Clarity Guide

to online English

2022 - 2023

Placement testing
IELTS prep
Grammar
Reading
Writing
Study skills
Pronunciation
Teacher support

Technical Support Pledge

My aim is to ensure you have smooth, trouble-free use of any ClarityEnglish programs you subscribe to. I therefore guarantee to find a fast and effective solution to any technical problems related to ClarityEnglish, or provide a full refund.

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ICT for English since 1992

- **Finalist** of the ELTons, Digital Innovation Award (Practical Writing)
- **Winner** of the HKICT Awards, Best Product (Road to IELTS)
- **Winner** of the Hong Kong Business Award, SME
- **Winner** of the English Speaking Union President's Award (Access UK)
- **Winner** of the Labour Department Good Employer Charter

ClarityEnglish Blog

The blog is full of fresh new ideas on technology-enhanced language teaching and independent learning. There are insights into using technology for IELTS preparation, a focus on placement testing and the CEFR, and news on all the Clarity programs: upgrades, enhancements to existing versions, updated support materials.

Here are some examples of recent blogposts:

- "Your test isn't accurate!" — A test designer responds
- No more marking — how AI can give you back your evenings
- IELTS in Zambia: "I've been speaking English since Grade 1, why should an English test worry me?"
- Placement tests: Can your choice of device affect your result?

blog.clarityenglish.com

Support Materials

FREE support materials

"These are brilliant!"
- Sue Gent, Surrey Libraries

- ✓ Posters
- ✓ Flyers
- ✓ Web images
- ✓ User manuals
- ✓ Usage statistics
- ✓ Facebook
- ✓ Syllabus
- ✓ Teacher activities
- ✓ Videos

Page 2 — Road to IELTS

New Version

Road to IELTS is your best possible online preparation and practice resource for IELTS. Co-published with the British Council. Runs on desktops, tablets and mobile.

Page 4 — Practical Writing

New Version

Practical Writing helps learners with a range of texts from essays to emails to textspeak. Runs on desktops, tablets and mobile.

Page 6 — Tense Buster

New Version

Break through the grammar barrier! Tense Buster helps your learners understand 33 key grammar areas. Runs on desktops, tablets and mobile.

Page 8 — Clear Pronunciation 1

New Version

Clear Pronunciation 1 helps students recognise and produce the 43 sounds of English. iPad and tablet friendly.

ClarityEnglish

www.clarityenglish.com

Enquiries: info@clarityenglish.com

Page 10 — Study Skills Success

New Version

A thorough course on academic study skills, including critical thinking and independent learning. Runs on desktops, tablets and mobile.

Page 12 — Active Reading

New Version

Tackles the whole range of reading skills and sub-skills at six levels, from A2 to C1. Runs on desktops, tablets and mobile.
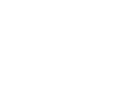
Page 14 — Clear Pronunciation 2

Focuses on the features of natural, fluent speech: word and sentence stress, intonation, consonant clusters, connected speech. Runs on desktops, tablets and mobile.

Page 16 — Dynamic Placement Test

Use the Dynamic Placement Test to find each learner's CEFR level quickly, easily, economically and accurately. Runs on desktops, tablets and mobile.

ROAD TO IELTS
IELTS preparation and practice

Mobile friendly

Specifications

Level and versions

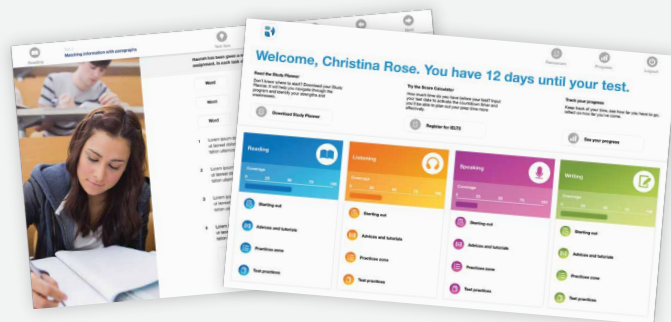▶ IELTS 4.5-9.0
▶ Academic Module or General Training Module

Options for running

Supported devices

- Desktop
- Laptop
- iPad / Tablet
- Mobile

Supported browsers

- Chrome
- Safari
- Firefox
- Edge

Road to IELTS is your best possible online preparation and practice resource for IELTS. With over 120 hours of interactive activities, advice videos from British Council experts and hints and tips on question types, as well as downloadable practice tests, it is comprehensive, up-to-date and aimed precisely at the challenges candidates face.

