

Word Bank

vocabulary cards



BASIC

Review these vocabulary words every day.

1	flex(v) biceps(n pl) entertainer(n) chore(n) excel(v) title(n) synonymous(adj) woo(v) fortunate(adj) violence(n) impression(n)	[fleks] [baiseps] [entə'teinə] [tʃər] [ik'sel] [taitl] [si'nənəməs] [wu] ['fərtʃənit] ['vaiələns] [im.preʃən]	5	tissue(n) flu(n) symptom(n) virus(n) fluid(n) sweat(v) aspirin(n) proficient(adj) aptitude(n) motivation(n) subtitle(n)	['tiʃu] [flu] ['simptəm] ['vairəs] ['fluid] [swet] ['æspərin] [prə'fiʃənt] ['æpti,tjud] [məutə,veiʃən] ['sʌb,taitl]
2	horizon(n) reserved(adj) facility(n) flush(v) slit(v) parade(v) stadium(n) pose(v) psygchology(n) listing(n) townhouse(n)	[hə'raizn] [ri'zəvd] [fə'siləti] [flʌʃ] [slit] [pə'reid] [s'teidiəm] [pəuz] [sai'kələdʒi] [listiŋ] ['taun,haus]	6	formula(n) fluent(adj) breathe(v) grim(adj) permanent(adj) echo(v) estate(n) pratriot(n) twist(v) senior(adj) proof(n)	['fərmjələ] ['fluənt] [brið] [grim] ['pə: mən: ['ekəu] [ə'steit] ['peitriət] [twist] ['sinjə] [pruf]
33	complex(n) patio(n) lease(n) permanently(adv) tenant(n) install(v) paradise(n) curse(n) fertile(adj) eruption(n) strip(n)	['kəmpleks] ['pætiəu] [lis] ['pəmənəntli] ['tenənt] [in'stəl] ['pærədais] [kə: s] ['fə: tail] [i'rʌpʃən] [strip]	7	raise(v) background(n) credit(n) layout(n) sue(v) copyright(n) ethics(n) robber(n) unconscious(adj) priest(n) temple(n)	[reiz] ['bæk,graund] [kredit] ['lei,aut] [su] ['kəpi,rait] ['eθiks] ['rəbə] [ʌn'kənʃəs] [prist] ['templ]
4	massage(n) flourish(v) precise(adj) clove(n) terrace(n) refreshing(adj) fragrant(adj) dawn(n) dolphin(n) premiere(adj) teem(v)	[mə'sʌʒ] ['flʌriʃ] [pri'sais] [kləuv] ['teris] [ri'freʃiŋ] ['fregrənt] [dən] ['dəlfin] [pri'mir] [ti: m]	8	injured(adj) donkey(n) toss(v) wound(n) care(v) fellowship(n) fortune(n) dumpling(n) overshadow(v) host(v) material(adj)	['indʒəd] ['dəŋki] [təs] [wund] [kɛə] ['feləu,∫ip] ['fər,t∫ən] ['dʌmpliŋ] ['əuvə,∫ædəu] [həust] [mə'tiəriəl]

