

A GUIDE TO YOUR
STUDY PLAN
— INTERMEDIATE LEVELS —



WELCOME

Learning English is a challenge, but figuring out how to improve shouldn't be the hard part!

Years of scientific research have proven that the best way to get the results you deserve is by using a personalized curriculum, so that's exactly what we've created. Our unique **Study Plan** makes improving simple by combining the structure you need with the flexibility you want.

With Pearson Online English, you can improve your level every three months by taking the Proficiency Assessment (PA).

In this guide, we'll give you weekly Study Plans that explain exactly what you need to do over the next three months to improve your PA level. After you take your PA, you will receive a new set of plans that are adjusted for your new level. These will guide you through your next three-month phase with Pearson Online English, and prepare you for your next PA.

READY? LET'S TAKE YOUR ENGLISH TO THE NEXT LEVEL. TOGETHER.

WE ALL START SOMEWHERE

“How do I improve my level?”

This is one of the most common questions we hear from new learners. Here’s the honest answer:

The amount of practice required to get from one level to the next isn’t the same for everyone.

One of the factors that has the biggest impact is your starting level. For instance, it takes less time to go from Beginner to High Beginner than it does to go from High Intermediate to Low Advanced.

Regardless of where you start, we’re here to guide you to success.

The chart on the next page shows you the practice time needed to improve at various levels.

WEEKLY COMMITMENT BY LEVEL

The amount of practice time required to improve is different depending on your starting level. As an intermediate band learner, we recommend practicing for 4 to 5 hours every week in order to improve your proficiency score every three months.

LEVEL BAND	PRACTICE TIME
Beginner, High Beginner	2 hours to 3 hours
Low Intermediate, Intermediate	4 hours to 5 hours
High Intermediate, Low Advanced, High Advanced	4 hours to 4.5 hours

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Make sure you spend time practicing every week. Just like getting in shape, learning English doesn't happen unless you work on it consistently over time.

”

YOUR WEEKLY TASKS

Your Pearson Online English course is made up of two types of tasks: Self-study and Tutoring. Your weekly Study Plans will show you how much of each task you need to complete. But before we review the plans, let us explain why each of these tasks is valuable:

SELF-STUDY



Unit Lessons: Improve communication skills related to your specific goals and interests



Word Bank: Strengthen your vocabulary and master more words



Practice Lessons: Build your confidence around real-world topics and stay updated on the current events that interest you



Grammar Guide: Practice grammar topics that we assign to you, based on your level

TUTORING



Group Sessions: Practice listening and speaking, and meet new learners



Private Tutoring Session: Get laser-focused practice on whatever topic you choose

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Private Tutoring sessions require credits. Credits are sold within your course, and can be purchased in 15 minute increments. Group sessions are free, and unlimited, with all your courses.

”

A PERSONALIZED APPROACH

As a busy adult learner, you have unique needs. A study plan that works around your schedule, instead of trying to change it, is one of the biggest keys to your success.

Our Study Plan enables a completely personalized approach to learning, while still ensuring that you get the instruction you need.

On the following pages, we give you flexible week-by-week plans that you can customize and make your own. Here's how it works:

WE'LL TELL YOU EXACTLY WHAT YOU NEED TO DO, AND HOW MUCH OF IT.

**IT'S UP TO YOU TO DECIDE WHEN YOU WANT TO DO IT AND
HOW YOU'LL ACCOMPLISH IT.**

YOUR STUDY PLANS:

MONTH 1

These weekly Study Plans show you exactly what you need to do in order to improve your proficiency score on your next PA. When and where you complete these recommended tasks is up to you, but as long as you check them all off by the end of each week, we guarantee that you'll be on the right track!

