

## Focus on Speaking

**Course Description:** Students study lessons online to expand their vocabulary, learn a variety of English idioms, and review a full spectrum of grammatical rules within the lesson context. This context consists of life skill and business-related topics, such as: Making Plans through a Travel Agent, Correcting a Mistake on the Job, Ethics in the Workplace, Entertaining a Business Associate, etc. Each lesson is centered on authentic language in either a dialogue format or as a sample reading text.

Following this self-study experience, the student takes part in a one-to-one live 30-minute telephone conversation with an experienced native English-speaking instructor. This teacher leads the student through a series of activities designed to reinforce what was covered in

the lesson. In addition, the teacher is trained to provide an appropriate level of oral input to challenge the student to improve listening comprehension. At all times, the instructors are available to meet individual English communication needs that might be expressed by the student during the lesson; for example, preparation for an upcoming English-based conference call or suggestions for appropriate ways to close an e-mail or business letter.



**Highlights of our service** consists of:

- an online Course Administration System, allowing students to schedule their lessons
- an HR Manager can review progress of all their students
- half hour telephone lessons one or more times a week
- a written evaluation every 4 lessons
- telephone lessons are recorded, so that student can playback and listen to their conversation at a later time
- a flexible scheduling system, allowing students to make changes, cancel, etc.
- Instructor calls student, so student doesn't have to deal with any telephone charges
- An excellent customer service that deals with scheduling and other issues with students

**What is the structure and content of the 30 minute phone lesson?**

The phone conversations follow the following general format:

- introduction and small talk
- Topic related questions - based on the material that they had to prepare
- Role Play
- Grammar related questions
- feedback on current conversation

**How much time does the student need to spend studying for the Focus on Speaking lesson?**

The amount of time a student spends, studying or practicing English will directly influence the progress they make in learning English. However, we know that most of our clients are busy professionals, who often don't have enough time to spare for language learning, while juggling career and family. With this in mind, we try to minimize the amount of preparatory work to about 1/2 to 1 hour per lesson. However, motivated learners can always put in more time.

### **How does the student receive feedback?**

The student receives feedback in multiple ways.

1. Every lesson between the instructor and the student is recorded. This allows the student to go back and listen to the conversation at any time. This way, they can listen to the instructors comments, corrections and pronunciation at their leisure.
2. During a lesson, right after the instructor hears an error, the instructor may model the correct sentence structure or pronunciation. The instructor will only do this if it does not break the flow of the lesson.
3. Our instructors also jot down mistakes (pronunciation, vocabulary and grammar mistakes) made during the lesson, and will spend the last few minutes of the lesson, bringing it to their attention.
4. At the end of every 4th lesson, the Instructor will create a written report that will focus on the most common errors made during that lesson, and their appropriate solutions.

**How is 3iMobile different from the competition?** We know that there are many companies selling Telephone English courses. We are unique in our combination of technology and instruction. Our biggest difference is that ALL our instructors are English Language teachers with a minimum of a Bachelors degree in Linguistics or Languages, and have several years teaching experience, teaching at the school or college level. Also, every instructor is a native speaker of American English. Our telephone lessons are **recorded** so that both the instructor and the student can go back and listen to it again. Our instructors also provide written evaluations every four lessons, so that there is a written record of the major issues being faced by the student.

We also combine self-study training with lessons over the phone. We don't believe in just having a wide-open conversation during our 30 minute lesson. Instead, our conversations are structured around the materials that they were supposed to learn during the preceding week. This motivates them to study before their phone lesson, and results in a more meaningful interaction between the instructor and student. We record our conversations, so that both the instructor and the student can go back and listen to it. The instructor often points the student to specific sections of the conversation in the written evaluation.

### **How are the instructors calling international students, landline or internet?**

The instructors call the student via land lines. We are not yet satisfied with VOIP quality (internet voice calls like Skype) for language learning.

### **What accents do the instructors have?**

When we hire our instructors, we make sure that they don't have any strong regional American accent. Their neutral accent would be classified as the Standard Midwestern accent. All our current instructors are from the Northeastern region of the US, but do NOT possess any strong New York or Boston or Philadelphia accent.

**KONTAKTA OSS GÄRNA!**

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