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5	tissue(n) flu(n) symptom(n) virus(n) fluid(n) sweat(v) aspirin(n) proficient(adj) aptitude(n) motivation(n) subtitle(n)	面纸 流行性感冒 症状 病毒 流体 流汗 阿斯匹林 精通的 才能 动机 电影字幕	1	flex(v) biceps(n pl) entertainer(n) chore(n) excel(v) title(n) synonymous(adj) woo(v) fortunate(adj) violence(n) impression(n)	弯曲 二头肌 影艺人士 家中的杂务;家务 表现杰出 优胜,冠军 同义或 幸运的;幸福 暴力
6	formula(n) fluent(adj) breathe(v) grim(adj) permanent(adj) echo(v) estate(n) pratriot(n) twist(v) senior(adj) proof(n)	公式 流利的 呼残酷久。 疾動的 大鸣; 大鸣; 大鸣; 大鸣; 大鸣; 大鸣; 大鸣; 大鸣;	2	horizon(n) reserved(adj) facility(n) flush(v) slit(v) parade(v) stadium(n) pose(v) psychology(n) listing(n) townhouse(n)	地平线 拘谨的:缄默的 设施 冲洗 割开 列队进行;游行 运动场 摆姿势 心理学 列出的内容 独一单位(但与两旁房屋 相连的)楼房
7	raise(v) background(n) credit(n) layout(n) sue(v) copyright(n) ethics(n) robber(n) unconscious(adj) priest(n) temple(n)	升高;提高 背景 作者姓名或来源附注 (印刷版面)设计 控告 版权;著作 某一文化或团体的道德 规范 强盗 昏迷的;失去知觉的 祭司;神职人员 圣殿;寺庙	3	complex(n) patio(n) lease(n) permanently(adv) tenant(n) install(v) paradise(n) curse(n) fertile(adj) eruption(n) strip(n)	整个住宅群内租外人的人。
8	injured (adj) donkey(n) toss(v) wound(n) care(v) fellowship(n) fortune(n) dumpling(n) overshadow(v) host(v) material(adj)	受伤的 驴子 摆动, 抬起 伤口 照料 共处 运气; 财富 水饺 蟹然失色; 蒙上阴影 款待 物质的	4	massage(n) flourish(v) precise(adj) clove(n) terrace(n) refreshing(adj) fragrant(adj) dawn(n) dolphin(n) premiere(adj) teem(v)	按摩 盛行;兴隆 精确的 了佛的 下部 大香明 大香明 下海 等明 下海 等明 下海 等明 下海 等明 下海 等别 等。 等别 等。 等别 等。 等别 等。 等别 等。 等别 等。 等别 等。 等 等 等 等

想轻轻松松地学到纯正的英文吗?

想一览英美民俗风情吗?



不是教材,胜于教材,《空中英语教室》系列丛刊是英文爱好者的良师益友。该丛刊内容活泼生动,紧扣时代脉搏,文化气息浓郁,语言流畅,通俗地道,选材精当,篇幅适中,画面清晰欢快,印刷精良,适合各层次英文爱好者阅读。

- 1. **内容**:以介绍英语国家的社会文化为主,文章精选自英、美公开发表的报刊,内容新颖,题材多样,包括环球新闻,科学报道,风土民俗,人物传记,企管常识,生活保健,人生哲理等。实用对话以描写英语国家的生活点滴为主,内容涉及交通、旅游、休闲、娱乐、交友、聚会、餐饮、住宿及美国文化等。
- 2. **语言:**通俗幽默,原汁原味,实用多趣,短语、词汇精炼、丰富,均为英美国家最现代、最流行的用语,是模仿美语的最佳模式。
- 3. 语音:录音带、录像带、CD、VCD 及电台、电视台的播音均由美国著名语言专家、英语教师主持,清晰流畅,美音地道纯正。
- 4. 设置:《实用级》文章安排以泛读为主要目的,注重给读者以英美文化背景输入,后附有 GQ(语法智商测试)。《大家说英语》则以对话为主要形式,附以内容概述、回答问题、听写练习、提高听说能力。《我的习作》以增加读者的参与意识为目的,给广大读者一个练笔实战的好机会。
- 5. **特点:**注重语言学习中的文化输入,融教于娱乐之中,循序渐进,潜移默化。克服以往只学语言不懂文化,知而不会用的缺憾。
- 6. **特色**: 刊物图文并茂, 声像两兼, 赏心悦目。在轻松愉快中既能学到纯正的英文, 又能了解环球风土民俗、商贸信息、生活保健常识, 扩展视野, 是一本透视英美国家政治、经济、哲学、历史及宗教的小百科, 具有收藏价值。
- 7. **声誉:**本杂志是由美国彭蒙惠博士于 1962 年在台湾创办的,以教中国人学英语为目的的刊物,至今有 36 的历史,发行范围除台湾岛外覆盖美国纽约、旧金山、洛杉矶、达拉斯以及全世界有华人的地 方,深受英文爱好者的喜爱。
- 8. **发行**:每月一期,每年年末有制作精美的合订本与读者见面,全国各新华书店及外文书店均有销售,也可直接与吉林科学技术出版社《空中英语教室》编辑室邮购部联系邮购。

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Some Tips from your Teacher

English is the most popular language in the world today. Because of this peolple are asking, "How can I learn English quickly?" the answer to how to learn

anything quickly is simple: Have a plan and follow it. Your plan must include goals and methods. The best method for learning anything is choosing things that are interesting and well prepared.

