

Vocabulary Focus — 10 Words That Tell Your English Story

English learning resource · EN

Key words & expressions · English

10 learning entries

Study task: Listen again and notice the expressions you studied.

1

struggle

DEF

a period of difficulty or effort when something feels hard but you keep trying

Struggle is neither negative nor positive — it is the necessary friction of growth. Without struggle, there is no breakthrough.

Learning English was a real struggle at first, but I kept going.

Every learner goes through the same struggle — the key is not to stop.

2

breakthrough

DEF

a sudden moment of clarity or success after a long period of effort — when something finally clicks

A breakthrough is not gradual — it is sudden and transformative. You have been working for weeks, then one day everything becomes clear.

After weeks of shadowing practice, I had my first real pronunciation breakthrough.

That was my breakthrough — the moment I understood spoken English without translating.

3

barrier

DEF

something — physical or emotional — that blocks progress or prevents you from doing something

Language learning barriers are usually invisible: fear of mistakes, self-doubt, perfectionism. The word 'barrier' is visual — you can imagine it and imagine crossing it.

Fear of making mistakes is the biggest barrier to speaking English confidently.

Once you name your barrier, it becomes much easier to work around it.

4

pattern

DEF

a repeated structure, sequence, or design that helps you predict and understand what comes next

In language learning, recognising patterns is the real shortcut to fluency — not memorising rules, but hearing how sentences naturally repeat the same structure.

Start noticing the patterns in English sentences — subject, verb, object — and grammar becomes easier.

Patterns are like musical beats — once you feel them, you can dance.



5

a spark

DEF

a small beginning of something big — a moment of curiosity, excitement, or motivation that starts a habit or passion
A spark is the very beginning — small, quick, but enough to start a fire. In language learning, one good teacher, film, or sentence can be the spark.

That film sparked my interest in English — everything changed after that.

A teacher's enthusiasm can give students the spark they need to keep going.

6

momentum

DEF

the force or energy of something that keeps it moving forward once it has started

In physics, an object in motion stays in motion — momentum in language learning means that each day you practise makes the next day easier.

Once you build momentum in your daily English practice, it becomes hard to stop.

Missing one day breaks your momentum — so keep the habit small but consistent.

7

fluency

DEF

the ability to speak or write a language smoothly, naturally, and without long pauses

Fluency is not the same as perfection — a fluent speaker may make grammar errors but communicates effortlessly. The goal is flow, not flawlessness.

Fluency comes from practice, not from memorising grammar rules.

She speaks with natural fluency — you would never guess English is her second language.

8

immersion

DEF

surrounding yourself completely with a language so that you hear and use it constantly

Immersion is the opposite of classroom learning — instead of studying the language about the language, you live inside it through films, podcasts, conversations.

Total immersion — watching films, listening to podcasts, speaking every day — is the fastest way to learn.

You don't need to move abroad for immersion — you can create it at home with the right content.

9

awareness

DEF

knowledge or understanding of something; the state of being conscious and observant

Often used with of: awareness of your habits, emotions or surroundings.

Language awareness grows slowly — and then suddenly you notice everything.

Developing awareness of your own accent helps you correct it far more effectively.



10

a journey

DEF

a long process of development, change, or experience — used metaphorically for any path that takes time and effort

The metaphor of a journey implies that reaching the destination takes time, and the path itself has value. Unlike 'trip', a journey suggests depth and transformation.

Learning a language is a journey, not a destination — there is always more to discover.

Your English journey started the day you said 'hello' for the first time.

