

Sing! Incorporate songs and music into your classroom even if you can't hold a tune

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Carmen Durham and Janet Hughes, Conference Spring 2020 (carmen.durham@montgomerycollege.edu)

Beginner

What a Wonderful World

Louis Armstrong

Before listening

(Note: Students should know colors)

Important vocabulary- Draw a picture, define, or translate on your paper.

Trees

Bloom

World

Blessed

Sacred

Wonderful

Rainbow

Sky

Shaking hands

Crying

Grow

Listening

<https://www.eslvideo.com/quiz.php?id=34045>

After listening

Conversation in groups

- How does the singer feel?
- What does he see?
- What does the singer hear?
- What color are the trees?
- What color are the roses?
- What color is the sky?
- What color are the clouds?
- What do his friends do? What do the babies do?

Don't Worry Be Happy

Before listening:

Pronunciation:

Match the words that rhyme and define/translate the words

| | |
|---------|----------|
| Style | Bed |
| Trouble | Smile |
| Head | Note |
| Frown | Double |
| Late | Down |
| Wrote | Litigate |

Poll using Zoom poll function, polleverywhere, menti meter

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- How do you feel today?
- What makes you worried? Happy?



Listening:

Take the quiz and Karaoke

<https://www.lyricsgaps.com/exercises/mode/1990/Bobby%20McFerrin/Don't%20Worry%20Be%20Happy>

After listening:

- Find reasons for feeling worried mentioned in the song?
- How can you solve these problems?
- Idioms: Does the idiom mean happy, sad, worried, or nervous?
 - On cloud nine
 - Over the moon
 - A lump in my throat
 - I feel blue
 - Time of my life
 - My heart sank

Beginner to Intermediate

Wavin' Flag

K'naan

Before listening

freedom

champions

celebration

rejoice

stronger

waving' flag

wave your flag

Grammar: Write the comparative and superlative forms of each adjective

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Old (older, oldest)

Strong

Far

Hard

Other grammar:

- Write out the contractions in the song (it's → it is)
- Focus on the future tense and then have students fill in the blanks with the future

Listening

<https://www.eslvideo.com/quiz.php?id=16913>

After listening

Conversation with groups

- What is the main idea of the song? (What is this song about?)
- What do you think a flag represents?
- Do you like this song? Why or why not?
- What colors are on the US flag? On the Maryland flag? On the flag from your home country or your family's country?

My heart will go on

Celine Dion

Before listening

(students should know body parts)

1. Have you seen the movie Titanic? Did you like it? When did you see it? Etc.

Vocabulary: Match with the meaning.

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 1. Dreams | A. for all time in the future |
| 2. Distance | B. the length of space between two places |
| 3. Spaces | C. an empty area |
| 4. Touch | D. stories in your head while you sleep |
| 5. Let go | E. a feeling you get when you are very afraid |
| 6. Hold on | F. to stop holding something |
| 7. Fear | G. to keep something you have |
| 8. Forever | H. to put your hand on something |

Vocabulary: Which body part do you use for these functions.

- | | |
|------------------|-----------|
| 1. smell/breathe | A. eyes |
| 2. hear/listen | B. ears |
| 3. Touch/point | C. nose |
| 4. Beat/feel | D. head |
| 5. Taste/lick | E. tongue |
| 6. See/wink | F. heart |
| 7. Nod/shake | G. finger |
| 8. Bite | H. tooth |
| 9. Hold | I. arms |

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Listening

Listen to the song and check (✓) the words you hear.

Listen to the song and answer the questions: <https://eslvideo.com/quiz.php?id=2924>

After listening:

- What does the singer dream about?
- Do you have someone you love who lives far away from you? How do you *keep in touch* (communicate with them)?

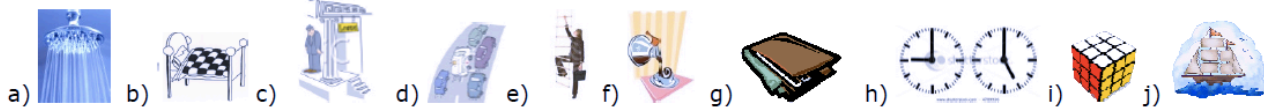
Intermediate to Advanced

9 to 5

Dolly Parton

Before listening:

Write the word under the picture, then listen to the song and put them in the order they appear.