The four key elements are:

1. **Starting Out:** an ebook introduces each paper and explains the task types.
2. **Advice and Tutorial Videos:** experts describe the best strategies for preparing for IELTS.
3. **Practice Zone:** candidates practise tackling the whole range of question types.
4. **Test Practice:** candidates simulate the test experience with mock papers.

As candidates work through Road to IELTS, the Progress Report function enables them to monitor their activity across sessions, analyse the way they are spending their time and compare their performance with their targets. They can even predict their band scores in the Reading and Listening tests using an interactive Score Calculator.

Most candidates need all the help they can get while preparing for this crucial test. A recent study of more than 100,000 independent learners concludes that Road to IELTS does help candidates perform significantly better.

Give your candidates the unique advantage they deserve — with the British Council's Road to IELTS.

BRITISH COUNCIL **Clarity**

Chansophorn Khem ★★★★★

Very good platform. I would recommend it to anyone who wishes to take the IELTS test. Thank you so much for this useful app. I love it!

Ahmed Mansoorv ★★★★★

I was facing a login problem. I emailed the support and received prompt and accurate reply. Very impressive indeed. As for the app, it is a great tool for the people (like me) who have less time on PC and more time on devices (due to travelling, etc.).

Majed Al-Osaimi ★★★★★

All that you need before the exam day. Very helpful.

Latest upgrades

- ✔ New IELTS on Computer simulator
- ✔ Speaking Practice Zone comprehensively upgraded
- ✔ Teacher support for classroom and independent learning
- ✔ Enhanced practice functions for Writing Parts 1 & 2

5m+
Total number of sessions last year

HONG KONG ICT AWARDS
香港資訊及通訊科技獎

Practical Writing
Writing for life

Mobile friendly

Practical Writing is for students who need to use written English both at school and in their personal life. Whether they are writing a descriptive essay for their teacher or sending a text to a friend, Practical Writing helps them structure their message, find the right vocabulary and choose the most appropriate style.

- ✏ **Essays: for and against**
- ✏ **Job applications: your online profile**
- ✏ **Emails: asking for information**
- ✏ **Short reports: graphs**
- ✏ **Reviews: hotels and restaurants**
- ✏ **Avoiding plagiarism**
- ✏ **Taking notes**
- ✏ **Essays: descriptive**
- ✏ **Textspeak**
- ✏ **Official letters**

While students work on these texts, they are learning a whole range of writing skills: topic sentences, signpost words, functional language, levels of formality and many more. And each unit concludes with a writing task where learners put their skills to work. Practical Writing is systematic, engaging and intensely relevant.

"A fuller structured writing programme than anything I've seen before."
British Council ELTons Judging Panel

Specifications

Level and versions

▸ Intermediate to Advanced
  CEFR: B1-C1
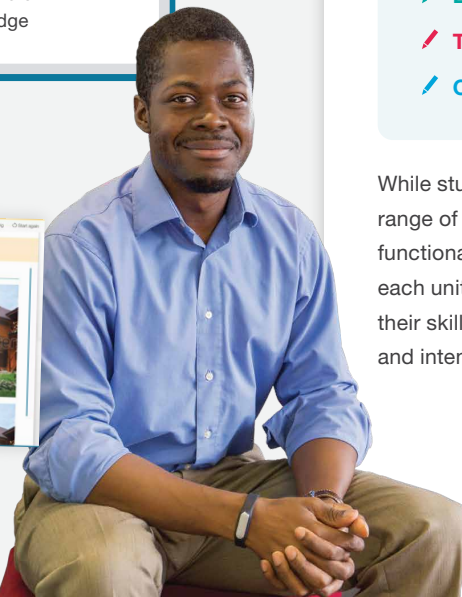▸ International English
  North American English

