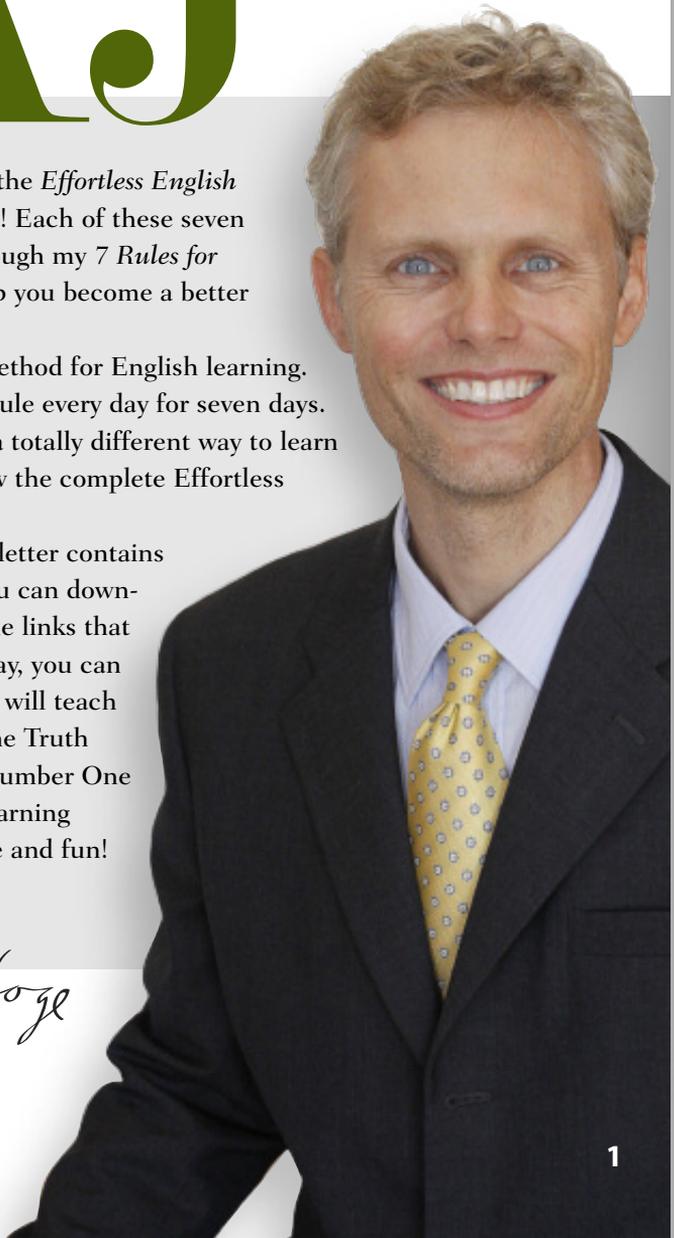


Greetings **A** from **J**

Hello everyone. Welcome to the *Effortless English Newsletter* Special Editions! Each of these seven editions will guide you through my *7 Rules for Excellent English* step-by-step to help you become a better English speaker.

This program is a powerful new method for English learning. You'll watch a video teaching a new rule every day for seven days. Each of my seven rules teaches you a totally different way to learn English. After seven days, you'll know the complete Effortless English system!

Every Special Edition of this newsletter contains the text version of the daily video. You can download the free audios by clicking on the links that say "Download this Podcast!" This way, you can listen as you read along. Each lesson will teach you a powerful new rule, such as "The Truth About Grammar" (Rule 2) or "The Number One Key to Faster Speaking" (Rule 7). Learning how to speak better English is simple and fun! So let's get started ...



Rule #3:

Learn with
your
Ears
NOT
your
Eyes
by AJ Hoge



Hi, this is AJ, and welcome back for secret number three.

Now, the last secret, the last rule, was maybe your favorite, right? No more grammar rules. Good news for you, but this one is probably the most important rule. This is really the central key. It's the main one. This rule or this secret is this. Learn with your ears, not with your eyes. Again, learn with your ears, not with your eyes.

Now, of course, we're teaching you how to speak excellent English, speak, and to speak well you have to have excellent listening. See, speech comes from listening. Here's the problem. In school you mostly learned with your eyes. What did you do? You read a lot of textbooks. You watched the teacher write a lot of stuff on the board. Maybe you listened to the teacher explain English in your language. So, you're hearing your language, not English, in your classroom.

