# Hard Work Works!

## (Hard work gets good results!)

What are you willing to do to become proficient (good at) English?

Improving IN ANYTHING doesn't happen by wanting, wishing or magic.
Watch what happened when these people worked hard to improve their bodies!

Improving your brain is hard work, too. Why does a math teacher make students do the same types of problems again and again? Hard work changes your brain! Why does a music teacher make students sing or play the same song again and again? Hard work changes your brain!

Do you want to become a proficient user of English? DO something!

Step 1) Know where you are. On a scale of 1—6, these are my current levels in

understanding spoken English _____ speaking English _____

understanding written English _____ writing English _____

Step 2) Set goals. On a scale of 1— 6, my year-end levels will be

understanding spoken English _____ speaking English _____

understanding written English _____ writing English _____

Step 3) Decide what you will do to improve. Generally, people raise their proficiency levels one level every year. (See next page.)

Step 4) Check your progress. This will happen on the annual ESL test.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

# What's Your Plan?

Here are some ways people have improved their English:

- I will speak English in ESL class.
- I will use my dictionary or translator to understand words I hear or read, but don't understand– instead of asking for others to translate.
- I will write down and try to remember words I have translated.
- I will let myself make mistakes in English.
- I will use what I know instead of always translating on computer or asking for translation.
- I will study in class and at home.
- I will make flashcards or other study aids to help me remember words.
- I will speak English as much as I can with my friends.
- I will look and listen for cognates and other clues to meaning.
- I will be honest and not cheat or plagiarize (copy others' work.)
- I will ask for help when I am confused.
- I will do my best to learn and cooperate in the learning process.

## CHOOSE!

It's time to say what you will do! Choose 3 or more of the strategies (ways of succeeding) on this page. Promise to try them. Write each strategy you choose in English and your native language. You may write ideas that are not on this page, too! Sign your name to show that you are serious about improving.

## I promise that

1) English: _____

My language: _____

2) English: _____

My language: _____

3) English: _____

My language: _____

4) English: _____

My language: _____

_____ _____

Name Date

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