

ENGLISH VOCABULARY

Lesson 1



NOTICES AND WARNINGS

Notices



on a machine that is not working, e.g. vending machine (above)



in the window of a hotel; the hotel is full



outside a theatre; all the tickets have been sold



outside a museum; you can go in free

Do this!

**Please queue
other side**

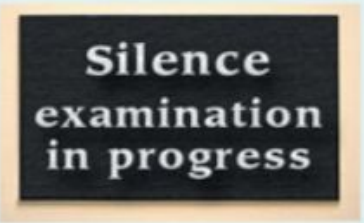
wait in a line on the other side of this notice, e.g. in a bank or post office



stay on the right side, e.g. on the underground



do not walk on the grass



be quiet, an exam is happening now

Don't do this!



you cannot leave
your car here



you cannot go
in here



you cannot go
out here



on a hotel door;
leave me to sleep



don't put a bag down
and walk away



Please do not
feed the animals
do not give food
to the animals



Warnings*



Take care you don't hit your head on a low door.



Be careful. There's a step.



be careful, this **parcel** will break easily

*something that tells you that something bad may happen



Complete these notices and warnings. More than one answer may be possible.

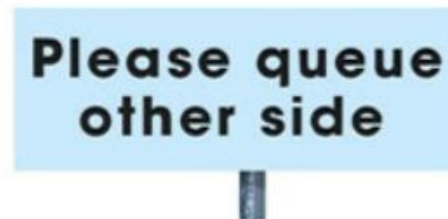
- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 NO <i>PARKING</i> | 7 PLEASE QUEUE |
| 2 MIND THE | 8 MIND YOUR |
| 3 ADMISSION | 9 PLEASE DO NOT |
| 4 OUT OF | 10 KEEP OFF |
| 5 NO | 11 KEEP |
| 6 DO NOT | 12 SILENCE EXAMINATION |

Where could you see these notices or warnings?



1 *On a door in a public building.*

2



3



4



5



6



What notice could you see in each of these places?

- 1 on the underground
- 2 in a waiting area in a busy airport
- 3 on the door of a hotel room at 9 am
- 4 in front of garage doors
- 5 above the window of a train
- 6 on a door going into a low room
- 7 outside a museum or art gallery
- 8 outside a room where students are doing an exam

Keep right

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Write down five more notices from the opposite page that you could see in a school or college.

Mind your head

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....



STUDYING ENGLISH AND TAKING EXAMS

How are they getting on?*

This is what Nastya, an English teacher, thinks about some of her students.

“Jade has a **wide vocabulary** [knows a lot of words] and speaks very **accurately** [without mistakes], but she needs to practise her speaking more in order to become more **fluent** [able to speak naturally without stopping].”

“Angel is quite fluent, but his **accent** [the way he pronounces words] is not very good. In particular, he has problems with certain **consonants** [letters of the **alphabet** (a–z), which are not the **vowels** a, e, i, o, u].”

“Jose has no problem **making himself understood** [saying things in a way people understand], but he needs to **increase** his vocabulary [make it bigger], because at the moment it's quite **basic** [elementary; *syn* **simple**].”

“Olga is always **willing to** [happy and ready to] **experiment** with language [try something new to see what it is like]. For that reason she sometimes **gets things wrong** [makes mistakes], but she learns from her mistakes and she's making a lot of progress.”

“Andreas is a fantastic language learner. He **picks things up** [learns things without trying] very quickly, and he **has a good ear for language** [is good at hearing, repeating and understanding sounds and words].”

*What progress are they making?



Nastya

Common mistakes

We use adjectives with nouns, and adverbs with verbs.

He's a **fluent** speaker. (NOT He's a ~~fluently~~ speaker.) She speaks **accurately**. (NOT She speaks ~~accurate~~.)

I need to speak English **well**. (NOT I need to speak English ~~good~~.)

Examinations

Language help

You can **take** or **do** an exam (NOT ~~make~~ an exam). If you are successful and do well, you **pass**; if you are not successful and do badly, you **fail**. Before taking an exam, you **revise for** the exam.

[study /prepare for the exam] Sometimes you can also **retake** an exam. [do it again]



“My students are **taking** the Cambridge English: First **exam** in June, and for some of them it will be **hard work**¹. I think Angel might fail, but he’s **doing his best**², so with a bit of luck he might pass. I expect most of the others to pass. Andreas is a strong **candidate**³, and I’m sure he’ll get a good **grade** (*syn mark*). I think Jade and Olga will also **do well**.

At the moment I’m trying to **get through**⁴ the coursebook so that we can do some **revision**⁵. I think the most important thing is to do some **exam preparation**⁶. Today I want the students to **do/write an essay**⁷. Most of them still find it difficult to write accurately, so I need to **work on** that with them.”

¹ work that requires a lot of effort

² making as much effort as he can; *syn trying his best*

³ someone who is taking an exam

⁴ finish

⁵ revise for the exam

⁶ getting ready for the exam

⁷ a short piece of writing about a particular subject



Choose the correct word to complete the sentences. Sometimes both are correct.

- 1 We *made* / *got* something wrong in the first question.
- 2 I had to *do* / *write* an essay.
- 3 My sister picks *up* / *out* languages very quickly.
- 4 I will have to *revise for* / *revise* my exam next week.
- 5 The students always *do* / *make* their best.
- 6 Tomas wants to *do* / *take* the exam in June.
- 7 Karin *failed* / *lost* the exam, but she can retake it next year.

Complete the sentences. The first letter has been given to help you.

- 1 There are twenty-six letters in the a *lphabet*..... .
- 2 A+ is the highest g..... you can get.
- 3 There are over 100 c..... taking the exam.
- 4 We had to write an e..... for homework in not more than 200 words.
- 5 I need to w..... on my grammar; it's not very good.
- 6 I need to i..... my vocabulary; it's still very b..... .
- 7 A and E are v..... ; B, C and D are c..... .
- 8 Studying for my exam is h..... w..... , but it will be worth the effort.
- 9 Our teacher was always w..... to help us with our exam preparation.



Rewrite the sentences on the left starting with the words given. Keep a similar meaning.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Can you retake the exam? | Can you do <i>the exam again</i> |
| 2 They will need to revise for the exam. | They will need to do some |
| 3 I will work as hard as I can. | I will do |
| 4 We need to prepare for the exam. | We need to do some |
| 5 I make mistakes. | I get |
| 6 I can listen and repeat things accurately. | I have a good |

Complete the dialogues.

- 1 A: Do you think Natasha will do well?
B: Yes, I'm sure she'll *pass* the exam.
- 2 A: Is her pronunciation good?
B: No, she has quite a strong
- 3 A: Can Elke speak naturally without stopping?
B: Yes, she's quite
- 4 A: And does she make many mistakes?
B: No, she's quite when she speaks.
- 5 A: Does Victor know a lot of English?
B: No, but he can make himself
- 6 A: Will you finish the book?
B: Yeah, we should get it.
- 7 A: Did Amy do in her exam?
B: Yes, she got 80%.