In general, what's happening is you're learning, learning, learning with your eyes. That's what happened and may be still happening now. I don't know, hopefully not. Not after today. There's a big problem with this. See, when you're just reading and trying to learn grammar rules, for example, by reading

grammar books and you're trying to learn vocabulary by reading vocabulary lists and you're trying to read English dialogues and then you're doing written tests and then you're doing all these written activities and written drills, none of that is helping you with your speaking.

That's why you probably read English much better than you speak it or understand it. It's a common problem. It's because in school you learned with your eyes all the time or most of the time and you did very little learning with your ears. Listening, listening, listening is secret number three and is probably the most important one. You gotta listen a lot. You've got to listen to a lot, a lot, a lot of English. That's the key to great speaking. There's a lot of research about this, a lot of academic research, excellent research that shows that listening is the way you improve your speaking. Not reading, not prac-



ticing speaking in a mirror or something. No, it's lots and lots and lots of listening, lots of it.

Now, this is so obvious, but let's imagine a baby, a little baby, a little American baby we'll say. This little American

baby of course needs to learn English. So, how will we teach this American baby to learn English? Will we buy grammar books and try to make the baby study grammar? No, we won't. We could try, but it won't work.

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Would we try to force the baby to read immediately? Of course, not. So, how does this little baby learn English? One way and one way only, listening.

For six to 12 months that baby just sits there and listens. Listens, listens, listens, listens, listens to the parents mostly and maybe brothers

and sisters and maybe other people in the family speaking English constantly. And, of course, when parents speak to a baby they don't speak difficult English. They speak very simple

easy English and eventually the baby starts to learn a few words like mommy, daddy and maybe food. Really simple stuff, but they start to learn a little bit. That's the beginning and then they start learning groups of words, two words or three words together.

All of this is happening through listening and for a while the baby can understand a lot. The small child can actually understand a lot of English, but cannot speak very much. It is natural and normal that the listening level is higher than the speaking level and then eventually, of course, the baby will start to speak. One word, two

words in the beginning and then bigger phrases and sentences and it just keeps going.

That baby learns to speak excellent English through listening, by learning with the baby's ears and that's what you have to do. You have to go back and start learning English now,

A little baby learns to speak English through **LISTENING**, and that's what you have to do!

change the way you're learning it and instead learn it like a baby. Learn with your ears, lots and lots of listening.

Now, like a baby, you should not focus on difficult listening. This is another problem that schools

have and a lot of students have. Maybe they do practice some listening, but when they do it's so difficult. They're listening to sample TOEFL tests and things like that, extremely difficult vocabulary, very academic and formal, not really natural normal English for normal situations. It's so difficult that you cannot really understand it easily and automatically.

If you do that, if you listen to English that's too difficult, you're learning will be very, very, very slow. You want the opposite. Like a baby, you want to listen to lots of easy English. Easy listening is the key. Easy listening will give you great

AJ Hoge's
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- ✓ *Never study grammar rules again*
- ✓ *Learn with your ears, not your eyes*
- ✓ *Master grammar with easy stories*
- ✓ *Learn actively with easy questions*
- ✓ *Emotional lessons that are easy to remember*

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You should listen to something that you can understand **95% of without a dictionary**. That is how you should be learning ... with your ears!



speaking. That's what all the research shows and it's very powerful. So, you probably need to be listening to things that are much easier than you think.

Here's my basic rule for listening. You should listen to something that you can understand 95% of it without a dictionary, 95%. That means you don't need a dictionary at all because the other five percent you can easily guess. If there is a new word or a new phrase that comes, you can guess the meaning because you understand everything else.

You understand the situation. You understand most of it. So you can kind of guess the meaning of that new word and that's how you learn, naturally, new vocabulary. That's how I learned it all as a child growing up and it's how you should be learning it too, with your ears, listening to very easy English.

Now, eventually, you listen and listen and listen and you understand 100%. Well then it's time for something a little more difficult. Not a lot more difficult, a little more difficult. Then you listen to that again and again and again. When it becomes 100% then you find something a little more difficult. In this way you will rapidly increase your ability.

Here's what else happens.

After six to 12 months, it depends on the person you will find yourself starting to speak English automatically. Correct phrases and words will pop out of your mouth. They'll come out without you thinking at all. Just like your language. When you speak your language you're not always thinking about vocabulary and translations and all this stuff. No, it just comes out, boom. You want to say something and it comes out. That's what will happen with English, but first you need to focus on listening and just listening for six to 12 months.

