

Better Cities, Better Lives – A Speaking Course (Week 1: 23 Nov – 27 Nov)

While exploring the changing landscapes of cities worldwide, you'll learn to analyse and discuss the challenges associated with urbanization and possible solutions. Engaging activities will help you use language effectively to talk about causes and solutions to urban problems, drawing on real-life examples from Singapore's unique blend of high-density living, green spaces, and innovative city planning.

Time	Monday 23 November	Tuesday 24 November	Wednesday 25 November	Thursday 26 November	Friday 27 November
9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.	Topic: Urban sprawl	Topic: Eco-friendly development	Topic: Repurposing urban spaces	Topic: Community planning	Topic: Review and consolidation
	Skills: • Understand an article about the challenges associated with urbanization.	Skills: • Follow a discussion about plans for development in a community. • Practice language to talk about causes and solutions.	Skills: • Understand a presentation. • Choose an area of your city to redevelop and create a development plan.	Skills: • Identify signpost language for strong and tentative suggestions.	Skills: • To reinforce the skills and knowledge gained during the week.
	Outcome: • Participate in a discussion task to demonstrate critical thinking skills about urban sprawl, discussing its causes and effects on city life, and exploring the economic and social factors driving urban expansion.	Outcome: • Identify and evaluate eco-friendly solutions to urban development, such as green spaces and sustainable architecture. • Learn related vocabulary and phrases.	Outcome: • Discuss the benefits of repurposing urban spaces and explore case studies of successful urban retrofitting in Singapore. Practice language for presenting and justifying urban redevelopment ideas.	Outcome: • Engage in a simulated community planning meeting to propose changes to a local area. Use persuasive language to advocate for specific urban development initiatives.	Outcome: • Consolidation of the week's skills and discussions. Reflect on learning achievements and set goals for applying these skills to real-world contexts.
By the end of the week, learners will have completed reading, listening, and discussion tasks, developed a comprehensive understanding of urban issues, and delivered presentations on urban planning proposals.					

Lost in Translation – A Writing Course (Week 2: 30 Nov – 4 Dec)

While focusing on writing personal recounts and telling anecdotes, you'll explore different facets of language and translation. You'll learn to analyse and discuss the value of language skills in various careers, the complexities of translation, and the use of idioms and proverbs. Through engaging activities, you'll develop the ability to use language effectively in practical situations, using real-life examples from multilingual work environments.

Time	Monday 30 November	Tuesday 1 December	Wednesday 2 December	Thursday 3 December	Friday 4 December
9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.	Topic: Understanding Language Careers	Topic: Idioms and Proverbs in Translation	Topic: Idioms and Proverbs in Translation	Topic: Idioms and Proverbs in Translation	Topic: Idioms and Proverbs in Translation
	Skills: • Understand an article about jobs involving languages.	Skills: • Listen to and understand anecdotes. • Identify and use language for clarifying meaning and giving yourself thinking time.	Skills: • Analyse the challenges of literary translation. • Analyse the use of language and imagery in poetry.	Skills: • Recognise and understand the use of anecdotes and proverbs. • Paraphrase your main points when speaking and writing.	Skills: • To reinforce the skills and knowledge gained during the week.
	Outcome: • Learn about different language-based careers and discuss personal interests in these fields.	Outcome: • Write a non-fiction personal recount about a problem that you had. • Learn related vocabulary and phrases.	Outcome: • Translate a text or extract into English and present your translation.	Outcome: • Write a mixed-genre essay about topics related to language and translation	Outcome: • Consolidation of the week's skills and discussions. Reflect on learning achievements and set goals for applying these skills to real-world contexts.
By the end of the week, learners will have completed three pieces of writing, along with reading, listening, and discussion tasks. They will have developed a thorough understanding of translation and interpreting skills and expressed their ideas on the use of language in different professional contexts through their writing.					