DAY 1

Self-Study: 50 minutes

Take the Proficiency Assessment : 45 minutes

Download the mobile app : 5 minutes

WEEK 1

Self-Study: 4 hours

Tutoring: 30 minutes to 1 hour



13 Unit Lessons : 1 hour, 35 minutes



Word Bank : 25 minutes



Group Sessions : 30 - 60 minutes



11 Practice Lessons : 1 hour, 20 minutes



Grammar Guide (Quantifiers) : 20 minutes

WEEK 2

Self-Study: 4 hours

Tutoring: 30 minutes



13 Unit Lessons : 1 hour, 35 minutes



Word Bank : 25 minutes



Private Tutoring Session : 30 minutes



11 Practice Lessons : 1 hour, 20 minutes



Grammar Guide (First Conditional) : 20 minutes

NOTE: YOU SHOULD COMPLETE YOUR FIRST UNIT BY THIS WEEK (2). TO STAY ON TRACK, YOU SHOULD COMPLETE A UNIT EVERY OTHER WEEK. TAKE THE ACHIEVEMENT TEST AT THE END OF EVERY UNIT TO SEE HOW MUCH YOU'VE LEARNED!

► Remember, private tutoring sessions require credits. Credits are sold within your course, and can be purchased in 15 minute increments.

WEEK 3

Self-Study: 4 hours

Tutoring: 30 minutes to 1 hour



13 Unit Lessons : 1 hour, 35 minutes



Word Bank : 25 minutes



Group Sessions : 30 - 60 minutes



11 Practice Lessons : 1 hour, 20 minutes



Grammar Guide (Gendered Nouns) : 20 minutes

► Units are based on your goals and interests. You can have three Units active at once, and you can select them from within your course.

► You can learn from videos, music, photos, conversations and articles. We recommend mixing this up.

WEEK 4

Self-Study: 4 hours

Tutoring: 30 minutes

	13 Unit Lessons : 1 hour, 35 minutes
	Word Bank : 25 minutes
	Private Tutoring Session : 30 minutes
	11 Practice Lessons : 1 hour, 20 minutes
	Grammar Guide (Countable Nouns) : 20 minutes

NEED SOME INSPIRATION?

We've seen that our weekly Study Plans can work for each and every learner. Here are a few examples of how others have customized these plans to work with their schedules.

EXAMPLE 1 :

OUR INSTRUCTION	LEARNER APPLICATION
 13 Unit Lessons (1 hour, 35 minutes)	Date/Time: Monday, 8p (after class) do 8 lessons and Thursday, 9a (before work) 5 more lessons Topic: Hospitality Unit
 Word Bank (25 minutes)	Date/Time: Monday, 8:15p (after Unit lessons)
 Group Sessions (60 minutes)	Date/Time: Sunday evening (depending on class schedule)
 11 Practice Lessons (1 hour, 20 minutes)	Date/Time: Sunday evening (before Group Session - as warm up!) Topic: Videos
 Grammar Guide (20 minutes)	Date/Time: Thursday, 9:15a (after Unit lessons) Topic: First Conditional

EXAMPLE 2 :

OUR INSTRUCTION	LEARNER APPLICATION
 13 Unit Lessons (1 hour, 35 minutes)	Date/Time: Sunday night, as part of my weekly prep. Do all 13 lessons in a row, from the same Unit. Topic: Travel Abroad Unit
 Word Bank (25 minutes)	Date/Time: Wednesday afternoon, between school and work (at the computer lab)
 Private Tutoring Session (30 minutes)	Date/Time: Tuesday evening, right after dinner
 11 Practice Lessons (1 hour, 20 minutes)	Date/Time: One lesson, every weekday, on my way to school Topic: Music (on my phone!)
 Grammar Guide (20 minutes)	Date/Time: Sunday night, right after I finish my Unit lessons (and am in the groove) Topic: Countable Nouns

TIP: Remember that you can practice at different times throughout the week instead of doing it all at once. In fact, you'll improve even faster if you study a little bit every day, even if it's only for 15 minutes!

KEEP GOING!

Now that you're familiar with the structure of a week - and a month - of practice, let's look at your plans for months 2 and 3.