It's okay if you speak a little bit, but mostly you should be doing lots and lots and lots of

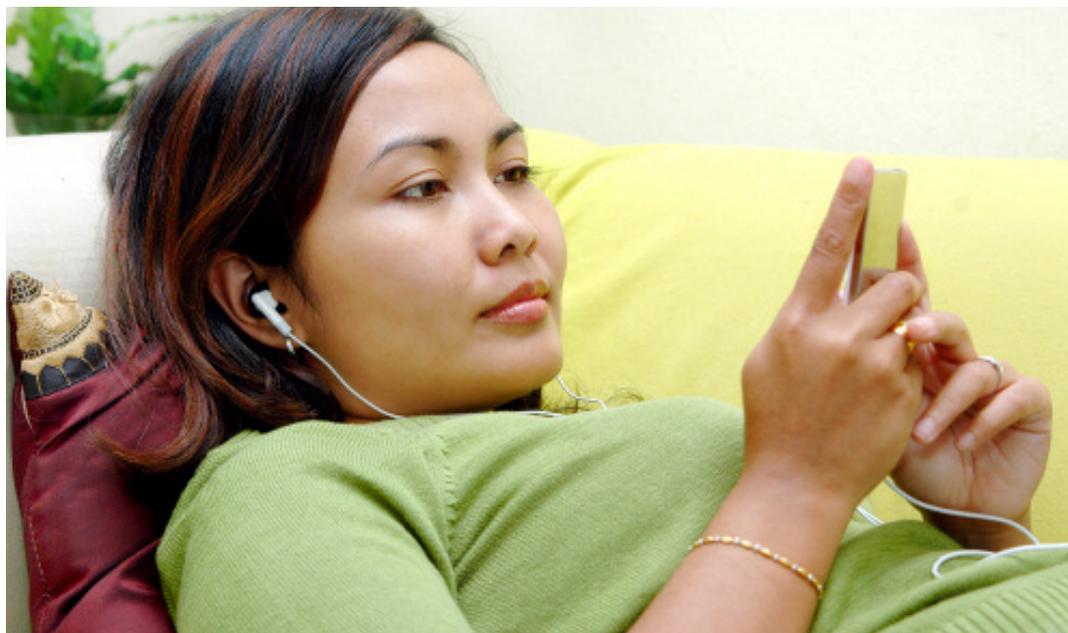
easy listening every day. How can you do this? Go get some easy audio books, easy audio articles. You can get my lessons. You can get our lessons. Put them on an iPod and every moment you have listen. Be listening, listening, listening to this English all the time.

When you wake up in the morning, listen to English, you know, just 10 or 15 minutes. When you're going to work or to school or you're at home cleaning the house, whatever, listen to English some more, 20 - 30 minutes. When you have a break during the day at lunch, listen to English 10-15 minutes. When you're going home at night or making dinner, listen to English

10-15-20-30 minutes. Before you go to bed, listen to English again 10-15-20-30 minutes.

By doing little pieces of listening all through the day, you can easily listen for a total of one to two hours every single day. When you do that you will find you will make big improvements. It takes usually about six months, maybe less for you, maybe more. It depends on how much you listen. It depends on how easy it is. Easier is better.

So, that's it. It's simple. This is such a simple rule. Learn with your ears, not with your eyes. One last note: your listening ability should naturally and always be higher than your speaking ability.



See, what happens is your listening ability pulls up your speaking ability. It happens automatically. You don't need to think about it. It's easy. All you have to focus on is listening and as you get better and better listening your speaking will naturally improve. It's like it pulls it up, pulls it up, pulls it up, pulls it up.

Now, the only problem some people have is psychological. You might have stress and nervousness and things like that that cause you to have problem when it's time to speak. We'll talk about that later. In our courses we help you get rid of nervousness so that's not a problem anymore, but for this secret, this rule, all I want you to do is focus on listening. Learn with your ears, not with your eyes. It's simple and easy and very, very powerful.

All right, I will see you tomorrow for your next secret. It's also a very good one and a very, very powerful one. Remember, this is a whole system so you need to use all of these, all seven of these secrets. Each one of them is powerful, but when you put them all together it's a super powerful system that will give you excellent English speaking.

All right, I'll see you tomorrow. Have a great day, bye-bye. ■

Speak like a **PRO** with *AJ Hoge's*
Effortless English Club

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Dear AJ,
 I followed your advice. I used Effortless English exactly as you said. I downloaded the lessons and listened to them every day. I'm so excited. Now I can really speak English!
Mercedes Pintado

Dear AJ,
 I can finally speak to native speakers! I'm so happy! Six months ago I was afraid to speak English, now I love it! Thanks AJ!
Juan Muñoz, Mexico

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