Match the vocab/phrases with the correct definition:

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| 1. tumble | a) to extend oneself or something to its full length |
| 2. stumble | b) to be lucky |
| 3. yawn | c) to walk unsteadily |
| 4. stretch | d) a deep involuntarily opening of the mouth due to tiredness or boredom |
| 5. get by | e) to fall |
| 6. in the same boat | f) to impair or destroy |
| 7. ladder (of a career) | g) to be in a similar situation |
| 8. shatter | h) a metaphor for job promotion |
| 9. the tide's gonna turn | i) the trend is going to change |
| 10. your ship will come in | j) to manage to live on very little money |

Listening:

Listen to the song and put the lines in order. Work together with your classmates and write the number on the screen using the Zoom editing tool.

After listening:

Conversation:

- Do you think the singer is happy about her job? Why or why not? Provide evidence (specific examples) from the song lyrics.
- What is the main idea of the song?
- Is your work schedule 9-5? What is the ideal work schedule? Why?

Midnight Train to Georgia

Gladys Knight and the Pips, 1973

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5

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Before listening:

Define these words

Too much

Make it

Leave behind (left behind)

Star

His world

Gonna

Gotta / Got to go

Listening

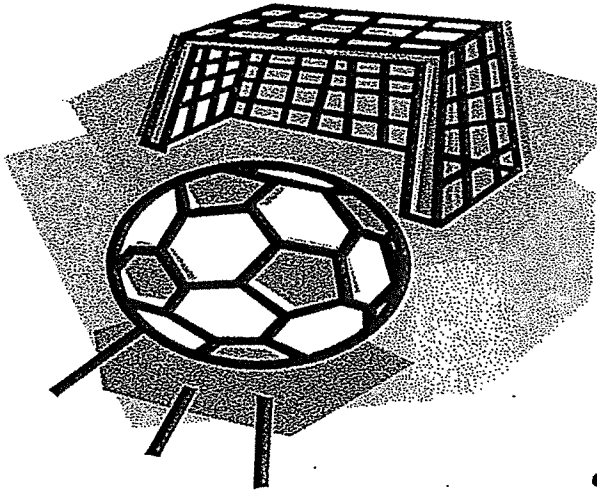
<https://www.eslvideo.com/quiz.php?id=35259>

After listening

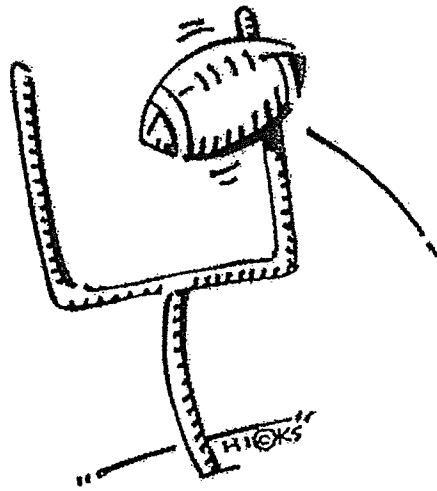
Conversation:

1. Why is the main character leaving Los Angeles? Where is he going? Who is traveling with him?
2. What do you think the main character will find when he gets back to Georgia? Do you think things have changed in the community where he used to live, or will his community be the same?
3. Have you ever felt like the main character? Is there a time you went back to a community where you used to live? What was your experience like?
4. Did you like the song? Why or why not? What did you think of their clothing?

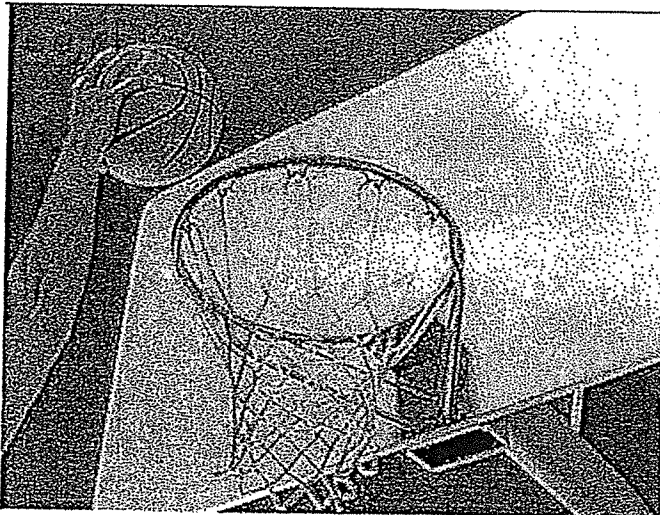
Goals



soccer goal



football goal



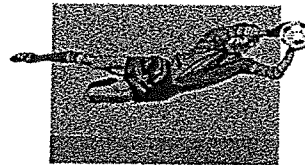
basketball goal

You Can Get It If You Really Want

By Jimmy Cliff

(CHORUS:)

You can get it if you really want
You can get it if you really want
You can get it if you really want
But you must try, try and try, try and try



You'll succeed at last!