Options for running

Supported devices
- Desktop
- Laptop
- iPad / Tablet
- Mobile

Supported browsers
- Chrome
- Safari
- Firefox
- Edge

Writing for School

Alice

❝ I know I need a lot of practice in writing in English. It's not just the essays in my English course — I need to take notes in class, write reports and refer to my sources... ❞

Writing for Life

Abdullah

❝ My friends and I are looking for jobs, sorting out immigration issues — and trying to have a social life too. So I need a lot of help in my writing... ❞

How will Practical Writing help students like Alice and Abdullah?

Teacher videos	Interactive activities	Study sheets	Progress reports
A teacher explains the learning objectives of the unit — for example, to build an online profile and proofread it.	In each unit, learners work through 12 interactive activities: exercises, quizzes, tests and writing assignments. There's lots of practice!	And there's a resource bank of study sheets, transcripts and model writing. These are ideal as handouts in class, or for homework.	As they move through the program, learners (and teachers) can monitor activities done, scores and progress through a variety of charts.

TENSE BUSTER
Break through the grammar barrier!

Mobile friendly

Specifications

Level and versions

▶ Elementary to Advanced
  CEFR: A2-C1
▶ International English
  North American English

Options for running

Supported devices
- Desktop
- Laptop
- iPad / Tablet
- Mobile

Supported browsers
- Chrome
- Safari
- Firefox
- Edge

Tense Buster is Clarity's most popular program. It has been developed, enhanced and refined for almost 30 years, and is now available not just for computers and tablets, but also on mobile. Tense Buster helps students tackle 33 key grammar areas, from articles at Elementary level through to phrasal verbs at Advanced.

Each unit begins with a presentation based on a dialogue, news article or radio show, where learners are encouraged to form theories about how the grammar works. Next comes a grammar rule where they confirm or correct their theories before moving on to practice activities. These focus on form and function, and each unit includes a video-based pronunciation activity.

Units conclude with a randomised test enabling students to gauge their progress, and with suggestions for further study away from the computer. Throughout, the program includes detailed feedback in exercises to help students understand where they went wrong, so they can avoid making the same mistakes in the future.

Tense Buster has been adopted by the British Council worldwide, Ministries of Education in many countries, and by thousands of colleges, libraries and individual learners.

Help your students break through the grammar barrier — with Tense Buster!

Tense Buster contents

Elementary

Am, is, are	Negatives	Articles
Simple present	Countable nouns	Have got*
Questions	I, my, me	Some, any

Pre-Intermediate

Simple present	Present perfect
Simple past	Comparisons
Present continuous	Prepositions

Intermediate

The passive	Equality
'Will' and 'going to'	Relative clauses
Question tags	Conditionals

Upper Intermediate

Past continuous	Adjectives and adverbs
Conditionals	Modals
Present perfect	The future

Advanced

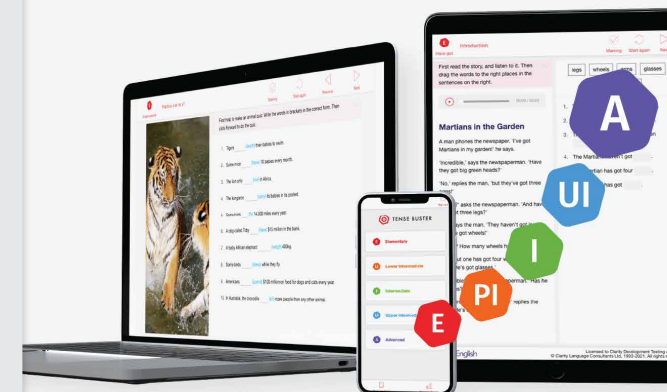|	
Reported speech	Past perfect
Phrasal verbs	The passive
Nouns	Articles

* Available in the International English version only.

