

UOW College Hong Kong / Community College of City University
Student English Enhancement Unit (SEE U)
Daily English Practice

Week 2

#108 How to cope with University life

Skills/ Objectives: Reading, Speaking, Listening and Writing Skills

PART 1: Before you read...

Preparatory questions

- Have you set a target to pursue a university degree when you complete your studies in the Associate Degree programme?
- Have you ever imagined how your life will be like when you study at the university?

The answer to the question in the preceding set of exercises (How to improve memory power for study with physical exercises) is as follows:

Qt: Did you know physical exercises can help you study more effectively?

Ans: According to the passage, scientists at the University of California studying brain activity found connectivity between parts of the brain responsible for memory formation and storage increased after a brief interval of light exercise – such as 10 minutes of slow walking, yoga or tai chi.

Vocabulary

- Fluster: To make people confused while they are trying to achieve some work.
- To get into the groove of something: To have mastered the basic skills in doing a task.
- Mayhem: A chaotic situation
- Groan: A long sound showing great pain or unhappiness
- Hobnob: To socialize with rich or powerful people
- Bum: The bottom of your body
- Booze: Wine
- Kayaker: A person who rows a kayak
- Tweak: Small changes
- Forge: To make something with difficulty

PART 2: Article for Reading

Have you ever dreamed of your study life at the university? To give you some expectations, Chris Stark tells you what an interesting life it is like studying at the university. Enjoy his article with the link below.

9 Things That Will Probably Happen In Your First Term At Uni

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/157n3crQcc73T5f0gh4Gs52/9-things-that-will-probably-happen-in-your-first-term-at-uni>

PART 3: Speaking Skills Practice

How do you read the following words? Do you read them as indicated in (a) or (b)

Words	Pronunciation (a)	Pronunciation (b)
non-stop partying	Non- s-top ...	Non- s-dop ...
your new student life	your new s – tu -dent life	your new s – du -dent life
stick on a film	s - tick on a film	s - dick on a film

At one glance, it looks the pronunciations in column (a) are more proper as suggested by the spellings of the words. However, as you would agree upon reflection, we never pronounce them as in (a) but we do as in (b). The reason is that the three consonants /p/, /t/ and /k/ change in pronunciation after the single consonant /s/ in the following patterns:

s – t → s – d, e.g., stop, stalk

s – k → s – g, e.g., skill, skull

s – p → s – b, e.g., spill, speak

Can you think of two other words for each of these three patterns?

Pattern

s – t → s – d, e.g., stop, stalk

s – k → s – g, e.g., skill, skull

s – p → s – b, e.g., spill, speak

Example 1

Example 2

Now make a booking for a Guidance Session with your SEE U teacher to discuss your answers.

PART 4: Listening Comprehension

Click the link below to listen to some advice about studying at the famous Harvard University

A Day in the Life of a Harvard Student

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=35vY_c6h23I

PART 5: Writing Practice

Write a short response to the following question:

The writer says in the passage “Maybe the thought of Freshers' Week was never your cup of tea.” Do you understand what a cup of tea is? It is an idiom meaning that the thing is the type that you are interested in.

For example, if somebody offers you a ticket to watch horse racing but you do not like such activity, you may politely refuse by saying: “Thank you. But horse racing is not my cup of tea.”

Now, think of two situations in which you can apply this idiom and send your short answers to SEE U.

(i) _____

(ii) _____

Send your writing to: see.u@cccu.edu.hk.

Remember! Our SEE U teachers are always ready to give you feedback.