Persecution you must bear
Win or lose, you've got to get your share
Got your mind set on a dream
You can get it though hard it may seem now



(CHORUS)

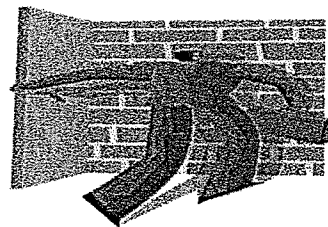
I know it. Listen!

Rome was not built in a day

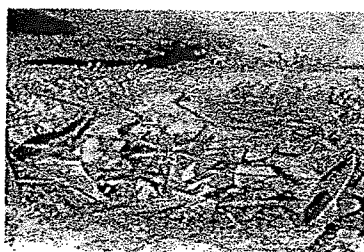


Opposition will come your way

But the harder the battle, you see
It's the sweeter the victory now



(CHORUS)



"You Can Get It If You Really Want" Cloze Activity

- Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the song.
-

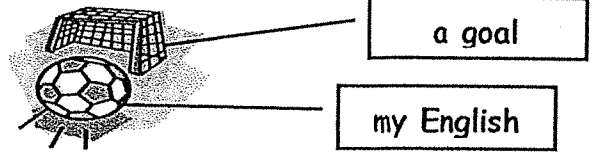
win try try get it persecution can get dream
know succeed built lose victory mind opposition battle

1. You _____ it if you really want.
2. But you must _____ and _____.
3. You'll _____ at last!
4. _____ you must bear.
5. _____ or _____ lose, you've got to get your share.
6. Got your _____ set on a _____.
7. You can _____ though hard it may seem now.
8. I _____ it. Listen!
9. Rome was not _____ in a day.
10. _____ will come your way.
11. But the harder the _____, you see
12. It's the sweeter the _____ now.

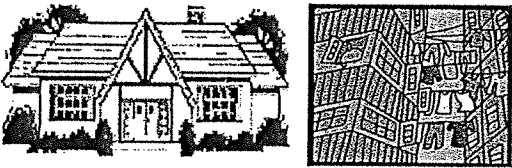
Goals

A Why do you study English? What are your English goals?

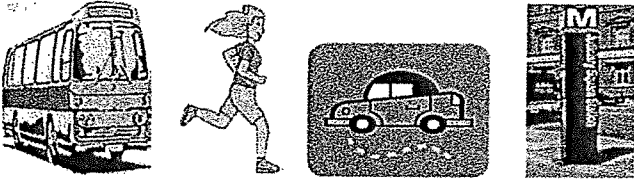
I have goals for learning English.



1. Housing - I want to talk to people about my home.



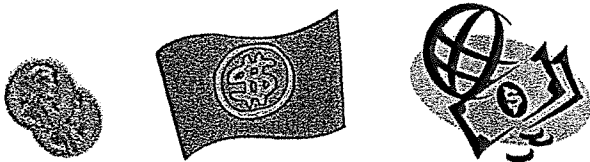
2. Transportation - I want to speak with people about transportation.



3. Work - I need to learn English to get a better job.




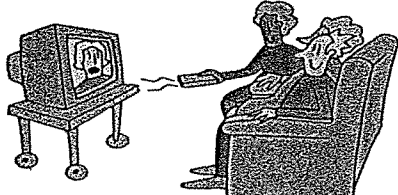

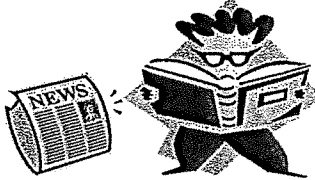
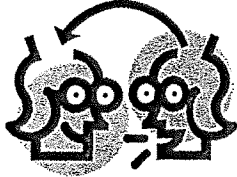


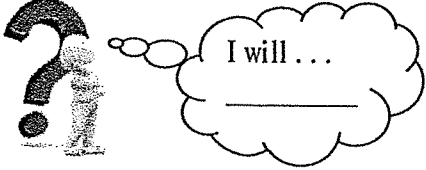
4. US Money - I want to understand money in the USA.