In order to help you accomplish your goals for learning, we prepare interesting and useful subject written just for you. We hope that you will not only learn English. but also gain knowledge of developments in technology, science, business and modern living. Join the Studio Classroom members from all over the world in using English to enjoy a better life. Become our "Friend for Life" as you study with us.

Doris Brougham

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Let's Talk in English

One: Moving In 24 Two: Using Time 31 善用时间





下期预告

Famous People: Scott Hamilton. 史考特・汉密尔顿:一个真正的英雄 Spotlight on New York 纽约州特写 How to Improve Your Conversation skills 如何提高您的会话技巧 Small Talk 闲聊



ARNOHD



SCHWARAHUR CHR

A Great, Big Star

by Hilary Bernstein / graphics by Jessie Kao

verything about Arnold Schwarzenegger is big-really big. He stands 188 cm tall, has a huge 145 – cm chest and flexes 58 – cm biceps. Even his wide, toothy grin is big.

When Arnold first began acting, a producer felt his name was too big. For six months the actor called himself Arnold Strong. But he soon returned to his real name. "I always knew one thing: that if something is hard to remember, it's also hard to forget, "he said.

Arnold was right. His fans have no trouble remembering his name. They flock to see his films. Last year, Arnold was the tenth highest paid *entertainer*, with an income of US\$74 million.

Although wealthy today, Arnold had a childhood that was far from comfortable. Born in 1947, he grew up in a small Austrian village. His home had no refriger – ator and no toilet. Arnold's *chores* began each morning at 6 a.m. After he finished them, he had to exercise for 15 minutes before he could eat breakfast.

Arnold Schwarzenegger in the 1985 movie, Commando

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Unlike other village boys who played soccer or skied, Arnold took up the American sport of bodybuilding at age 15. He thought if he **excelled** at the sport, it might bring him to America.

He began to enter and win bodybuilding contests at 18. He won his first world *title*, Mr. Universe, in 1967. He went to America to defend that title in 1968. Over the next seven years he won 10 more world titles.

Arnold's big, strong body caught the eye of Hollywood. He began to make movies in 1970, but didn't really become a major star until 1982 in *Conan the Barbarian*. Then with the success of *The Terminator two years* later, Arnold's name became *synonymous* with "action hero." Arnold, however, also wanted to make people laugh. He got his chance in 1988 in the movie *Twins*. Its success proved Arnold was more than just muscle.

Arnold enjoys success in marriage, too. He **wooed** and won Maria Shriver, niece of the late John F. Kennedy and a successful TV reporter. The couple married in 1986 and have four children. These days, being "Dad" is Arnold's favorite role.

In addition to being "action hero" and "Dad," Arnold also works to help others less *fortunate*. He and Maria both support the Special Olympics program for mentally disabled children.

Besides working with Special Olympics, Arnold started a mini – Olympics program for inner – city Los Angeles children in 1991. He wanted to help them say "no" to drugs and *violence* and "yes" to physical fitness.

Big man and big star, Arnold's success seems unstoppable. And as his work with children and young people shows, Arnold's big chest contains an equally big heart.



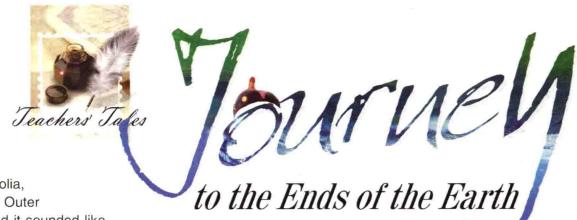
Word Bank

flex (v)	弯曲
biceps (n pl)	建工工 美丽
entertainer (n)	影艺人士
chore (n)	家中的杂务; 家事
excel (v)	表现杰出
title (n)	优胜; 短军
synonymous (adj)	同义的
woo (v)	追求
fortunate (adj)	幸运的;幸福的
violence (n)	暴力

