

Structures

Speaking on the phone is difficult in a foreign language.

Reading is easier than **understanding** spoken language.

If you hear a foreign language on the phone, it's more difficult to understand.

It's more difficult to understand a foreign language, **if** you hear it on the phone.

When you hear a foreign language on the phone, it's more difficult to understand.

It's more difficult to understand a foreign language **when** you hear it on the phone.

Listening 1.3

Audio link: <https://www.inlingua.com/audios>

1.3 Listening (Track 03)



Vanessa Hallam's mother tongue is English, but she also speaks Italian. Read her comments about communicating in Italian in different situations. Write the correct forms of the verbs. Then, listen and check your answers.

"I 1 (to speak) Italian – not very well, but I can get by.

And 2 (to talk) face to face is definitely easier.

I 3 (to know) it's a lot easier than 4 (to speak) on the phone. I find 5 (to phone) very difficult.

People 6 (to say) Italians 7 (to talk) with their hands, so maybe that's part of the reason."

" 8 (to write) in Italian isn't too hard, as long as I'm on a computer with the spell check switched on. But then I only

9 (to write) emails to friends. That's a lot easier than

10 (to write) more formal messages."



Practice Exercise 1

The words **when** or **if** are missing from the sentences below. Put the words in the correct place to complete each sentence.

- 1 telephoning is difficult you do it in a foreign language (*when*)

- 2 you learn a language quickly you speak it a lot (*if*)

- 3 you read a foreign language, you can take your time (*when*)

- 4 it's more difficult to understand foreign speakers they talk quickly (*when*)

- 5 you just learn grammar rules, it won't help you to speak a language (*if*)

Practice Exercise 2

Part A Complete the article below choosing the correct form.

Talking to dolphins

1 _____ (*talk*) to speakers of other languages can be difficult. However, we always
2 _____ (*find*) some way to break the language barrier. In simple situations – for
example, 3 _____ (*buy*) snacks – we point with our fingers. In important situations –
for instance, when two presidents 4 _____ (*meet*) – an interpreter can
5 _____ (*translate*) between two languages. Even if it's impossible to find an
interpreter who 6 _____ (*speak*) the two languages in question, people can usually
7 _____ (*communicate*) in a third language – often English.
However, there's one language that no interpreter knows: the language of dolphins.
But that could change soon. Today, scientists 8 _____ (*learn*) quickly about dolphin
sounds, helped by computers. One expert, Dr. Denise Herzing, 9 _____ (*believe*)
that it will be possible to communicate with dolphins in five years.
Is 10 _____ (*communicate*) with animals really something new? And what do we
really mean by communication – a word that has quite a wide meaning?



Practice Exercise 3

Part B Underline one part of each sentence to make correct English.

- 1 Communicate / Communicating with speakers of other languages is impossible.
- 2 If two people don't understand / aren't understanding each other, an interpreter can help.
- 3 An interpreter is a person who speaks / is speaking at least two languages.
- 4 Know / Knowing English is useful because it's common in international communication.
- 5 At the moment, scientists use / are using technology to help them understand dolphins.
- 6 Dolphins are the only animals that people can communicate / communicating with.

Part C Look at the sentences in Part B. Is the information in each sentence true or false?

- | | | | | | | | | |
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| 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> T | <input type="checkbox"/> F | 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> T | <input type="checkbox"/> F | 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> T | <input type="checkbox"/> F |

ANSWERS

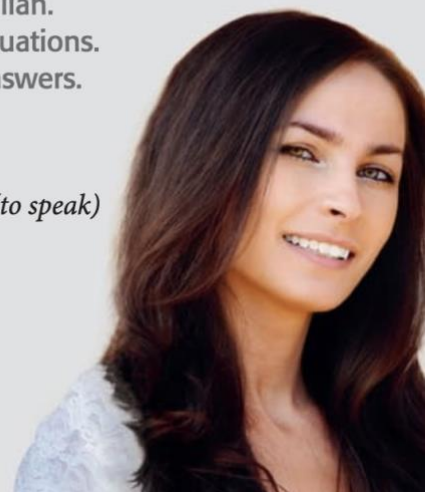
Listening 1.3

1.3 Listening (Track 03)



Vanessa Hallam's mother tongue is English, but she also speaks Italian. Read her comments about communicating in Italian in different situations. Write the correct forms of the verbs. Then, listen and check your answers.

- "I 1 Speak (to speak) Italian – not very well, but I can get by. And 2 Talking (to talk) face to face is definitely easier. I 3 Know (to know) it's a lot easier than 4 speaking (to speak) on the phone. I find 5 Phoning (to phone) very difficult. People 6 Say (to say) Italians 7 talk (to talk) with their hands, so maybe that's part of the reason."
- " 8 Writing (to write) in Italian isn't too hard, as long as I'm on a computer with the spell check switched on. But then I only 9 Write (to write) emails to friends. That's a lot easier than 10 Writing (to write) more formal messages."



Practice Exercise 1

The words **when** or **if** are missing from the sentences below. Put the words in the correct place to complete each sentence.

- 1 telephoning is difficult you do it in a foreign language (*when*)
Telephoning is difficult when you do it in a foreign language.
- 2 you learn a language quickly you speak it a lot (*if*)
You learn a language quickly if you speak it a lot.
- 3 you read a foreign language, you can take your time (*when*)
When you read a foreign language, you can take your time.
- 4 it's more difficult to understand foreign speakers they talk quickly (*when*)
It's more difficult to understand foreign speakers when they talk quickly.
- 5 you just learn grammar rules, it won't help you to speak a language (*if*)
If you just learn grammar rules, it won't help you to speak a language

Practice Exercise 2

Part A

Talking to dolphins

1 **Talking** (*talk*) to speakers of other languages can be difficult. However, we always
2 **find** (*find*) some way to break the language barrier. In simple situations – for example, 3 **buying** (*buy*) snacks – we point with our fingers. In important situations – for instance, when two presidents 4 **meet** (*meet*) – an interpreter can
5 **Translate** (*translate*) between two languages. Even if it's impossible to find an interpreter who 6 **speaks** (*speak*) the two languages in question, people can usually
7 **communicate** (*communicate*) in a third language – often English.
However, there's one language that no interpreter knows: the language of dolphins.
But that could change soon. Today, scientists 8 **Are learning** (*learn*) quickly about dolphin sounds, helped by computers. One expert, Dr. Denise Herzing, 9 **Believes** (*believe*) that it will be possible to communicate with dolphins in five years.
Is 10 **Communicating** (*communicate*) with animals really something new? And what do we really mean by communication – a word that has quite a wide meaning?

Practice Exercise 3

Part B

1. communicating
2. don't understand
3. speaks
4. knowing
5. are using
6. communicate

Part C

1. F
2. T
3. T
4. T
5. T
6. F