5. Family - I want to talk about my family with other people.



B How will you learn English?

| | |
|---|---|
| 1. I will come to my English class. |  |
| 2. I will watch TV and DVDs in English. |  |
| 3. I will listen to the radio and to CDs in English. |  |
| 4. I will read books, newspapers, and magazines in English. |  |
| 5. I will practice conversation in English with other people. |  |
| 6. I will practice writing in English. |  |
| 7. I will practice English on the computer and on the internet. |  |
| 8. What else will you do? I will _____. |  |

6. Health - I want to talk to the doctors and the nurses.

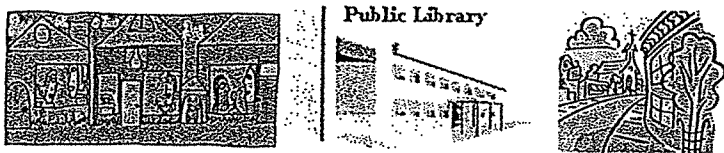
Handout D



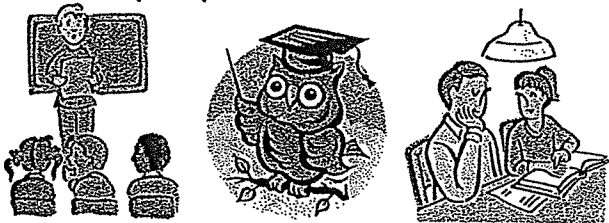
7. Shopping and Saving - I want to talk to people at stores and banks.



8. Community - I want to communicate with the people in my community. I want to have friends in this country.



9. School - I want to talk to my children's teachers. I want to help my children with their homework.



10. The Weather, the Seasons, and Time - I want to communicate ideas about the weather, the seasons, and time.



Do you have other English goals?

C What resources (people and things) will help you learn English?

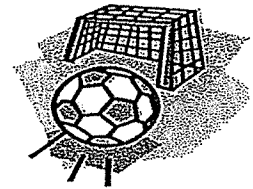
These resources will help me learn English.

| | | | | |
|--------------|--------------|------------|---------------|---------------|
| my teacher | my lessons | myself | my classmates | English books |
| a dictionary | the library | newspapers | TV | the radio |
| English CDs | English DVDs | magazines | my family | a computer |


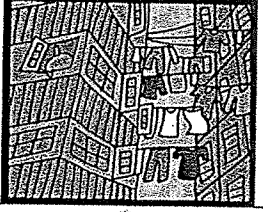
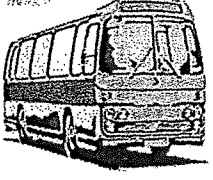

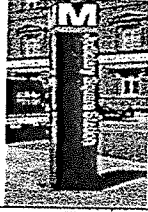

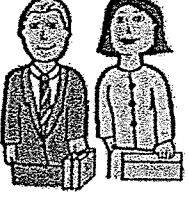


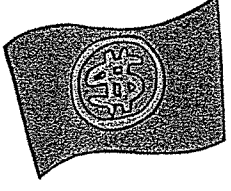








To learn English I will need _____.

