

A close-up photograph of a person's hand holding a black microphone. The person is wearing a grey pinstriped suit jacket over a white collared shirt. The background is blurred, showing other people in a professional setting.

# How to sound more confident

Advanced linkers

A close-up photograph of a branch of cherry blossoms. The flowers are in various stages of bloom, showing vibrant pink petals and yellow centers. Green leaves are interspersed among the flowers. The background is a soft, out-of-focus grey-green.

Spring is in the air

Time to refresh your English

# Structure

## Tips

5 tips to build your confidence.

## Avoiding Repetition

How avoid sounding repetitive

## The Three Tricks

When you don't understand

## Sentence Starters

Common linkers and adverbial connectors

## Listening Comprehension

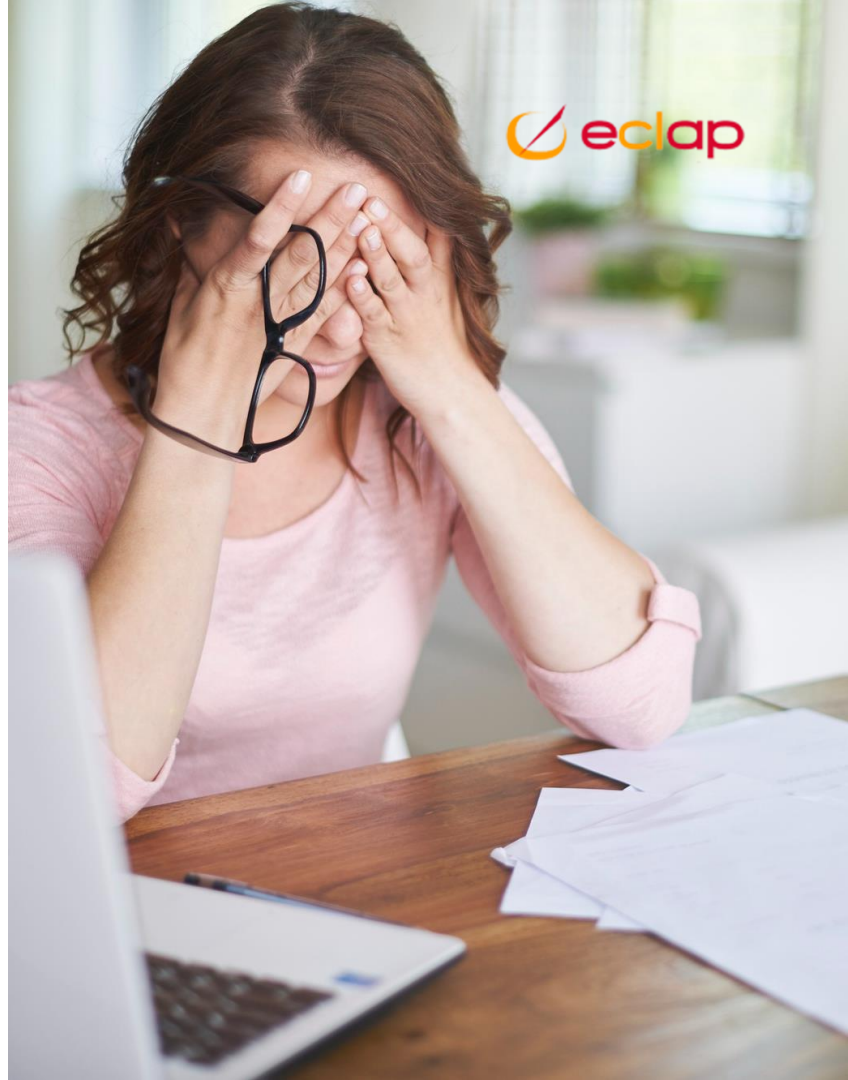
Dealing with understanding issues

## Idioms and Phrasal Verbs

Advanced idioms to sound more native

# Oh no!

When we talk in English, sometimes we prefer to think in Spanish. The result:  
**Spanglish.**



# 5 important tips

## How to sound more confident

- 1. Don't speak too fast**

Talking without rushing makes you sound more trustworthy, and confident

- 2. Breathe!**

Take a deep breath to give yourself time to think and help yourself feel more confident.

- 3. Improve your vocal skills**

English is a stress-timed language, which means that rhythm and stress are important.