YOUR STUDY PLANS: MONTH 2

WEEK 5

Self-Study: 4 hours

Tutoring: 30 minutes to 1 hour



13 Unit Lessons : 1 hour, 35 minutes



Word Bank : 25 minutes



Group Sessions : 30 - 60 minutes



11 Practice Lessons : 1 hour, 20 minutes



Grammar Guide (Indefinite Pronouns) : 20 minutes

WEEK 6

Self-Study: 4 hours

Tutoring: 30 minutes



13 Unit Lessons : 1 hour, 35 minutes



Word Bank : 25 minutes



Private Tutoring Session : 30 minutes



11 Practice Lessons : 1 hour, 20 minutes



Grammar Guide (Reflexive Pronouns) : 20 minutes

WEEK 7

Self-Study: 4 hours

Tutoring: 30 minutes to 1 hour



13 Unit Lessons : 1 hour, 35 minutes



Word Bank : 25 minutes



Group Sessions : 30 - 60 minutes



11 Practice Lessons : 1 hour, 20 minutes



Grammar Guide (Present Perfect Verbs) : 20 minutes

WEEK 8

Self-Study: 4 hours

Tutoring: 30 minutes



13 Unit Lessons : 1 hour, 35 minutes



Word Bank : 25 minutes



Private Tutoring Session : 30 minutes



11 Practice Lessons : 1 hour, 20 minutes



Grammar Guide (Simple Future Verbs) : 20 minutes

YOUR STUDY PLANS: MONTH 3

WEEK 9

Self-Study: 4 hours

Tutoring: 30 minutes to 1 hour



13 Unit Lessons : 1 hour, 35 minutes



Word Bank : 25 minutes



Group Sessions : 30 - 60 minutes



11 Practice Lessons : 1 hour, 20 minutes



Grammar Guide (Adjective Order) : 20 minutes

WEEK 10

Self-Study: 4 hours

Tutoring: 30 minutes



13 Unit Lessons : 1 hour, 35 minutes



Word Bank : 25 minutes



Private Tutoring Session : 30 minutes



11 Practice Lessons : 1 hour, 20 minutes



Grammar Guide (Second Conditional) : 20 minutes

WEEK 11

Self-Study: 4 hours

Tutoring: 30 minutes to 1 hour



13 Unit Lessons : 1 hour, 35 minutes



Word Bank : 25 minutes



Group Sessions : 30 - 60 minutes



11 Practice Lessons : 1 hour, 20 minutes



Grammar Guide (Gerunds) : 20 minutes

WEEK 12

FINAL WEEK: THIS IS THE FINAL WEEK BEFORE YOU TAKE YOUR NEXT PA. YOUR PRACTICE NOW IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER, SO BE SURE TO FOLLOW THE PLAN BELOW TO GET INTO GREAT TEST-TAKING SHAPE

Self-Study: 4 hours, 45 minutes

Tutoring: 30 minutes



13 Unit Lessons : 1 hour, 35 minutes



Word Bank : 30 minutes (Spend time with all your "Weak" words)



Private Tutoring Session : 30 minutes (Be sure to tell your tutor you're preparing for the PA!)



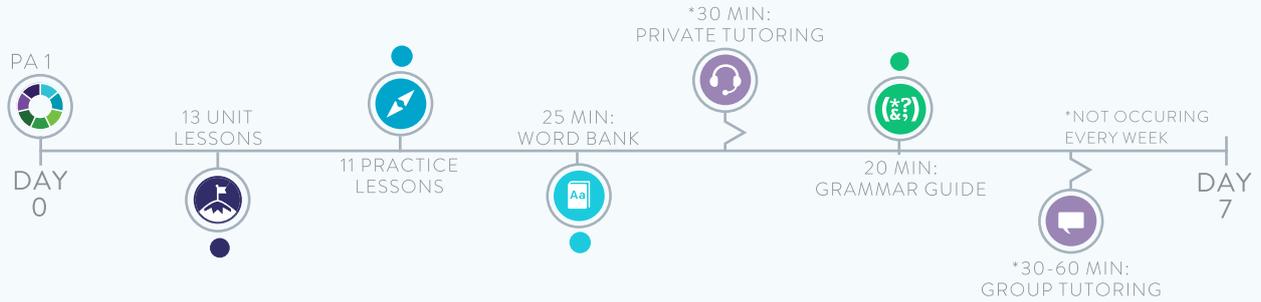
15 Practice Lessons : 1 hour, 40 minutes - Variety is key. Mix it up with videos, articles, photos, and conversations