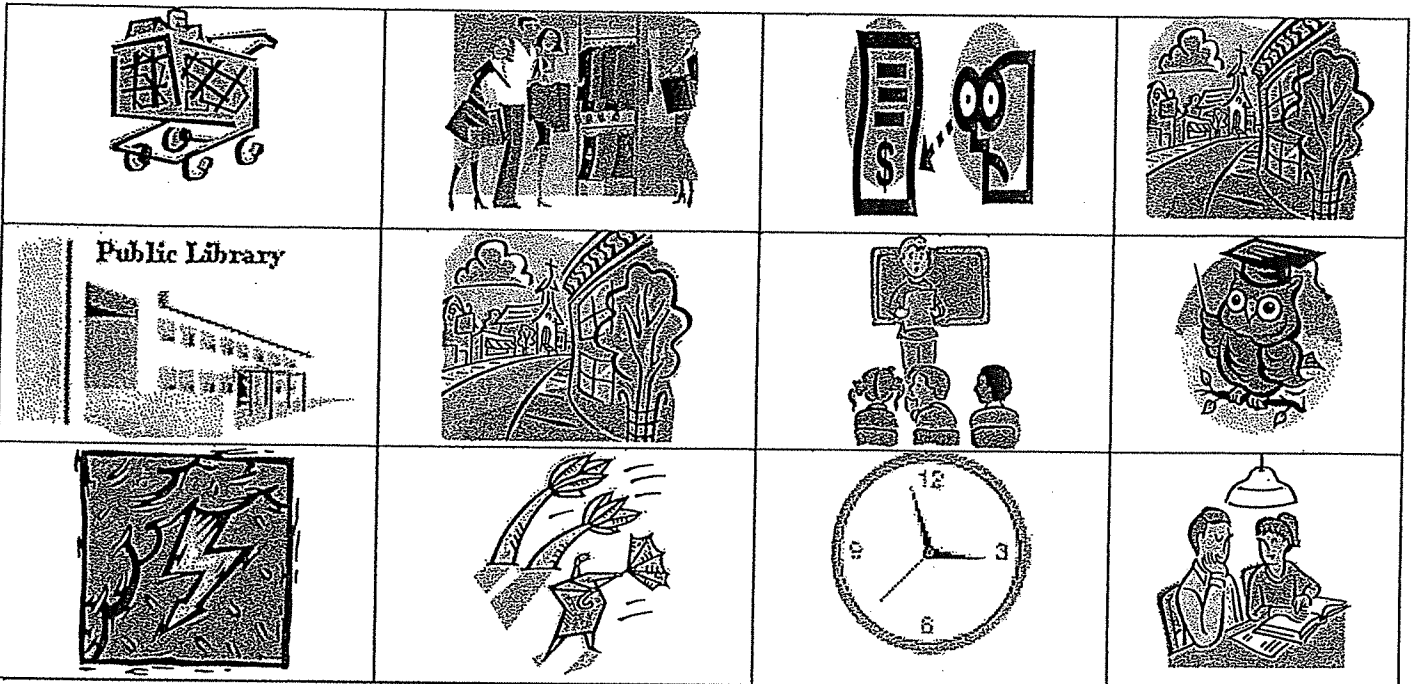
D What will happen when you reach your goal?

1. I will talk to people about my home.
2. I will speak with people about transportation.
3. I will get a better job.
4. I will understand money in the USA.
5. I will talk about my family with other people.
6. I will talk to the doctors and the nurses.
7. I will talk to people at stores and banks.
8. I will communicate with the people in my community.
 I will have friends in this country.
9. I will talk to my children's teachers.
 I will help my children with their homework.
10. I will communicate ideas about the weather, the seasons, and time.

