

BUILDING A HOUSE OF SPANISH SKILLS

Architecture can be a life metaphor, and it can also be used to describe the process of learning Spanish. Think of your skills as the project of building a house with the first consideration the site. If you were privileged to hear Spanish as a child you have the advantage of already being set on a well situated lot. Hidden among the trees on the site are many early neural pathways. However, if you didn't have this advantage, you can still go out into the world and find your site. Location, location, location... that's what every real estate agent advises. In our context the location would be full of trees of cultural stimuli, and the breezes would carry the constant sound of spoken Spanish. When you're in a complete immersion experience in another country, this is an incomparable advantage. If you're in your own environment, then you need to artificially create this site as well as you can with books, audio materials, and seizing every opportunity to use and hear Spanish.

Once you have your site, you decide what sort of house will suit your needs, budget, and time schedule. Almost any structure will keep the rain off your head, but some of you want or need just a beach cabana, while others professionally may need a palace of quality. All are possible with a good architect and a plan, but you must be realistic about the

building requirements and the time required. With any type of structure, whether mansion or hut, a solid foundation is key, as is the difference between someone who thinks they can learn Spanish just by listening "on the street" and never doing the work of building a substantial base. This is why all our programs include structure. However, the "rules" are never taught as isolated theories; they are immediately incorporated into everyday use. Every nail is hammered down by verbal practice, and that's why all the classes we offer are limited to small groups or individual classes. You simply don't have time to hit all the nails in a Spanish class of 25 students.

When the walls are up, then come the finishing touches. Have you hired professionals or are you trying to do this all yourself? Do you need very smooth

**Well building
hath three
conditions:
commodity,
firmness and
delight.**

~ Henry Wotton, *Elements of Architecture*, 1624

and precise Spanish or will you be pleased to cover the walls with basic wallpaper? If you want to discuss your philosophy of life in a bar over a *margarita* or *pisco sour*, you should understand that this requires elegant plastering skills (the language, not the alcohol!).

How do you feel about the project? Enjoyable and creative? As in actual construction, there are always blips along the way. If you can relax a bit, however, you will find that eventually the house is finished and that you've had a good time in the process. It may even have been a life changing experience. But did we say finished? Yes, you can have the housewarming party (the first time you get so into the language that you forget you're even speaking Spanish and not your own language), but was there ever a house with no maintenance required? This is why we have many repeat students. They know that their skills always need polishing, and some students want to turn their beach cabana into a sleek urban condo. Do some planning, pick your site or country, and build a beautiful Spanish house. Our in-country programs are the fastest and best way for you to build, and the process will be effective, adventurous and enjoyable.

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VOCAB VIGOR

los quehaceres—chores
lavar los platos—wash the dishes
pasar el aspirador—run the vacuum
lavar, secar y planchar la ropa—wash, dry and iron
barrer el piso—sweep the floor
anotar un recordatorio—jot down a reminder
pagar las cuentas—pay the bills
ir de compras—go shopping
el polvo—the dust
los trapos—the rags

CARTA DE KAY

Queridos amigos,

We're thinking of houses, so it's natural for me to turn my attention to my own and to think about it in terms of Language Link. I live in a small contemporary house designed over 40 years ago. My favorite part is a central atrium of four high glass walls, through which there are large sliding doors. Tropical plants, a small fountain, and some bright flowers (usually what looks good at the supermarket that week) make it a space which gives me pleasure. I have a choice of paths through it. Filled with light from skylights above, it is ever changing. Paths, change, light...just like Language Link. I found even more path choices for exploring Spanish on my trip to Spain in September. The Barcelona and San Sebastián trails will be exciting destinations for you. Change...well, that always brings growth. When my white jasmine plant changes from leaves to fragrant blossoms, I smile, inhale the delicious scent, and enjoy the moment. This is a special talent of my Latin American friends, and a valuable lesson learned from them. An-

other change is the redesign of our aging website. The old lady definitely needed a facelift, as Language Link is now 15 years old. Technology has forced that change on us, but I still fight like one of Hemingway's bulls to preserve our personal involvement with you. However, if an experience is to be enjoyable, it should be easily arranged, and that's what we hope our new processes will do for you. The sunlight is an easy one...the cultural understanding and language skills which our students gain always bring the light of awareness, and that light always makes me warm to my work.

