

# Talking kiwi

**A pocket guide to improving your  
English in Southland**



**Want to improve your social life?  
Looking to take the next step in  
your career? Then this guide is  
for you! Check out our tips and  
study support options to improve  
your English communication and  
have an even more enjoyable  
life in Southland!**

## Top tips!

- ✓ Practice! Talk in English with your family and friends
- ✓ Watch New Zealand TV
- ✓ Listen to New Zealand radio broadcasts and music
- ✓ Change social media and phone settings to English
- ✓ Have an 'English day' at home, where you and your family and friends only communicate in English
- ✓ Socialise and increase your networks through community groups, sports teams and volunteering

## English Language Partners Southland

Learn “Kiwi English” from a qualified teacher at English Language Partners Southland. Classes cater to a range of levels and are designed to meet the needs of the students in each course.

☎ 03 218 2736 ✉ [southland@englishlanguage.org.nz](mailto:southland@englishlanguage.org.nz)

💰 Classes start from \$50 per term for 8 two hour sessions

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## E-SOUL

Don't practice English alone! E-Soul provides a fun and friendly environment to improve your English and connect with others through language classes, group activities and shared food.

☎ 027 277 8541 ✉ [esoul.group@gmail.com](mailto:esoul.group@gmail.com)

💰 FREE

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## Info NOW

A free service for newcomers who need help settling in to their new home in New Zealand, Info NOW can provide information about learning English, education, daily life, housing, and health services.

☎ 0800 4636 669 ✉ [info@infonow.nz](mailto:info@infonow.nz)

💰 FREE

# Common Kiwi slang...

kia ora

hello

cuppa

a cup of tea or coffee

smoko

morning or afternoon  
tea break

arvo

afternoon

good as gold

no problem, fine/perfect,  
everything is great

cheers

thanks

sweet as

that's great or cool

keen

eager/willing to do  
something

heaps

a lot

catch up

talk to someone you haven't  
talked to in a while



Would you be keen to  
meet up for a cuppa at  
smoko this arvo?

Sweet as!

That sounds good as  
gold, we've got heaps  
to catch up about!

## The Chatter

A weekly social gathering, The Chatter is a friendly and welcoming event where people meet up to talk over hot beverages. These gatherings are a great opportunity to practice English and meet others in the community.

 Invercargill City Library, every Monday from 10.30am - 12pm  
 FREE

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## Planet FM

Access free 30 minute audio lessons from an experienced English teacher with Planet FM. The lessons cover improving English for general and workplace communication, social interactions, and job interviews, as well as writing.

**Listen at:** [www.planetaudio.org.nz/english-for-migrants](http://www.planetaudio.org.nz/english-for-migrants)  
 FREE

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## Say It Clearly

Learn at your own pace, at your own place through online video learning with Miriam McKenzie from Say It Clearly. This programme is ideal for those without a lot of spare time or those aiming to improve their English quickly.

 027 600 4631  [miriam@sayitclearly.co.nz](mailto:miriam@sayitclearly.co.nz)  
 A 10 week online programme for \$49

# Useful apps!



## Radio New Zealand

Listen live to RNZ radio stations and programmes to familiarise yourself with the kiwi language. Both audio and video available on-demand online or offline.



## TVNZ On Demand

Watch local movies, tv series and documentaries anytime, anywhere to help you pick up kiwi pronunciation and slang.



## Drops

Play quick games that help you learn a new language in no time! Build valuable knowledge through daily 5 minute sessions of effortless and fun mini-games. Available in both English and te reo Maori.



## Kupu

Take a photo, learn a language! Use the camera in your device to instantly provide translations for the objects around you into te reo Maori.

## SIT English Language Institute

The English Language Institute at SIT offers a range of intensive English programmes to suit any level of learner. Take advantage of their flexibility, with intakes almost every week.

☎ 03 211 2699 ✉ [info@sit.ac.nz](mailto:info@sit.ac.nz)

💰 The General English course starts from \$320 per week

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## Toastmasters

Toastmasters' mission is to provide a supportive and positive learning experience in which members are empowered to develop communication skills, resulting in greater self-confidence and personal growth.

**Find your local club at:** [www.toastmasters-clubfinder.org.nz/index](http://www.toastmasters-clubfinder.org.nz/index)

💰 Fees from \$70 biannually

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## Toward Success

Janette from Toward Success offers flexible hours and can tailor her sessions to suit your needs. She offers one-on-one lessons and group sessions, as well as personalised training specific to your employment goals.

☎ 027 427 3086 ✉ [admin@towardsuccess.co.nz](mailto:admin@towardsuccess.co.nz)

💰 Sessions range from \$20 - \$45 per hour



For more information, contact Elizabeth Clark,  
Great South's Skills Placement Coordinator.

☎ +64 3 211 1403 ✉ [elizabeth@greatsouth.nz](mailto:elizabeth@greatsouth.nz)