More Information

bodybuilding (n) 健美运动 catch the eye of someone (v phr) 引起某人的注意 mentally disabled (adj phr) 智障的 physical fitness (n phr) 强健的休魄





he first time I heard of Mongolia, it was called Outer

Mongolia. In my mind it sounded like outer space. I wasn't sure exactly where os Mongolia was, but I knew it was about as far as anyone could go on earth. I never dreamed I would someday go there. But during the summer of 1994, I found myself on a plane bound for Mongolia with a team of other teachers. When I viewed the Gobi Desert from the plane, my first impression returned: This was the ends of the earth.

Despite my first impression, I found Mongolia surprisingly beautiful. Rugged mountains filled the *horizon*. Horses, sheep and gers (the people's felt – covered tent homes) dotted the countryside. The *reserved* but warm Mongolians made us feel welcome, and we formed lasting friendships. We arrived in July during Naadam, the most exciting festival of the year. At this festival men and boys demonstrate the three manly sports: wrestling, archery and horseracing.

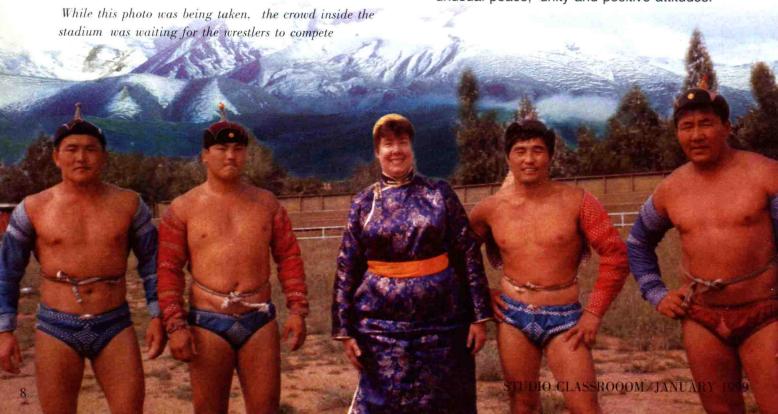
As soon as Naadam celebrations were over, we started our "English Olympics" program.

by Jan Anderson

graphics by Michelle Francisco

During the first three weeks, the top ten students from each Mongolian university practiced English in their classes. They wrote and delivered many speeches and prepared for oral interviews. Then the top three students in each class moved into our "Olympic Village" *facility* in Ulan Bator, Mongolia's capital, for the final three weeks of competition. The first prize was a free year's study at a college in the United States.

Along with the good friendships and exciting opportunities we had in Mongolia, we also faced difficulties. We found very little food and other items available in local stores. We washed our clothes by hand (when we had water). Once we had no water for ten days-no water for showers or to *flush* toilets. One teacher's bag was *slit* and her money stolen. But in spite of all these hardships, no one complained. In fact, God gave us unusual peace, unity and positive attitudes.



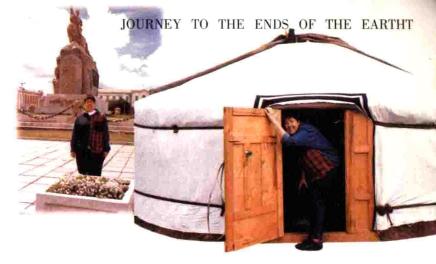
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To kick off the Olympic Village competition, the teachers all dressed in Mongolian costumes and *paraded* through a park to a *stadium*. Here we attended a special program before a crowd and a number of television cameras. The American ambassador and local educational officials welcomed us with speeches. Several musicians entertained us with a concert. But the highlight of the program was the wrestling event. As one pair of professional wrestlers competed in the stadium center, the rest waited on the sidelines.

As I watched the event, I thought it would be fun to have my picture taken with the bored wrestlers on the sidelines. I admired the decorative sleeves, belts and boots which the wrestlers wore. When I reached the sidelines, I wasn't paying any attention to the other wrestlers in the center of the field. By this time, they had finished their competition. While I was *posing* with the wrestlers, everyone was staring at me. I was holding up the show! I had to travel to the ends of the earth to experience my most embarrassing moment!