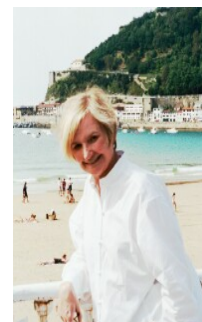
When I was in Barcelona I toured several houses by Antonio Gaudí. Because the style of my house is quite linear and uses the geometry of the prairie, being in a room by this creative architect was dizzying. His work reflects nature, and there are sinuous curves everywhere, some representing the waves of the sea, others the scales of a dragon's back. What fun it was to almost hear the elastic bands of my mind being stretched, as I experienced a room in an entirely new way. I realized that this is one of the reasons why I'm so glad I have worked through the years to build my house of

Spanish skills. It's one of the best ways of seeing alternative views of this immense and amazing world.

And now my maintenance arrives. I need to tackle that old, discolored grout on the slate floor in the atrium, and I need to recolor my vocabulary by reading those newspaper articles in Spanish which I tucked away on the last trip. What's happening in your house, or better yet, ¿Qué pasa en tu casa?

Kay

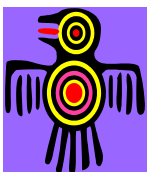
Kay G. Rafool, Director,
at La Concha Bay, San
Sebastián, Spain



He builded better than he knew. The conscious stone to beauty grew.

Ralph Waldo Emerson 1847

TRAVEL TIPS



Airfare Resources - Be sure to say that you're contacting through Language Link.

- Travel Specialists, Tel **800.370.7400**, Ext. 51. mj@tvcoll.com
- Exitto Travel **800.655.4054**, Ext. 8531, ken@exitotravel.com

SPANISH SUCCESS

Home is where the heart is. *A donde el corazón se inclina, el pie camina.* Proverbs add a wonderful seasoning to your Spanish. A good site for them is: www.proverbios.com.

Online Spanish courses are growing in both number and quality.

If you are exploring schedules for foreign travel, such as only a flight between two cities in Spain, a site such as orbitz.com will not have this information, but travelocity.com will.

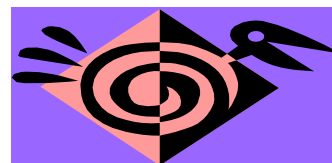
The airline allowance for lost baggage is lower for international flights (\$640) than for national flights (\$2,500). Jewelry, cameras, electronics and cash won't be included in the compensation. It seems unfair, but there seems to be no explanation why. If you have homeowner's insurance, most policies will cover the difference between your loss and what an airline might pay you. Best advice—upon a

We now have a source for a great course through our site. The Rosetta Stone program is offered to our students at a greatly reduced cost. It is very user friendly, interactive and lively. You are guided through all instructions. The teaching method is very well thought out and covers Spanish of both Spain and Latin America. So if your schedule and budget don't permit a for

loss immediately make a list of everything in your suitcase, down to the toothpaste. If you buy items just before your trip, keep all receipts. After the loss keep receipts and records of absolutely everything you spend to replace items. The insurance company may ask for them months later in order to compensate you fully.

Fear of lost or delayed luggage is always a concern when you have several legs of international flights, and even more complicated with more than one airline involved. Some travelers place a taped itinerary of all flights both inside and outside their suitcase.

eign trip this year, you can still work away at your Spanish. That way you will have a strong base when the time for your foreign adventure arrives.



BUILDING BLOCKS

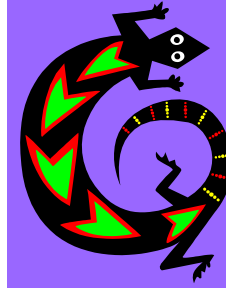
Every year end, when we go over our student numbers, it's always a surprise to find such variety, as well as who holds the majorities in numbers. For example, women comprised 60% of our students. Our average age overall—37 years. The age group which held the highest percentage was 36 years to 45 years (23%). Next in line was the age group of 26-35 years, and then 18-25 years (it's not just college students! But a strong 19%). However, if you do not fall into these age groups, do not dismay. We have many younger students under the age of 18 (10%), as well as students over the age of 55 (15%). Talk about diversity!

AMAZING ARQUI

The amazing *arquitectura* of Spain and Latin America encompasses a vast time period of design and construction. Archaeologists keep discovering new sites, and sometimes these sites are found through the use of infrared aerial photography in flight over dense jungles. Many of these discoveries keep pushing back time, as we have to recalculate archaeological periods when evidence of sophisticated building emerges. On the drive from Mexico City to Cuernavaca, nearby are the remains of one of the first constructions, a round structure called Cuicuilco, built long before the arrival of the Spaniards.

