

# Unit 10: Summary

00:00-01:00

Today, we will do a summary of all things, we have learned so far and we will talk about studying English in broader terms.

First of all, I'd like to THANK YOU all for joining this amazing experience.

So, when me, as a teacher, will ask you about your feelings, your thoughts after the lesson, I'd usually ask you: How was it?

01:01-01:40

How was it? - we use this question to ask about:

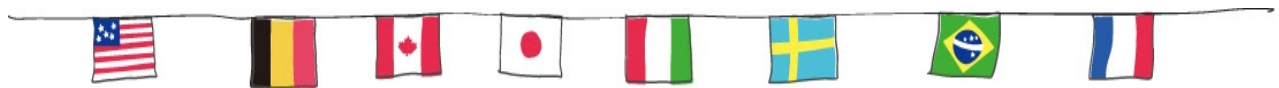
- Your experience
- Your feelings
- Your emotions
- What do you think about it?
- What are your thoughts?
- Did you like it?
- What is your opinion?

Yes! All of these questions can be referred to "How was it?"  
- it's a pretty universal and very useful question, isn't it?

01:41-02:45

Okay, so here we go:  
For example, You go to work. You come back home, to your family.  
Your children or your partner is asking you: "So, how was it?"  
And then you start thinking: how was it?...What?





So, you see:

How means どのように? どうやって?

“It” means what you’ve been doing until now - f.e. “Working”.

So, in this case How was it? Means simply:

“How was your work?” “Was it hard? Was it easy? Was it long?” and so on.

**02:46-03:43**

But, in daily conversation there is no need to ask about specific things using adjectives or adverbs:

So instead of asking: “Was your job okay today or was it hard?”

We simply ask: “How was it?” It’s short, simple and easy to memorize and say.

**03:52-04:40**

Let’s practice then:

Honey, I’m home!

Oh, hi. How was it?

Oh, nothing special. Day as usual. Work, work, work!

I see. Dinner’s ready, come quick!

Right on!

So, as you can see the other person just asked me a simple question.

Not mentioning school, work, or any other event.

I assumed the other person asked me about my work, because

I just got home after finishing work.

**04:41-08:28**

And please always remember:

You study for yourself, not for the others.

You determine how much you can say in English.

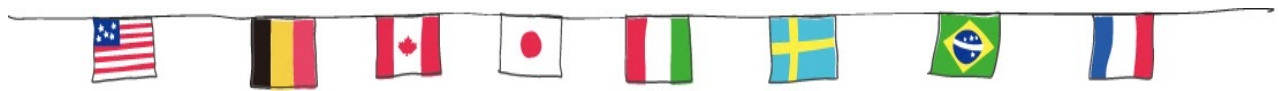
It’s not about memorizing correct vocabulary and studying for the test.

Even if your goal is to get qualifications needed for the job or to enter the university, f.e.

To get a high score on the TOEIC test, the most important thing is to communicate with people. Whether you’re gonna use correct grammar or pronounce everything correctly is not the most important thing.

What really matters is HOW you can deliver the message and if you can express what you really want. Language is a beautiful tool of communication. It doesn’t measure your intelligence or your talent. It is just a tool to communicate with others.





You may not always be ready, you may not always be able to say what you really, really want. But, that's fine, because people laugh and people can understand each other using simple words, gestures, facial expressions too.

Those things are also important. So, please, don't be nervous!

**08:29-14:00**

I know that a lot of you are so afraid of speaking and are constantly trying to make a perfect sentence even before you start speaking. Fear of failure however did not bring people to the moon! Being fearless and adventurous has!

So, say it with me: "I can speak English!". "I can speak English very well!", "I will speak English as much as I can every day!".

English is not maths, it's not statistics. It's useless if it's not used. It's not about remembering countless words and sounds - it's all about using it.

I encourage you to be strong, confident and use English as much as you can.

Start singing in English, Talking to yourself in English,  
Cooking in English, dancing in English. It has to be your everyday meal.

And that's how you can use it and truly understand, without fear.  
If you just treat it as a "hobby" - 5minutes a day, 5 hours a day - whatever, it does not matter.  
"I wanna speak English but I can't!!!" - it's not a good way to study English.

You just need to flip a tiny switch in your head from "I MUST do it, I MUST be better than that!!!" to "Okay, I'll just start speaking English.", and then, magically, words will start coming out of your mouth. They will not be perfect, your grammar will not be perfect - but that's just fine.

It's more like your own language. You don't think about every word in particular when you speak, but you know what sounds you have to make to say a certain word, what sounds not to use, what words to use together to form a sentence etc.

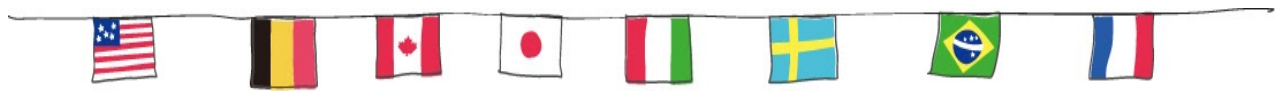
**14:01-17:22**

Pronunciation is the single most difficult thing to get right.  
You can tell where someone came from just by listening to his accent for 10 seconds.

I'm going to help you sound a little bit more like a native speaker, hopefully. Students ask me all the time: "How can I sound like a native speaker?" Well, before I say anything, let me just tell you that it will take time and a lot, a lot, a lot of practice.

The best way is to live in an English-speaking country, of course, but of course you can do it anywhere, but it takes time; be patient, practice, practice, practice.





So we're looking at pronunciation. Let me start with this word: "pronunciation".  
Not: "pronunciation". It is not a pronoun. A pronoun is: "I", "me", "my", "mine".

### 17:23-19:25

Pronunciation is how we speak English. So I'm going to give you three tips that will help you sound a little bit more like a native speaker. We're going to start with connecting words.

Now, think about your own language, whether you're speaking Spanish or Japanese or Tagalog, you do this in your language as well.

When you're speaking fast, you're taking words and you're squeezing them together; you're connecting them, so one word flows into the next word. That's what we're going to do here.

So we don't sound like a robot.

I-am-a-Ri-chard.

We have to connect words.

### 19:26-21:47

You can connect consonants to consonants.

What this means: when a word ends in a consonant... A consonant is "b", "c", "d", "f", "g", etc. A vowel is "a", "e", "i", "o", "u". When a word ends in a consonant and the next word begins with the same consonant, drop the first one. So we do not say: BB, DD, PP and so on.

"black coffee", we don't say: There's no "ke, ke".

There's only one "k": "bla coffee", "bla coffee." Okay?

Actually BLACK becomes BLA.

Okay? One "K". Practice that!

Okay! So, that'll be all for the tenth and the last seminar in this series.

Thank you very very much for joining all seminars so far.

I hope you could learn a lot of new things and that you have new ideas for studying.

