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HOW TO PRACTICE ENGLISH The best way to prepare for the test is to immerse yourself in English as much as you can. There are many ways you can practice English language skills leading up to the test and to prepare for studying or working in an English-speaking environment.

When teaching or learning a foreign language, many people focus on Speaking, Writing, Reading, and Listening skills. Here are some of our favorite tips for practicing those skills, shared from the Duolingo blog (blog.duolingo.com).

Speaking

- Take advantage of time alone or at home to talk to yourself in English. Narrate what you're doing, think out loud about plans, or challenge yourself to describe favorite traditions or childhood memories! A big component of speaking is retrieving words from memory, and you can do this kind of practice on your own from anywhere.
- When you watch movies or videos in English on your own, repeat what you hear to give your tongue and brain some practice with the new sounds. Write down or record especially funny lines or catch phrases to incorporate into your around-the-house speaking practice.
- There will be some sounds in English that will feel especially tricky to get right. If you're having trouble with a sound or particular set of sounds, chances are good that others are struggling with them too. Search online for guides and videos that have extra information to help your pronunciation.

Writing

- For fast and easy practice, try writing your shopping list in English. If you keep a list of tasks for each day, you can also try writing that in English.
- On your phone or computer, install a keyboard in English so you can practice using English to text, search, and post on social media.
- Make a friend at a Duolingo Event (events.duolingo.com)!
- Find online communities and groups that use English, and spend some of your social media time writing quick responses in the language. Soon you might be writing even longer messages!
- In your longer writing, such as in response to a prompt, be sure to expand and support your main points with relevant supporting details and examples. Use a variety of linking

words to show the relationships among ideas.

Reading

- Read blogs, follow social media accounts, and join groups with posts in English.
- Read articles and news in English. You'll often be able to rely on your general knowledge of current events to help you understand.
- Read books or ebooks in English, maybe starting with topics you're already familiar with. You can even reread your favorite books in the English translation.

Listening

- Listen to music in English. Music is catchy, has a lot of repetition, and helps you learn useful phrases in a memorable context. Look up the lyrics to check what you hear!
- Watch shows or movies in English by switching the language of the audio. You can check out movies originally made in English, and you might be able to find options that include English subtitles.
- Find apps or podcasts in English. Look for options related to news, sports, history, fashion—any topic you like to hear about in your own language! Some apps may have helpful videos, too.