Word Bank

impression (n)	印象
horizon (n)	地平线
reserved (adj)	拘谨的;缄默的
facility (n)	设施
flush (v)	冲洗
slit (v)	割开
parade (v)	列队行进;游行
stadium (n)	运动场
pose (v)	摆姿势

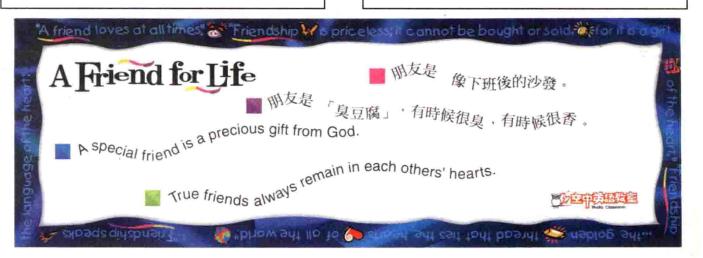


Exploring Mongolia! On the left, Jan visits Sunbaatar Square in Ulan Bator. On the right, she takes a closer look at a ger (or yurt)



outer space (n phr) 外太空 archery (n) 箭术 kick off (v phr) 开始 hold up (v phr) 使延后

More Information



ack and Nancy Lin and their two children, Susan and Paul, have just arrived in Los Angeles, California. They are going to live in L. A. for four years while Mr. Lin works on a Ph. D. in *psychology* at Azusa Pacific University. Today the Lins are going house – hunting. They need to find an apartment near the university. They start at the rental <u>clearinghouse</u>.

Conversation 1

Clerk: Here's a listing of a large four - bed-

room single – family house on Glendora Avenue. It has a two – car garage, a family room, and a big

yard.

Mrs. Lin: Oh, that sounds interesting. How

much is the rent?

Clerk: It's \$1250 a month.

Mr. Lin: Oh, it's a little bit too expensive for

us, I think.

Conversation 2

Clerk: If you're looking for something less expensive, I'd recommend you check out some apartments or town -

houses. They run about \$700 – 900 a month.

Mr. Lin: \$700 – 900 per month will fit our budget. Let's go look at a few of them.

Clerk: Let me write down some addresses for you to visit. And some phone num-

bers, too, OK?

Mrs. Lin: Thank you.

The Lin family looked at townhouses and apartments in several *complexes* before they found one they liked. Many of the places were dirty or needed repairs. Finally they found a clean, quiet apartment not far from the university.

Conversation 3

Landlady: This ground floor apartment has three bedrooms, a nice kitchen and dining area, as well as a small **patio** off this living area. In addition, this complex has its own swimming pool just over there.

Mr. Lin: Oh, that's great.

Landlady: And you can save on transportation costs, too. We're right on the city bus line. The buses will take you all over the city.

Finding a Place

To Live

By Beth Lewis / graphics by Michelle Francisco / photos by Jean Lin

To Live

The property of the pr

STUDIO CLASSROOOM/JANRARY 1999

成支,需要完善的证明: www.ertongbook.com

Mrs. Lin: Are there schools nearby?

Landlady: Yes. The junior high school is only four blocks from here, and the high school is just six blocks away. Your son and daughter can both walk to school from here. This is a very safe neighborhood, too.

Jack and Nancy looked at each other. Nancy said the family should take the apartment. It was the best they'd seen. First, however, Jack wanted to see a copy of the *lease*.

Conversation 4

Landlady: You'll need to make a security deposit of one month's rent when you sign the lease. And if the apartment is in good condition when you move out, you'll get the security deposit back.

Mrs. Lin: OK. We'll read the lease and talk it over. We'll let you know our decision tomorrow.

Landlady: Could you call me or come by before noon? I have several appointments tomorrow afternoon to show this apartment.

Mr. Lin: Sure. That's no problem at all.

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The Lins took the lease home and read it very carefully. The next day, they returned to the apartment complex. Before Mr. Lin signed the lease, he asked a few more questions.

