

# Why boost your English language skills

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### Your language skills might be holding you back.

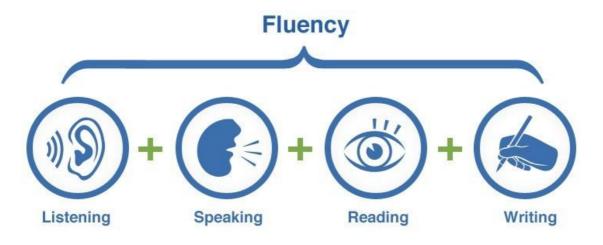


Imagine English is not your first language. Imagine you were taught English in your mother tongue and never really had to use the language. Now imagine your company or clients expect you to be a proficient English speaker: you have to write emails, proposals and reports or do presentations in English. Imagine your message and tone are misinterpreted, or even called unprofessional, because your English writing and speaking lack the refinement of a first language speaker.

For many South Africans, this is the reality they face daily at work. Many hard-working and enthusiastic people are often overlooked when it comes to promotion simply because they cannot write a report or structure an effective presentation, or they make a few grammar or spelling errors when they write emails. The result is a work environment that destroys employees' confidence in expressing their ideas.

## Increasing emphasis on language

For years, many companies considered language skills to be a 'soft skill' – useful but mostly unnecessary for work. However, employees have now started to recognise the importance of better English skills in the workplace. They've now enrolled in English language classes not only to improve their own language skills, but also their self-confidence and to increase their promotion opportunities at work.



# Courses to help you

Learn how to write the best cover letter for your CV. Create impressive PowerPoint presentations that will stand out from others. Learn how to structure an objective, detailed and cohesive report. Maybe you want to learn some spelling rules or how to use the comma and semicolon correctly? Would you like to improve your pronunciation skills and speak with confidence in front of people? Learn how to use words effectively to communicate clear messages at work.

Wits Language School's <u>English improvement courses</u> are designed for second language speakers. In these courses, you will increase your vocabulary, revise essential grammar rules and learn how to write business documents that are effective, professional and persuasive.

# How the classes run

Courses are either 40 or 50 hours in length. Classes run on Saturday mornings, over 10 weeks. Classes are taught by professional and experienced teachers in an interactive and communicative way that makes the learning process fun and memorable. You'll do several assignments in each course to track your own progress. There's also an exam at the end of each course to demonstrate your improved skills. If you complete a course successfully, you'll get a Certificate of Competence from the University of the Witwatersrand.

Not only will your confidence improve, but you will be able to apply everything you learn in your workplace. Contact Wits Language School for more information and course dates: <u>wls@wits.ac.za</u> | 011 717 4208.

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