



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.



ANDREJ 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 living** 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.

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.

- raw *not cooked*
- dig
- butcher
- leaf
- flour
- lay the table
- add up
- minus

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

- forget *opposite – remember*
- awful
- necessary
- translate
- tip
- enjoy

2.4 Over to you

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

- Look again at what the students said on the opposite page. What are the good things that they do? Underline them.
- Do you do all of these things?
- Is there anything you don't do now, but will do in the future?
- At the moment, which person's notebook is most like your notebook?
- What are the most useful tips on the opposite page for you?