"Tense Buster will be a good addition to the digital collection of academic and public libraries that count non-native English speakers and their instructors among their patrons."

Carrie Macfarlane, Widener Library, Harvard University

2022 upgrades

- ✔ New test-on-demand feature
- ✔ New and updated activities
- ✔ New videos for pronunciation
- ✔ New voices and new audios

Clear Pronunciation 1
The 43 sounds of English

Specifications

Level and versions

▶ Elementary to Intermediate
CEFR: A2-B1

▶ British English
Australian English
North American English

Options for running

Supported devices

- Desktop
- Laptop
- iPad / Tablet
- Mobile

Supported browsers

- Chrome
- Safari
- Firefox
- Edge

Just as you can't get fit by doing a single press-up, you can't develop good pronunciation without lots of practice. **Clear Pronunciation 1** enables learners to listen to and repeat audio models over and over, to do activities as many times as they like, and to make mistakes without embarrassment.

And, in class, Clear Pronunciation 1 provides teachers both with consistent pronunciation models to drill, and with interactive activities to keep students focused, and their interest levels high.

Clear Pronunciation 1 helps learners recognize and pronounce the 43 sounds of English: vowels, consonants and diphthongs. Students learn by watching videos, working with audio clips and by recording and listening to their own voice, using the integrated Recorder.

Learners also meet the target sounds in real-world contexts, listening to a range of different accents, just as they will in real life. They learn to use the IPA, and to recognize and produce phonemic transcriptions — a vital vocab skill.

2021/2 upgrades

- ✅ Australian and North American pronunciation models
- ✅ Many more accents in the "Sounds in action" sections
- ✅ Mobile-friendly — it's so much more convenient to use!
- ✅ Brand new Voice Recorder, with comparison feature
- ✅ Updated audio for British English

What's next?

Clear Pronunciation 2 helps students with:

- ✅ Consonant clusters
- ✅ Word stress
- ✅ Sentence stress
- ✅ Connected speech
- ✅ Intonation

Sounds practised in Clear Pronunciation 1

i: ɪ e æ   p b t d k g m n   eɪ aɪ ɔɪ

ɑ: ʌ ɒ ɔ: ŋ f v θ ð s z ʃ   əʊ aʊ eə

ʊ u: ɜ: ə   ʒ h tʃ dʒ r l j w   ɪə

Vowels   **Consonants**   **Diphthongs**

Study Skills Success
Preparing to study in English

Specifications

Level and versions

▶ Intermediate to Advanced
CEFR: B1-C1

▶ International English
North American English

Options for running

Supported devices

- Desktop
- iPad / Tablet
- Laptop
- Mobile

Supported browsers

- Chrome
- Firefox
- Safari
- Edge

Critical thinking, independent learning, avoiding plagiarism… These are all academic study skills students need to develop as they move into post-16 studies at school, and on to higher education. Study Skills Success helps not just with the skills, but also with the English that underpins them.

Each unit begins with a video introduction where a teacher explains a challenge learners will face. In the Speaking unit, for example: 'You'll have to speak to tutors; you'll have to speak in seminars; and you'll certainly have to speak to other students about work — and socially.' The unit then takes learners through a series of teaching points and interactive activities in four areas:

1. **Speaking out**
2. **Giving opinions**
3. **Giving a presentation**
4. **Discussing ideas**

Students conclude by completing a learning record. The other nine units follow a similar progression.

Throughout Study Skills Success there is extensive use of authentic texts: articles, websites, book extracts, a BBC lecture… And learners can download worksheets for use away from the computer.
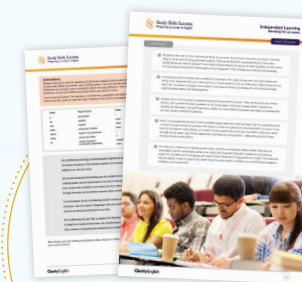
Studying in English is a real challenge for many students. Study Skills Success can make life easier by helping them to develop more effective and efficient study strategies. For teachers, this program is an ideal source of supplementary activities for pre-sessional courses, or for use as a self-access resource.