The palm thatched roofs found on cabins in the Amazon basin of Ecuador echo what has been built there for centuries with nearby natural materials. These are quite simplistic when compared to the great ceremonial sites of the Maya and other indigenous groups. What remains is not the house of the commoner, but rather the grand constructions of large spaces intended to inspire and unite people. Awe is commonly felt when rounding a tropical tree and first seeing one of the soaring temples of Tikal, the major Mayan archaeological site of Guatemala. Pyramids often figure into these ancient sites. If you've ever climbed to the top of one of these, you know that the builders' feet were much smaller than yours, as the steps are always very narrow. There's a theory that they were purposefully designed that way because you would have to descend in a sideways fashion so that

Spanish immersion programs are not just for traditional students anymore. Education is a major area in professions of our students, but following closely behind are business people, retirees, health professionals, attorneys/law professionals, and social workers. Retirees comprise at least 15% of our students. So "third agers", get out there and learn Spanish without worrying you'll be the only mature student. Chances are good you'll meet people in positions very similar to your own, as well as those of different age groups and pro-



fessions.

Finally, let's talk about the origins of Language Link students. Since we are U.S. based, the majority (90%) of our students are from the U.S., and that makes sense. Our top states are California and Texas, but there are so many people who find us through the internet now that we have participants from Europe (top countries—Germany, United Kingdom, Italy), Canada, and even Latin America (yes, that's right!).

your back was never turned to the gods. Mathematics and astronomy were constant factors. The astronomical observatory at Chichen Itzá near Cancún is a marvel of precision in its alignment of open niches for planet viewing. An astounding fact is that at this same site a temple called El Castillo has 364 steps on it, with the last top platform making up the 365 days of the year. Remarkably on the day of the spring equinox, as the sun rises, its rays form the shape of a serpent-god known as Kukulcán. At the site of Teotihuacán the sculptures are cosmic and fertile with symbolism.

What master builders were the Incas of South America! The structures themselves are usually unadorned, but as true marvels of engineering, they need no ornamentation. Each stone was so precisely chiseled that no mortar was needed to hold them together. It's dazzling to imagine some of these walls covered in gold, as reports tell of the religious temple in Cusco.

And what was going on in Spain before these two worlds collided? Barcelona has the largest medieval quarter existing in Europe called the Barri Gòtic (Gothic Quarter). The Romans left their mark in the form of many aqueducts. In the south you see the 700 year influence of the Moors with arches and geometric forms. The Alcázar of Seville and the Alhambra of Granada are two of the stars, achieving a serene sense of tranquility with the gentle sound of flowing water and gracious courtyards.

Jump from that place in Spain back to the colonial period of Latin America, and you will see the same influence. The conquistadors had construction built to remind them of home, and the early monasteries, churches and haciendas were heavily influenced by this Arab-Spanish style. More contemporary Mexican architecture has rediscovered its inspiration through looking past this colonial period into the indigenous art. The brightly intense colors and open spaces are echoes of past ceremonial sites.

Back to Spain today and the Modernista movement. Barcelona in particular is crazy for architecture. A child's T-shirt will have a child building modernistic sand castles with the implication that he may be a future star. Since this is the 150th anniversary of the birth of the most famous local architect Antonio Gaudí, the tourist buses feature his name.

Let's change the old adage of "so many things to do and so little time" to..."so many temples to climb, so many buildings to see, so build the time to do it!"

Surrealist chimneys
Casa Milá in Barcelona
By Antonio Gaudí



PROGRAM PICKS...WHAT SETS US APART

- It costs no more to register with us than directly with the school itself. (Exception - Guatemala adds \$50.)
- You receive complete confirmation information...all you need to know.
- You do not pay the balance of your trip until you arrive in the country. All you prepay is a deposit.
- You get unlimited use of our toll free number for questions (we *encourage* them!) and as a message service.
- Over 35 years of Spanish teaching experience to give you expert counsel on your study program.
- Rush registrations are handled at no added cost.
- Complimentary accident and health insurance for Mexico, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Peru, Spain, Chile, Argentina.
- Academic credit (additional cost) through an accredited U.S. university is available in many programs.