- 4. Vocabulary skills**

Common sentence starters add emphasis, show our viewpoint or attitude

- 5. Control your nerves**

This could be mistaken for incompetency.

# Hello?

I'm fine, THANK YOU!!!!



# Hello?

Formal and informal greetings



How do you do?

How are you?

How's it going?

How're you doing?

\*What do you do?\*

How do you do?

I'm great, thanks. And you?

I'm alright. How about you?

I can't complain, thanks.

I'm a IT engineer. What about you?



# The Three Tricks

## When you don't understand

### Repeat

Ask them to repeat:

“Could you repeat \_\_\_\_\_  
please”

### Rephrase

Ask if they can rephrase  
the question:

“Could you please  
rephrase \_\_\_\_\_ ?”

### Restate

Check if you  
understood by  
repeating their question  
in an easier form.

“So, if I understand, you  
mean \_\_\_\_\_”



1. **Study natural pronunciation**
2. **Listen to TED talks**
3. **Practise with different accents, voices & context.**
4. **Watch without subtitles**
5. **Write what you hear**

“whadayawanna do?”

[www.ted.com](http://www.ted.com)

Get out of your comfort zone

Try a short extract

Simple but very effective!

Improving your

**Listening Comprehension**



## Understanding the problem

- Is the vocabulary new?
- Do you pronounce it differently?
- Did the speaker link the words together?
- Are you not familiar with the grammar?

**If you don't understand everything,  
Don't worry!**

# Avoid sounding repetitive



## Record yourself

If you have the recording of how you speak, this will allow you to listen and find out if you really repeat the vocabulary and how often you do it. When you hear such words, write them down

## Paraphrase

They are the words that have the same or nearly the same meaning. Luckily, there are many synonyms in the English language because its vocabulary is huge



# Avoid sounding repetitive

## Use pronouns

They are a great tool for back referencing, i.e. talking about something you have already mentioned before without having to repeat the same vocabulary (e.g. it, they, these, those, he, she etc.).

## Use various forms

There are many different forms of the words in English such as nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs. When learning the new vocabulary, look for them as well. For example: beauty (noun) – beautify (verb) – beautiful (adjective) – beautifully (adverb).

## Sentence linkers

1. It is a phrase that is used at the beginning of a sentence and can introduce information inside.
  2. There are 1000s of different sentence starters
  3. Think about what type of sentence you are making. By working out the type of sentence it is, you will be able to better decide on your sentence starter.
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# Linkers

## Cause and effect

If you are looking to write a sentence which shows the result or cause then you might consider using one of the following sentence starters.

- As a result
- Consequently
- Since
- As
- Because
- Therefore
- Because of
- As a result of
- Due to
- That is why
- So that
- Seeing that

# Linkers of cause and effect



## Translations

PHRASE	SIGNIFICADO
<b>Since</b> it is late, she is going to sleep.	Como es tarde, se va a dormir..
The roads were closed <b>because of</b> the snow.	Las carreteras estaban cerradas a causa de la nieve.
There is a test tomorrow; <b>therefore</b> , I need to study now.	Mañana hay examen, por lo tanto, tengo que estudiar ahora.
I took a taxi <b>as</b> I was late.	Cogí un taxi porque llegaba tarde.
It snowed a lot last night. <b>Consequently</b> , school was cancelled today.	Anoche nevó mucho. Por consiguiente, hoy se han suspendido las clases.
There were road works; <b>as a result</b> , there were traffic jams	Hubo obras en las carreteras y, en consecuencia, atascos.
His behaviour was unacceptable, <b>so</b> he was expelled	Su comportamiento era inaceptable, por lo que fue expulsado.
<b>Seeing that</b> parking is expensive, I took the bus.	Como aparcar es caro, cogí el autobús.

If you are writing a sentence to compare or contrast, then these sentence starters will get you off on the right foot.