Conversation 5

Mr. Lin: I notice we pay our rent on the 20th of

the month. Who pays for the utilities?

Landlady: You pay everything yourself except the

water bill.

Mr. Lin: Then who takes care of the lawn?

Landlady: I do. And that's written in the lease, too. I have someone come in every other week to cut the grass in the summer.

Mrs. Lin: The lease says, "No more than two adults and two children may occupy this apartment." Does this mean we can't have guests?

Landlady: It's OK to have guests. I just don't want to have lots of extra people staying here **permanently**.

Mr. Lin: I understand.

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Conversation 6

Mr. Lin: Well, I think we would like to move in as soon as possible.

Landlady: You can move in tomorrow if you wish. The apartment has already been cleaned for the next **tenant**. You'll need to contact the telephone company to **install** phone service. Everything else is ready.

Mr. Lin: Excellent. We're staying in a university dorm now. Our room isn't very big. We want to move out as soon as possible.

Mrs. Lin gave the landlady the security deposit, along with the first month's rent. The landlady gave Mrs. Lin the keys to the apartment. The Lin family moved in and began their L. A. adventure.

Word Bank -

心理学 psychology (n) listing (n) 列出的内容 独一单位(但与两旁房屋相 townhouse (n) 连)的楼房 complex (n) 整个住宅群 patio (n) 内院;平台 和约 lease (n) permanently (adv) 永久地 tenant (n) 房客 install (v) 装设

More Information

clearinghouse (n) 租屋仲介公司 check out something (v phr) 看看某东西 landlady (n) 房东太太 ground floor (n phr) 一楼 security deposit (n phr) 押金



ay "Bali," and most people think of a tropical paradise. For years, travelers have
flocked to the island to admire the natural
beauty that covers Bali from coast to coast. Some
travelers return again and again because they
can't get enough of the place. Others come and
never leave. To all of them, there's no place on
Earth like Bali.

Along the island's central mountain range, volcanoes rise into the clouds. Their presence is a blessing and a *curse*. The volcanoes make the island's soil *fertile*, but *eruptions*, although infrequent, have taken the lives of thousands.

Six hundred years ago, Islam swept into Southeast Asia. The Hindu rulers of Jave fled to Bali to escape the invaders. For some reason, the Muslims left them alone on Bali. Their civilization continued undisturbed until 1597 when Dutch sailors "discovered" the island. Some liked it so much they refused to leave when it came time for the ship to sail for home.

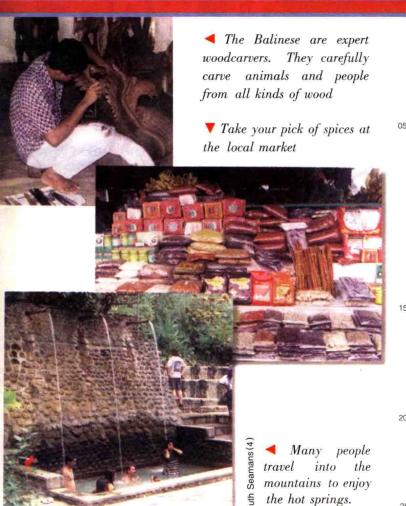
The Dutch were only the first visitors to enjoy Bali. Now thousands arrive each year from countries all over the world. Most head for Kuta Beach right from the airport. They disappear into one of the many luxury hotels lining the ocean. Although this beach is one of Bali's best, the *strip* of sand is crowded with hundreds of vendors. These merchants ask tourists to buy, buy, buy everything from *massages* to Balinese cloth and wooden carvings. The more traditional Bali lies beyond Kuta.

Head north to Ubud, the cultural and artistic center of the island. Here, painting, carving, weaving and jewelry – making *flourish*. To see a sample of many styles of Balinese painting, visit the Neka Museum. Opened in 1982, the museum displays modern Balinese artwork as well as that of Western artists who make Bali their home.

Dance, too, is one of Ubud's arts. Many dances tell ancient Hindu stories. Dancers practice for hours and hours to learn the *precise* movements required by each dance.

North of Ubud lies the central mountain range. Here the mountain views <u>can take your breath away</u>. Green orchards of coffee and *clove* trees carpet some hillsides. Rice *terraces* like giant stairs cover others.

