speaking Challenges**

Try these challenges daily or weekly:

- \* Record a 1-minute voice note about your favorite food.
- \* Read a short story aloud and time yourself.
- \* Have a 5-minute conversation only in English (with a friend or even alone).
- \* 7-day speaking challenge: Speak about a different topic each day (weather, family, work, dreams, etc.)

**Practice Exercise:** Self Practice Plan



Fill in the blanks:

- \* Every morning I say: “ \_\_\_\_\_ ”
- \* Today I will talk about: “ \_\_\_\_\_ ”
- \* A question I will answer today is: “ \_\_\_\_\_ ”
- \* New words I will use: “ \_\_\_\_\_ ”

## **Conclusion**

Congratulations on completing English Speaking Strategies! 🎉

By reading this book, you’ve taken a powerful step toward becoming a fluent English speaker.

You have learned how to:

- \* Understand basic grammar and sentence structure
- \* Build strong, clear sentences
- \* Communicate in common everyday situations
- \* Boost your confidence to speak without fear
- \* Practice English daily in fun and meaningful ways

But remember: reading alone is not enough. The real progress begins when you take action.

- \* Speak a little every day.
- \* Make mistakes, then learn from them.
- \* Don’t compare yourself to others. Compare yourself to yesterday.
- \* Enjoy the journey, not just the result.

You don’t need to be perfect. You only need to be brave and consistent.

> “The expert in anything was once a beginner.”

> Keep speaking. Keep growing. Keep believing in yourself.

Thank you for choosing this book. May it be the beginning of a new chapter in your life — one filled with confidence, courage, and clear communication.

Good luck on your English-speaking journey!

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