Mobile friendly

Adopted globally by the **British Council**

2022 upgrades

- ✓ New videos, audios and texts
- ✓ Updated downloadable study sheets
- ✓ New and enhanced teacher support materials

Worksheets included

Just some of the academic study skills your students will develop with Study Skills Success

- ✓ Analysing a task
- ✓ Time management
- ✓ Managing your learning
- ✓ Giving a presentation
- ✓ Understanding an argument
- ✓ Evaluating evidence

- ✓ Appropriate style
- ✓ Exam preparation
- ✓ Avoiding plagiarism
- ✓ Citing sources
- ✓ Describing visual data
- ✓ Strategies for efficient reading

- ✓ Developing academic vocabulary
- ✓ Speaking out in a seminar
- ✓ Taking notes
- ✓ Eliminating grammar errors
- ✓ Evaluating data in seminars and reports
- ✓ Listening to lectures

Active Reading
Learning to love reading

Specifications

Level and versions

▶ Elementary to Advanced
   CEFR: A2-C1

▶ International English
   North American English

Options for running

Supported devices

- Desktop
- Laptop
- iPad / Tablet
- Mobile

Supported browsers

- Chrome
- Safari
- Firefox
- Edge

Most teachers love reading, but it can be a challenge to generate the same enthusiasm in our students. This is what **Active Reading** sets out to achieve.

The starting point is to present texts which are relevant, stimulating and lively. Topics range from advertisements for homes, to Internet posts on online gaming, to ecotourism. Text types include magazine articles, emails, poems, recipes, stories and advice columns. There's a lot of variety, and topics to appeal to every learner.

It is through these texts that students learn to identify their reason for reading, and then to deploy the most appropriate reading skills and sub-skills. The program helps them to predict, to skim, to scan and to use layout to find their way around a text. There's a full list of skills on the right.

Active Reading comes at six levels from Elementary to Advanced, with ten units in each level. Each unit starts with a video introduction, moves through practice and comprehension exercises and concludes with a freer activity which expands on the topic.

Learners can listen to a range of native speakers reading the texts, helping them to identify sense groups and develop their chunking skills.

You can use Active Reading for classwork, homework or self-access. The program integrates with Admin Panel, enabling teachers to track student progress and generate reports. Whichever way you choose to use the program, Active Reading will help your students learn to love reading.

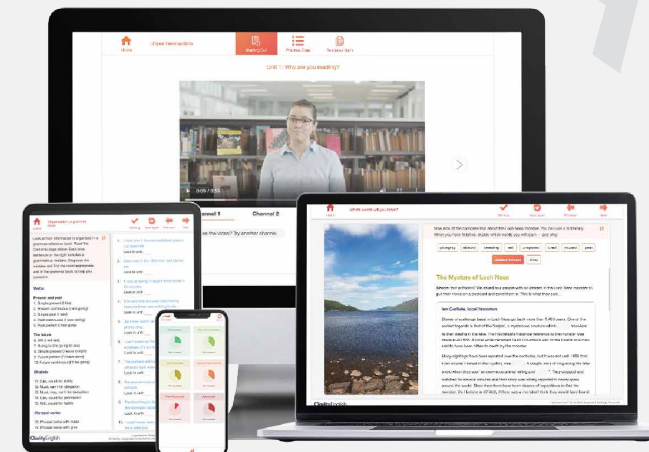### Which reading skills does Active Reading help with?

- ✓ Identifying your reason for reading
- ✓ Prediction
- ✓ Dictionary work
- ✓ Choosing words to learn
- ✓ Using layout to help reading
- ✓ Guessing meaning from context
- ✓ Skimming
- ✓ Using 'signpost' words

- ✓ Understanding referencing in a text
- ✓ Synonyms and near-synonyms
- ✓ Reading aloud
- ✓ Topic sentences
- ✓ Inferring meaning in a text
- ✓ Scanning
- ✓ Ignoring unknown words
- ✓ Developing the reading habit