It's a Small World – A Speaking Course (Week 3: 7 Dec – 11 Dec)

Discover the surprising connections between seemingly unrelated events and explore the concept of coincidence in our interconnected world. Learn and practice the language of probability and chance and engage in discussions and debates that challenge your understanding of how the world is interlinked.

Time	Monday 7 December	Tuesday 8 December	Wednesday 9 December	Thursday 10 December	Friday 11 December
9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.	Topic: Amazing coincidences	Topic: Probability and chance	Topic: The Global Tapestry of Connections	Topic: Linking the Unlinked	Topic: Review and consolidation
	Skills: • Analyse accounts of coincidences to determine their likelihood. • Use statistical reasoning to discuss the nature of these events.	Skills: • Master key terminology and expressions related to probability. • Engage in exercises calculating the odds of various scenarios.	Skills: • Explore the concept of six degrees of separation and its modern implications. • Discuss the impact of digital connectivity on personal and societal levels.	Skills: • Make inferences while listening to a lecture. • Learn to use phrases to disagree and restate opinion.	Skills: • Reflect on the week's learning, consolidate language skills, and set goals for future application.
	Outcome: • Participate in a group discussion to evaluate different stories of coincidences, emphasizing critical thinking and analytical skills.	Outcome: • Analyse a case study on social media's role in enhancing or distorting real-life relationships.	Outcome: • Research and deliver a short presentation on a chosen topic of unlikely events.	Outcome: • Engage in a debate about a relevant topic.	Outcome: • Complete a review session, focusing on applying language skills in new contexts and discussing the week's most intriguing connections.
By the end of the week, learners will have completed reading and listening tasks; presentations and debates, developed a comprehensive understanding of the underlying principles of probability and chance, and honed critical thinking and analytical skills essential for evaluating the roles of coincidence and connectivity in shaping our world.					

Crowd Support – A Writing Course (Week 4: 14 Dec – 18 Dec)

As you immerse yourself in the dynamic world of crowdfunding, this writing-focused course will enhance your ability to analyse and articulate the innovative methods people use to fund their projects and dreams. Through structured writing exercises, you'll develop your skills in effectively communicating the motivations and strategies behind crowdfunding campaigns. Drawing on real-life examples from successful global initiatives, you'll learn to craft compelling writing that highlight how crowdfunding fosters community support and acts as a driver for social change, innovation, and entrepreneurship.

Time	Monday 14 December	Tuesday 15 December	Wednesday 16 December	Thursday 17 December	Friday 18 December
9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.	Topic: Understanding crowdfunding	Topic: Successful crowdfunding attempts	Topic: Crowdfunding in Action	Topic: Debating Digital Finance	Topic: Review and consolidation
	Skills: • Reading comprehension focused on crowdfunding. • Use of compound adjectives in context • Note-taking from texts	Skills: • Listening comprehension from a live interview • Application of future tense in real-world scenarios	Skills: • Critical evaluation of real crowdfunding campaigns • Strategic planning for campaign execution	Skills: • Vocabulary development through context clues. • Essay writing with a focus on comparing and contrasting.	Skills: • Synthesis of learned content. • Peer review and collaborative feedback.
	Outcome: • Writing a crowdfunding request	Outcome: • Extract practical advice on conducting a successful crowdfunding campaign. • Practice writing a persuasive piece to defend your crowdfunding idea.	Outcome: • Develop a campaign plan with clear objectives and strategies. • Enhance persuasive writing skills tailored to crowdfunding.	Outcome: • Master the skill of deducing meanings of new vocabulary. • Produce a well-structured compare and contrast essay on relevant topics.	Outcome: • Consolidation of the week's skills and discussions. Reflect on learning achievements and set goals for applying these skills to real-world contexts.
By the end of the week, learners will have completed reading, listening, and discussion tasks and developed a comprehensive understanding of writing about crowdfunding campaigns. They will have written a crowdfunding campaign pitch, a formal letter requesting support, and a compare and contrast essay on different crowdfunding strategies.					