- However
- Nevertheless
- Although / even though
- Still
- Yet
- Despite / in spite of
- Whereas
- Conversely
- That being said
- Then again
- On the one hand, on the other hand
- In comparison
- On the contrary

Linkers

Contrast & comparison



# Linkers of contrast and comparison



## Translations

PHRASE	SIGNIFICADO
<b>Although</b> it was a sunny day, the wind was cold. My brother loves science; <b>whereas</b> , I love art.	Aunque era un día soleado, el viento era frío.. A mi hermano le encanta la ciencia, mientras que a mí me encanta el arte.
Your exam results were good. <b>However</b> , I would like you to better. <b>Despite</b> being a doctor, he smokes so much.	Los resultados de tus exámenes han sido buenos. Sin embargo, me gustaría que mejoraras. A pesar de ser médico, fuma muchísimo..
<b>Even though</b> it was raining, we went out for a walk. He is allergic to cats, <b>yet</b> he has one.	Aunque llovía, salimos a dar un paseo. Es alérgico a los gatos, pero tiene uno.
John doesn't speak any spanish; <b>nevertheless</b> , he has lived in Spain for 5 years. <b>In spite of</b> his bad temper, he was a very kind person.	John no habla nada de español; sin embargo, vive en España desde hace 5 años. A pesar de su mal genio, era una persona muy amable.

When you are writing a sentence which requires a little emphasis, you could use one of these sentence starters to achieve that.

- Above all
- As usual
- Generally speaking
- For the most part
- Without a doubt
- As a rule
- In fact
- Indeed
- As a matter of fact
- Essentially,
- Interestingly

**Linkers**

**Emphasis**

# Linkers of emphasis



## Translations

PHRASE	SIGNIFICADO
<b>Above all</b> , I'd like to thank my family...	Sobre todo, quiero dar las gracias a mi familia...
<b>Without a doubt</b> , they are the nicest people I've met.	Sin duda, son las personas más agradables que he conocido.
English is a difficult language. <b>Indeed</b> , many people take years to master it.	El inglés es un idioma difícil. De hecho, muchas personas tardan años en dominarlo.
I took a taxi <b>as</b> I was late.	Cogí un taxi porque llegaba tarde.
The teacher is proud of the students. <b>As a matter of fact</b> , she has never had such a good group.	La profesora está orgullosa de los alumnos. De hecho, nunca ha tenido un grupo tan bueno.
<b>Generally speaking</b> , the coldest weather comes in January	En general, el clima más frío llega en enero.
I found him in the garden, sleeping <b>as usual</b> .	Lo encontré en el jardín, durmiendo como de costumbre.

# Linkers

## Starters for additional ideas

When you are writing a sentence which will add new information, you might choose one of these sentence starters.

- Also,
- Furthermore,
- Moreover
- Additionally
- Besides
- In addition
- Further
- Then
- As well as
- Likewise



# Linkers of addition



## Translations

PHRASE	SIGNIFICADO
Give me your email address <b>so that</b> I can send you the document.	Dame tu dirección de correo electrónico para que pueda enviarte el documento.
Unemployment has fallen. <b>Moreover</b> , there are more permanent contracts.	El desempleo ha disminuido. Además, hay más contratos indefinidos.
The new tax law is too strict. <b>Furthermore</b> , it only benefits large companies.	La nueva ley fiscal es demasiado estricta. Además, sólo beneficia a las grandes empresas.
I don't feel like going out. <b>Besides</b> , it's raining.	No tengo ganas de salir. Además, está lloviendo.
<b>As well as</b> being rich in nutrients, cucumbers are also antioxidant.	Además de ser ricos en nutrientes, los pepinos también son antioxidantes.
The play is great; <b>in addition</b> , it has a strong cast.	La obra es estupenda; además, cuenta con un sólido reparto.
Spanish wine is excellent; <b>likewise</b> , Italian wine is delicious.	El vino español es excelente; asimismo, el italiano es delicioso.

# Linking idioms



How to sound more native by using expressions



# Idioms

## **With all my heart**

Sincerely, completely

## **It goes without saying**

Used to mean that something is obvious

## **Without a shadow of doubt**

There is no doubt at all that it is true.

# Idioms



## By the same token

In the same way, for the same reason.

## In a nutshell

In summary, in the fewest possible words.

## Apples and oranges

When 2 things are very different





# Useful phrasal verbs

## Chew/mull over

Let's chew over the idea before making any decisions.

## Sleep on it

Could I sleep on it and let you know tomorrow?

## Delve into

I think we should delve into the past to understand what is happening today.

## Ponder over

Scientists still ponder over the origin of man.

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# Thanks!

Does anyone have any questions?