Worksheet downloads for every unit

2021/2 upgrades

- ✓ New and updated texts and activities
- ✓ New audios, new videos, new accents
- ✓ New worksheets at all levels

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Mobile friendly

Clear Pronunciation 2
The sounds in speech

Specifications

Level and versions

▸ Intermediate to Advanced
  CEFR: B1-C2

▸ British English
  Australian English
  North American English

Options for running

Supported devices

- Desktop
- Laptop
- iPad / Tablet
- Mobile

Supported browsers

- Chrome
- Safari
- Firefox
- Edge

Clear Pronunciation 1 helps students recognize and produce the 43 sounds of English. The next step, in Clear Pronunciation 2, is to learn to put these sounds together in clear, intelligible speech. The program covers consonant clusters, word stress, sentence stress, connected speech and intonation.

Each section starts with an explanation from a teacher and moves on to a series of activities targeting common problems:
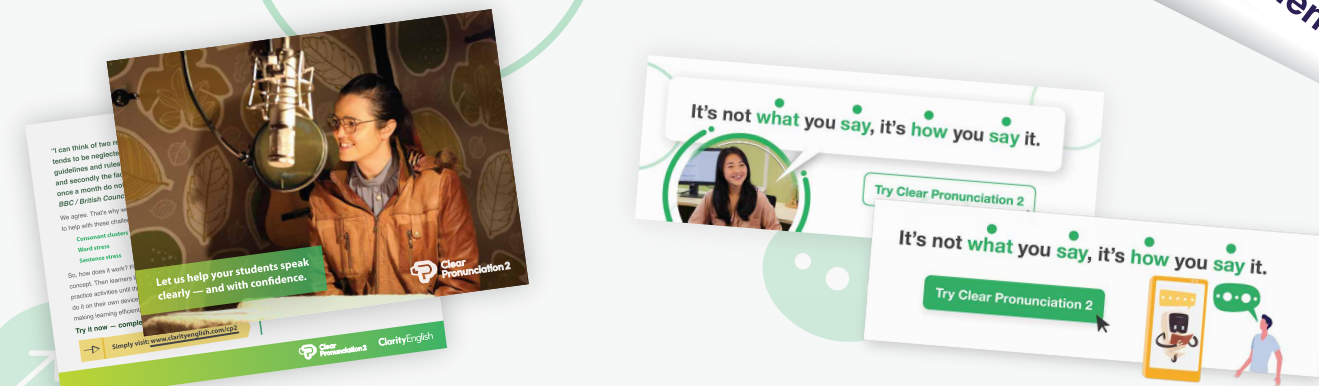
- What is the difference between consonant sounds and consonant letters?
- When are auxiliary verbs stressed and when are they unstressed?
- How do you join a word that ends with a consonant to one that starts with a consonant?

There is lots of practice, with learners listening to models and repeating them, using the Recorder. Each unit ends with a video where learners can experience the target language in an unscripted video.

Learners can choose from Australian, British, and North American pronunciation models, and will listen to a range of accents, including regional and non-native speaker accents, just as they do in real life.

2021/2 upgrades

✓ New Australian and North American voices

✓ Updated version of the Intonation section

✓ New mobile-friendly interface

✓ Updated videos for all sections

Promote Clear Pronunciation to your students with web banners, social media posts, and more!

It's not what you say, it's how you say it.
Try Clear Pronunciation 2

It's not what you say, it's how you say it.
Try Clear Pronunciation 2

Let us help your students speak clearly — and with confidence.

tight /taɪt/

eighth /eɪtθ/

Shocked   Disappointed
Really
Excited   Suspicious   Scared

Free on the Clarity website!

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DYNAMIC PLACEMENT TEST

Instant.
Accurate.
Reliable.

Quick to set up, easy to run — and it gives instant results. Let the online Dynamic Placement Test take the hard work out of placing each of your students into their correct class. All it takes is 30 minutes to find a learner's CEFR level, fine-tuned with a numeric score. It's instant. It's accurate. It's reliable.

Test learners from CEFR A1 to C2

Visit our website to request a free test

🌐 www.clarityenglish.com/dpt

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