

4. Practical case. Creating your own world in English

Why is it important to create your own world in English?

Because getting to an advanced level is not a part-time activity, it's a full-time job, so if you're not living in an English speaking country it will be difficult for you to stay immersed the language all the time.

What can you do about it?

Create a world around you where everything is in English.

1. The first thing you have to do is identify your hobbies.

- Do you like music? What kind of music it is?
- Do you like sports? What is your favourite sport?
- Do you like handicraft?
- Do you like arts?
- Do you like films? What kind of films?
- Do you like reading novels? What kind of novels?
- Do you like cooking?
- Do you like travelling?

2. Once you have identified what you like most, you're going to find a selection of videos, podcasts, films, blogs, and books that deal with what you like most.

Suppose my hobby is **travelling**. I'll start googling all the resources I'll need to create my own English world.

Videos:

I go to Youtube and I look for: travel + tips.

I got [Sonia's videos on travel tips.](#)

(American English)

She might speak a little too fast for you. But she's really fun to hear, so you might get hooked on her.

That's exactly what you want; to like the subject and the speaker so much that you don't have problems to listen to him or her over and over again.

Podcasts:

I googled "travel + tips + podcasts", and "voilà", I got "[Tips for travellers](#)" by Gary Bembridge. British English. Fantastic! I'll be travelling to Bangkok or Tokyo with Gary while I'm training at the gym.

Note: Don't get discouraged if you don't understand everything or they speak too fast.

Remember two things: 1. This is exactly what would happen to you if you had decided to live in English speaking country. The difference is that when you create your own world in English you can choose a topic that you like and it should, by logic, be more appealing to you. 2. You must break down the information into chunks.

Films:

If I google "movies + travel + adventures" I get these list of [25 films on the topic](#).

Fantastic! I'll try to see if I can watch some of them online.

Blogs:

I want to find a blogger that I find appealing and whose posts I can read to learn more about travelling and English

I googled "blogs + traveller" and [I got the top 50 travel blogs](#) .
Excellent! This was my dream come true.

I'll choose only one of them and stick to it for a couple of weeks at least. The purpose will be to learn new structures and vocabulary while reading about travelling.

Books:

I did the same. I got ["The best 20 travel books of all time"](#).

In this case, I'll do the same that I have done with blog posts; learn structures and vocabulary. But only a few of them every week.

In this section, you can also include audiobooks.

If you feel you have an excess of information on your chosen topic, chose more topics. So you could watch videos on travelling, see documentaries on sports, listen to podcasts about cooking and read blogs and books on history.

3. Have only good online dictionaries at hand.

- Wordreference
- Reverso
- Linguee
- The Free Dictionary (English only)

Here are some of my favourites:

Everytime there is a new structure, repeat aloud and look up the unknown words in a dictionary.

4. Use IVONA and Howjsay or similar software to learn the sound

There is no use in trying to learn the words without sounds. Therefore, everytime you learn a new word you must listen to it. If you don't, you'll be wasting your time.

5. Choose a time of the day that you'll dedicate to get to know your world in English

I personally do this at the end of the day and at the gym.

While I'm training I'm always listening to podcasts in English. You can also do it with a song and learn the lyrics that you have found on the internet.

Before I go to bed I watch videos that I really like. At the beginning, it will be hard, but -believe me- the more you do it the easier it will be. Like when you do exercise.

If you get tired of the videos, switch to books or blog posts.

The important thing is that at certain moments of the day your ears are always tuning in to English.

Why don't you start right now thinking about how to create your own world in English?

We have come to the end of the 4-day free English course “From Intermediate to Advanced” and we have only scratched the surface of it.

If you want to continue learning how to become an advanced student of English, join our FITA course now.