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▲ Terraced rice fields cover much of central Bali.

The climate in Bali allows two rice crops each year

Word Bank -

paradise(n)	天堂;乐园
curse(n)	咒诅
fertile(adj)	肥沃的
eruption(n)	爆发
strip(n)	狭长的一片
massage(n)	按摩
flourish(v)	盛行;兴隆
precise (adj)	精确的;正确的
clove(n)	丁香
terrace(n)	梯形地之一层
refreshing(adj)	令人精神爽快的;提神的
fragrant(adj)	芳香的
dawn(n)	黎明 .
dolphin(n)	海豚
premiere (adj)	首要的
teem(v)	充满;多

Balinese are some of best rice growers in the world. Careful water management allows them to have two harvests a year. Planting rice is for men only, but whole villages get into the action at harvast time.

The hot springs at **Banjar Tega**, high in the cool mountains, attract locals and visitors alike. Pleasant hot water pours out of the mouths of dragon – like creatures into three pools. Ather a *refreshing* bath, many enjoy lunch at the nearby restaurant which serves excellent food for a good price.

Nearby local markets offer a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables. The merchants also sell packages of *fragrant* spices, many of which grow on the island.

On Bali's north coast, Lovina offers beautiful sea views at *dawn*. Early risers at Lovina can take a boat out into the ocean to watch the sun rise over the mountain peaks. At these early hours, *dolphins* often appear. They jump and play in the waves around the boats.

Father down the coast lies Bali Barat National Park. This park covers most of the western end of Bali. Hundreds of varieties of birds and other wildlife make their homes here.

One of the park's <u>premiere</u> attractions is Menjangan Island, just off the coast. The <u>coral reefs</u> surrounding the tiny island *teem* with colorful fish and other sea life. <u>Snorkelers</u> and divers spend hours on the reef admiring the underwater scenery.

Bali welcomes visitors with open arms to enjoy all it has to offer. Bali is art and music, dance and drama. It's mountains and beaches and terraced rice fields. It's paradise.

林田

More Information

get into the action(v phr)

参与行动



HEALTH TIPS

Here's Looking

■by Danielle Broussal / graphics by Michelle Francisco

h – CHOO! You'd better buy an extra box of *tissues*. It's that time of year again: the time for colds and *flu*.

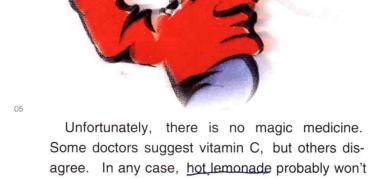
You can always tell when you're catching something. You might feel like you have a fever, or your throat might be a little sore. Within a day or two your nose will start running, and you might cough, too. With bad colds and flu, the *symptoms* are much worse, such as headaches and body aches. Even your eyes might feel hot and dry.

Catching a cold is all too easy. When someone with a cold sneezes or coughs, the *virus* flies through the air, and you breathe it in. Or the person might touch his mouth, nose or eyes, and with his hands leave the virus on some surface. It might be a computer keyboard, a towel or even an elevator button. Then you touch the same surface. The virus enters your body when you rub your own eyes or nose.

So what should you do when you have a cold? Rest. Take it easy! And stay at home so that other people won't catch your cold.

Drink lots of *fluids*, because you'll probably *sweat* a lot. The best drinks are fruit and vegetable juices and <u>herbal</u> teas. The juices have vitamins, and the <u>teas</u> are calming.

Eat. "Feed a cold, starve a fever," we say. You might not feel like eating much, but the food gives you vitamins and helps your body fight the cold.



help, since heating kills the vitamin C.

Some medicines treat symptoms well, but others have no effect at all. *Aspirin* can help relieve aches, pains and fever. Don't take too many cough drops or too much cough medicine. These products work only for a short time, and they leave harmful sugar on the teeth for hours.

And when you're sick, a little <u>TLC</u> works wonders. So take care of yourself! You'll be feeling better in no time.