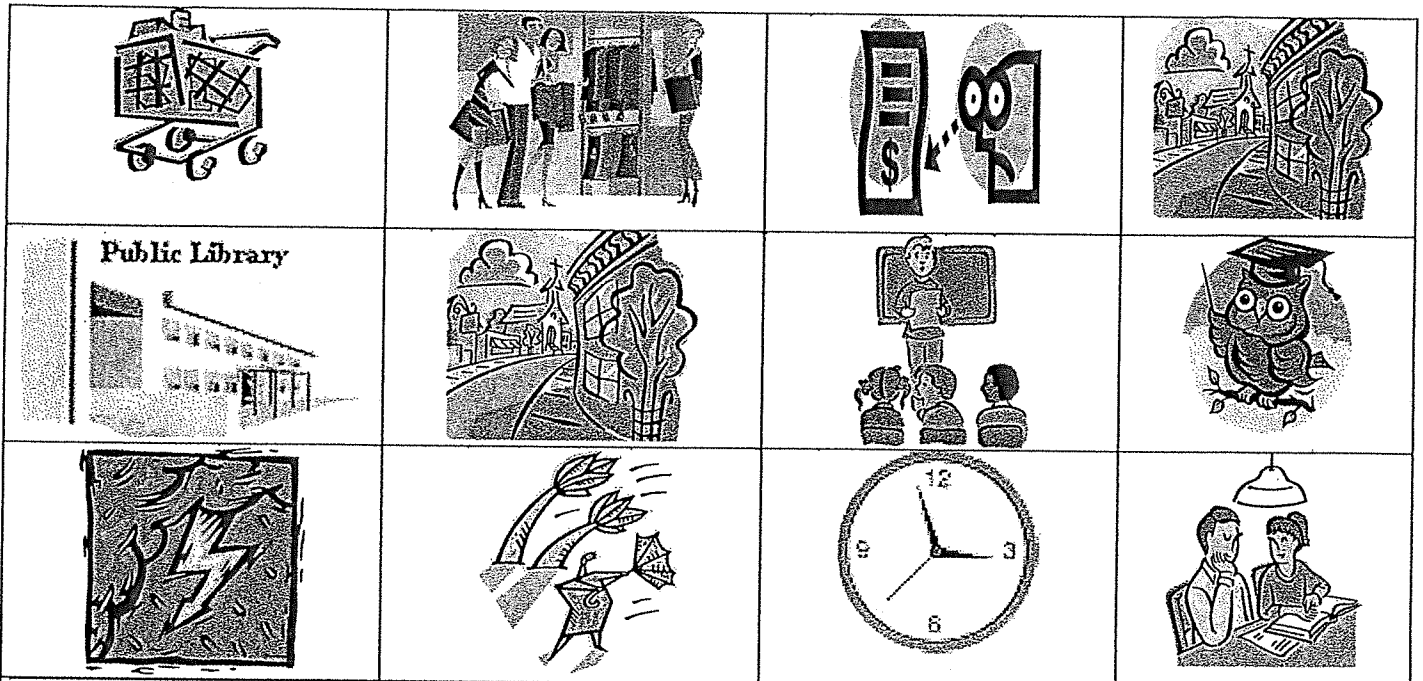


Extra Practice Activity: Cut out and match pictures, words and sentences

| | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
| Housing | Transportation | Work | US Money |
| Family | Health | Shopping and Saving | Community |
| School | The Weather, the Seasons, and Time |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

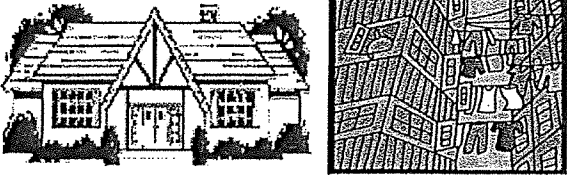
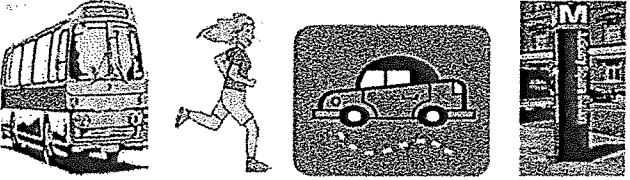
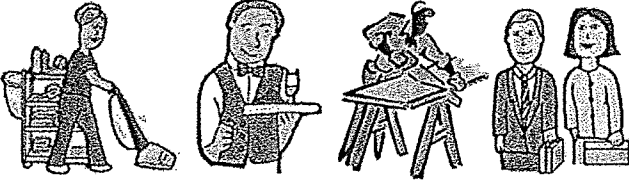
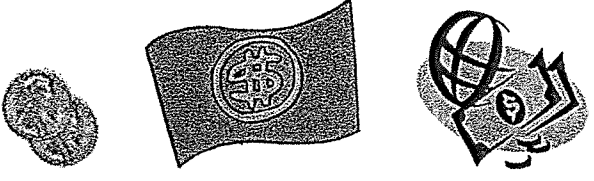








1. I want to talk to people about my home.
2. I want to speak with people about transportation.
3. I need to learn English to get a better job.
4. I want to understand money in the USA.
5. I want to talk about my family with other people.
6. I want to talk to the doctors and the nurses.
7. I want to talk to people at stores and banks.
8. I want to communicate with the people in my community. I want to have friends in this country.
9. I want to talk to my children's teachers. I want to help my children with their homework.
10. I want to communicate ideas about the weather, the seasons, and time.



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What Do You Need To Study?

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>Housing</p>  | <p>Transportation</p>  |
| <p>Work</p>  | <p>US Money</p>  |
| <p>Family</p>  | <p>Health</p>  |
| <p>Shopping and Saving</p>  | <p>Community</p>  |
| <p>Weather and Time</p>  | <p>School</p>  |

Write two choices. 1. _____

2. _____