Grammar Guide : 30 minutes (Review all the topics you've found challenging)

PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

ONE WEEK



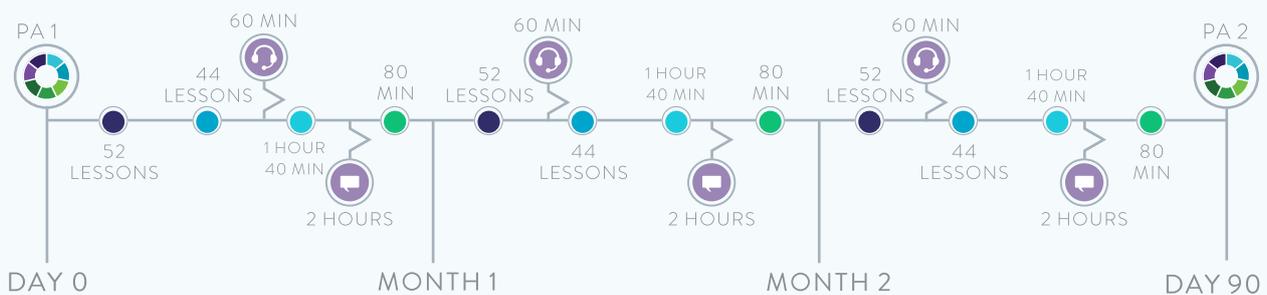
PRACTICE TIME : 4 - 5 HOURS

ONE MONTH



PRACTICE TIME : 16 - 20 HOURS

THREE MONTHS



PRACTICE TIME : 48 - 60 HOURS

BONUS

SET A GOAL FOR THIS MONTH!

We know you're committed to improving your proficiency level, but it's helpful to also think about specific things you want to be able to do with your new English skills. We encourage you to write down one thing you want to accomplish using English in the next four weeks. This can be something that seems small, like just ordering a coffee in English, but writing it down will make you even more likely to achieve it.

TIP: *Talking about your goals makes a difference. If you're working with a Tutor, share your goal with him or her.*

STAYING ON TRACK

Seeing your progress, and knowing you're on track to improve your English, is one of the best ways to stay motivated.

While the PA will show you the progress you're making on your proficiency level every three months, we've created some smaller benchmarks along the way to help you feel confident that you're moving in the right direction.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

In addition to completing at least one Unit every week and a half, or so, you should also be monitoring the progress you're making in your real-world goals. Writing down a monthly goal is the perfect way to observe your improvement. It's important that you share this goal with your tutor, so she or he can check in with you at the end of the month about how it went. Having this clear reminder that you're accomplishing the things that matter most to you will help build the momentum you need to keep going!

HERE ARE SOME EXAMPLES, TO HELP YOU GET GOING:

If you're interested in advancing your career, you could set a goal to:

"Describe my strengths and weaknesses during a job interview."

If you want to travel abroad, you could set a goal to be able to:

"Book a hotel for my next trip."

APPENDIX

1. GRAMMAR GUIDE

Grammar is a central part to learning a new language. As you progress through your lessons, you're actually practicing grammar as you go. But, if you want explicit practice with grammar, we offer that too.

Our Grammar Guide shows you which grammar structures are most appropriate for your level, and this information is also available in the link below.

2. UNIT CATALOG

Learning from your goals and interests is one of the best ways to stay motivated. It's also one of the best ways to improve quickly and notice your progress in the real world. Browse through the Unit Catalog below to decide what you want to read about and listen to in your weekly lessons.

NOTE: Each unit contains 18 lessons, and we recommend that you complete one full unit before starting a new one.

REMEMBER

AS YOU IMPROVE YOUR ENGLISH, YOU'RE
PREPARING YOURSELF TO:

EARN A HIGHER SALARY

TRAVEL MORE FREELY

MAKE NEW FRIENDS

BUILD CONFIDENCE

STRENGTHEN YOUR MIND

GET A PROMOTION

GRADUATE WITH HIGHER
QUALIFICATIONS