FOR ALL PROGRAMS This is condensed and sample information. Please contact us for full details. All prices given include family stay and meals. All programs available to start any Monday, year round. Private classes available in all schools with group programs. All levels of Spanish accommodated. All adult ages (also separate teen programs in summer). Families and children can be accommodated in several schools. All schools have excursions at additional cost. Most include free weekly activities. **VALID THROUGH 2004**

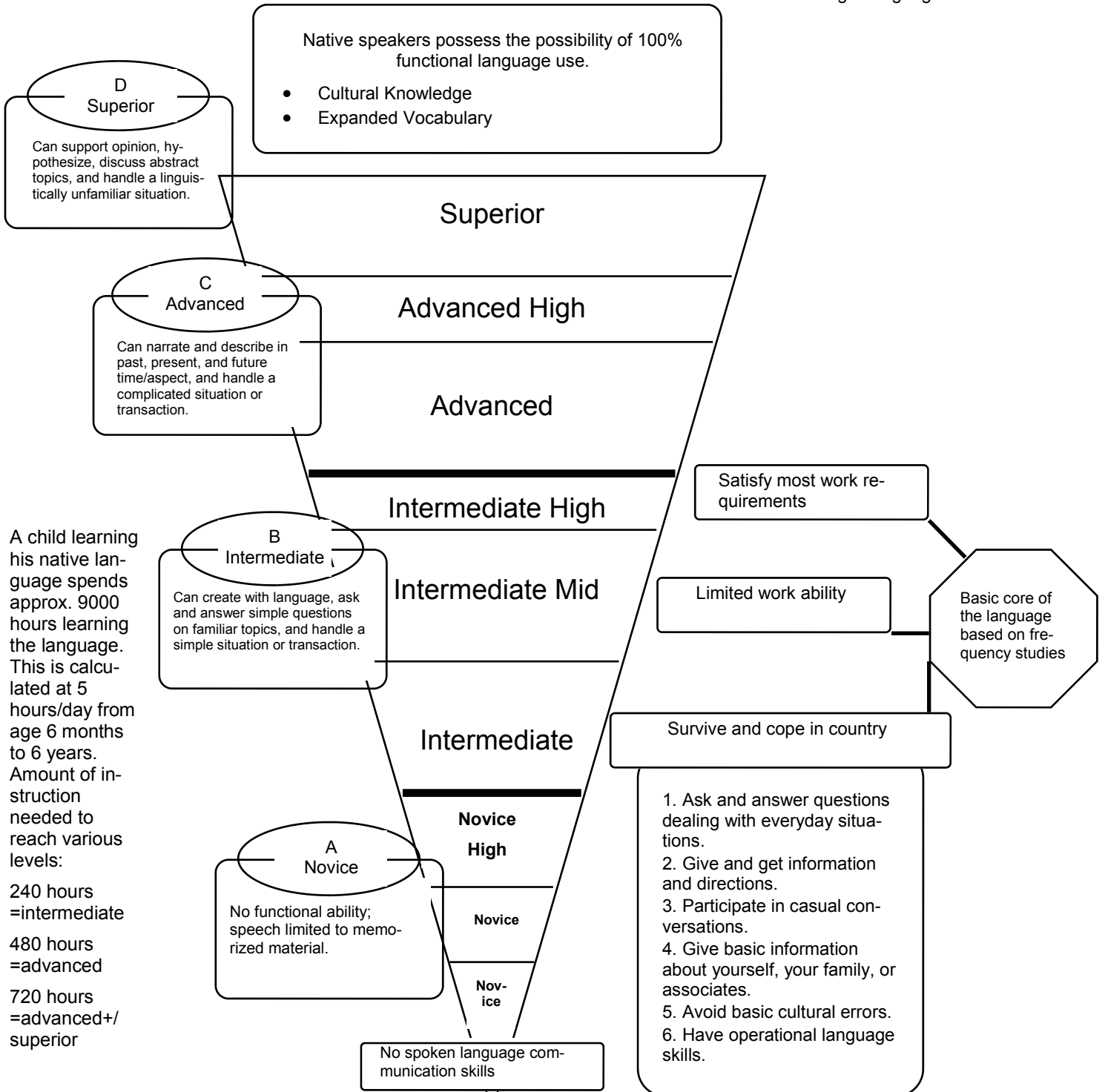
	Class	Size	2 weeks	3 weeks	4 weeks	x weeks	Pickup	Meals
<u>MEXICO</u>								
Cuernavaca-SLI—Central Mexico mountain climate, beautiful school, upscale homestays, personal attention	6 hrs/day	max 5	\$758	\$1087	\$1416	\$329	\$70	3
Oaxaca-Becari—Indigenous cultures, incomparable artisans, mountain air in Southern Mexico	4 hrs/day	max 5	\$604	\$871	\$1138	\$267	Included	3
Cancún-EI Bosque del Caribe—exquisite Caribbean beaches, Mayan culture, hotels available also	3 hrs/day	max 6	\$718	\$1024	\$1330	\$300	Included	3
Playa del Carmen-IH Riviera May—Caribbean beach vacation, still unspoiled by tourism, explore the Mayan Riviera	4 cls/day	avg 6	\$680	\$1020	\$1360	\$320	\$40	2
<u>COSTA RICA</u>								
Heredia-Intercultura—Small town location 30 min. from capital, fun environment, daily salsa class, beach option	4 hrs/day	max 6	\$675	\$965	\$1165	\$280	Included	2
San José-ILISA—Excellent for adult professionals, beautiful high tech school, many add'l activities, small classes	4 hrs/day	max 4	\$990	\$1385	\$1780	\$395	Included	2
<u>ECUADOR</u>								
Quito-Academia de Español—Very professional school, great variety of programs. Galápagos trips arranged, special Anaconda program (Amazon) one week all inclusive \$590, also Activa program with AM classes, teacher as guide in PM	4 hrs/day	1 to 1	\$618	\$912	\$1206	\$294	Included	2
<u>GUATEMALA</u>								
Antigua-Proyecto Lingüístico Francisco Marroquín—Oldest and most renown school with colonial charm, simple homes	7 hrs/day	1 to 1	\$450	\$650	\$850	\$200	\$30	3
<u>PERU</u>								
Cusco-Amauta—Former capital of the Inca Empire, add'l activities, trips to Machu Picchu or Inca Trail easily arranged	4 hrs/day	1 to 1	\$629	\$927	\$1225	\$298	Included	3
<u>SPAIN</u>								
Seville-CLIC—Historic, cultured city, great facilities, residences, flats, families, additional cultural activities	4 cls/day	max 6	\$866	\$1246	\$1633	\$394	\$43	2
Vejer de la Frontera-La Janda—Small village overlooking beautiful beach on the coast, families, school residence	4 cls/day	avg 6	\$690	\$968	\$1241	\$297	\$83-\$193	2
Madrid-Eureka—Vibrant city with active nightlife, small classes, personal atmosphere, school apartments available	4 cls/day	max 7	\$769	\$1121	\$1459	\$340	\$36	2
Barcelona-IH—Dynamic, stylish city of amazing architecture	4 hrs/day	avg 8	\$848	\$1272	\$1695	\$406	\$91	2
San Sebastián-Lacunza—Charming seaside city near the French border, Hemingway territory	4 cls/day	avg 8	\$820	\$1172	\$1488	\$343	\$52-\$121	2
Córdoba-Academia Hispánica—Historic city in the south, filled with traditions, small school with value prices	4 cls/day	max 6	\$672	\$939	\$1200	\$285	\$19 (train)	2
<u>ARGENTINA</u>								
Buenos Aires-ILEE—Sophisticated European style city, tango program, full cultural program, Córdoba and Bariloche locations	4 hrs/day	max 6	\$720	\$1055	\$1390	\$335	\$38	2
<u>CHILE</u>								
Santiago-Woodward—Professional, small classes, easy access to skiing, beaches and vineyards	5 cls/day	max 4	\$820	\$1230	\$1640	\$410	\$20	2