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tissue (n)	面纸
flu (n)	流行性感冒
symptom (n)	症状;征候
virus (n)	病毒
fluid (n)	流体
sweat (v)	流汗
aspirin (n)	阿斯匹林

More Information -

herbal (adj) 草本的 TLC (tender loving care) (n phr) 温柔细心的呵护



How to Learn



English Billy Haselton

o you want to learn
English? I guess that
goes without saying if you're reading this
article. First of all, you need to ask yourself,
"How badly do I want to?"

Some students treat English as a <u>content subject</u>, like history, geography or literature. All you do is memorize a lot of facts and you've got it, right? Actually, becoming *proficient* in a foreign language is more like learning to play the piano. It takes practice. A lot of practice.

But some of you are saying, "I just don't have any language *aptitude*." Oh, come now. If you can read this, you have plenty of aptitude for learning a language. The more important question is whether or not you have the *motivation*. Many people only want to learn English to pass tests in school. That's not enough. Experts tell us that the most successful language learners have a strong desire to communicate with people in the target culture.

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By the way, what do you want to be able to do with your English? Have a conversation with a foreigner? Understand movies without reading the Chinese *subtitles*? Read an English newspaper? Study abroad? If you determine why you want to learn English, it will help you know where to start. Learning English requires a number of very specific skills: listening, speaking, reading, writing. Think about which skill you need to brush up on the most.

In this series, "Keys to Learning English," we want to give you some principles to help you improve your language learning skills. But there is no magic *formula*. You can't just wake up one morning, say a few magic words, and instantly turn into a *fluent* English speaker. You have to apply yourself. And you can't give up. If you use the "keys" in this series, they will help you to unlock the door to the world of English. I promise.

Word Bank

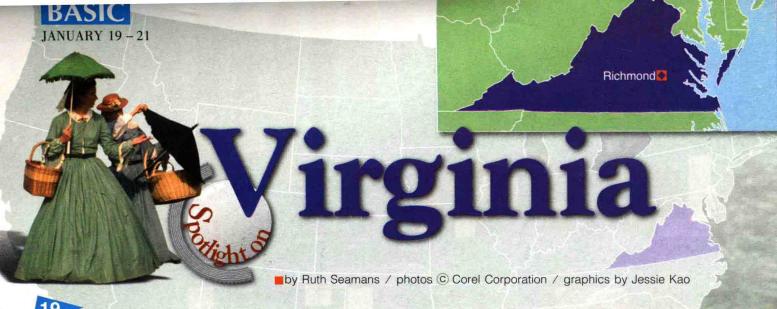
proficient (adj) 精通的 才能 motivation (n) 动机 subtitle (n) 电影字幕 formula (n) 公式 fluent (adj)

More Information

content subject (n phr) target culture (n phr) brush up on (v phr) 科目

锁定文化,此指某个追求的文化目标 温习;加强

apply yourself (v phr) 全力以赴



ant to go back in time to America's past?
Visit Virginia. Here you can almost breathe the atmosphere of colonial and Civil War history. You might even expect to see famous Virginians like George Washington and Thomas Jefferson! Maybe you'll be on the lookout for Civil War general Robert E. Lee, who also called Virginia home. During the four grim years of the War Between the States, more than half the fighting took place in Virginia.

Jamestown and Williamsburg

To travel back to colonial America, head for Jamestown and Williamsburg. Jamestown was founded in 1607. It became the first *permanent* English town in America. Life in Virginia centered around Jamestown until around 1699. After that, Williamsburg became the political, social and cultural capital of Virginia.

Today both towns are <u>living history</u> museums. Men and women wearing colonial clothing teach visitors about life in those early days.

George Washington's Virginia

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Northern Virginia *echoes* with the footsteps of famous Americans. George Washington, George Mason (who helped write the <u>Constitution</u>) and Robert E. Lee all lived in Alexandria. Every February the town celebrates Washington's birthday with the biggest parade in the country.

George Washington's plantation home, Mount Vernon, lies south of Alexandria. The house and grounds look exactly like they did during Washington's life. Monticello, the home of Thomas
Jefferson, is one of Virginia's most
well – known tourist spots

The ships at Jamestown help you
imagine what it was like to be one of
the first settlers in America