Study unit 2

Keeping a vocabulary notebook

A What do you do?

This is what some students do.





RAFAEL I **write down** new English words and phrases in my notebook, and next to each one I write a Spanish **translation**. I usually write down if a word is a *noun, verb, adjective,* and so on.



KAZUO I sometimes write a word in phonemics because English pronunciation is very difficult for me. But my notebook is a **mess** [nothing is in a good order; *syn* **untidy**]. I like to **draw** pictures.



EUN I sometimes **make a note of** new words in my notebook, but I often **forget** [don't remember]. I usually write a translation, and sometimes I write example sentences as well.



ANDREY I've got a notebook. I don't use it much but when I do, I try and list words by **topic**, so I put all the animals together, and all the clothes words together, and so on. I find it's easier to remember the words this way.



DONATA I **note down** new words and phrases. Sometimes I **translate** them **into** Polish, and sometimes I write an **explanation** [a description of what something means] in English if it is not difficult. For example:
kitten – a very young cat

B Tips for your notebook

A **tip** is a piece of advice to help you. Here are some tips for your notebook.

- Put words from one **topic** in the same place, e.g. food in one place, clothes in another, etc. Don't **mix** them **up** [put them together with no order]. You can also have grammar topics, e.g. 'uncountable nouns', or a page for words that all have a connection, e.g. words and phrases that were all in a story you read in English. Some words and phrases will go in more than one topic.
- If you can't find a topic for a new word or phrase, e.g. *useful* or *in particular*, put them in a different place in your notebook, e.g. a page for each day or each week, or perhaps one page for every English lesson you have. Write the **date** clearly at the top, e.g. Monday 14th May.
- When you write down new vocabulary, write a translation if it is **necessary** [you need it; *opp* **unnecessary**], but also write the meaning in English if it is possible, or draw pictures.
- If possible, add synonyms, opposites, other parts of speech, etc. (See Unit 1.)
  awful *adj* = terrible (*syn* **dreadful**)
  enjoy *v* = like something and get pleasure from it *n* = **enjoyment** *adj* = **enjoyable**
- Example sentences help you with the grammar of a word, or with word partners (collocations).
  I **enjoy** liv**ing** in a big city. (NOT I enjoy ~~to live~~ in a big city.) (See Units 87–8.)
  I **spent two weeks in** Rome. (NOT I ~~passed~~ two weeks in Rome. You spend time in a place.) (See Unit 74.)
- Remember, words often have more than one meaning that you need to know, e.g. a **tip** is also money that you give, for example, to a waiter for serving you in a restaurant.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Exercises

2.1 **Organise the words into the topics below. One word can go in two different topics. Use a dictionary to help you.**

~~diet~~	branch	lay the table	count *v*	dig *v*	ground	flour	add up
raw	leaf	minus	butcher	thousand	frozen	zero	butterfly

food	garden	numbers
diet		

2.2 **Explain these words in English, or draw a picture, or if you think an explanation is too difficult and a drawing is not possible, write a translation instead.**

1 raw *not cooked*
2 dig .....
3 butcher .....
4 leaf .....
5 flour .....
6 lay the table .....
7 add up .....
8 minus .....

2.3 **What information could you include with these words? The answers are all on the opposite page.**

1 forget *opposite – remember*
2 awful .....
3 necessary .....
4 translate .....
5 tip .....
6 enjoy .....

2.4 Over to you

Answer the questions. If possible, compare your answers with someone else.

1 Look again at what the students said on the opposite page. What are the good things that they do? Underline them.

2 Do you do all of these things? .....

3 Is there anything you don't do now, but will do in the future? .....
.....

4 At the moment, which person's notebook is most like your notebook? .....

5 What are the most useful tips on the opposite page for you? .....
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