Inverted Pyramid of Spoken Language Proficiency

**Each level is farther apart, wider, and deeper than the level below it.
(Level refers to a designated fluency, not to years of study.)**

The Four Major Levels of ACTFL* Proficiency

*ACTFL—The American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages



A child learning his native language spends approx. 9000 hours learning the language. This is calculated at 5 hours/day from age 6 months to 6 years. Amount of instruction needed to reach various levels:

- 240 hours =intermediate
- 480 hours =advanced
- 720 hours =advanced+/superior

NOTICIAS NICHE

ANNOUNCING OUR NEWLY REMODELED WEBSITE - www.langlink.com

We now have online registration with secure information, an extended list of travel, and past issues of our newsletters. We're even offering comprehensive online Spanish courses.

WIN A FREE STUDY TRIP TO EITHER SPAIN OR COSTA RICA...no strings, just enter your name! Really and truly...our way to say *gracias*.

PAST FAVORITES

In celebration of 15 years of the Spanish experience, we offer some excerpts and condensations of the most well received information from our past newsletters.

Soon those who speak only one language, like the dinosaurs, will be extinct.

To learn a new language is to gain a new soul.— Anonymous

To be really successful in the year 2000 you'll have to be trilingual - fluent in English, Spanish and computer. - J. Naisbitt

Travel is intensified living...maximum thrills per minute and one of the last great sources of legal adventure. Travel is freedom. It's recess, and we need it.

The world is a cultural yarn shop. And travelers are weaving the ultimate tapestry. Prized souvenirs are the strands of different cultures you decide to knot into your own. - Rick Steves

The most critical factor for the success of nations in the new millennium will be a population whose minds are open to the world. This can only come through international educational exchange. - Allan E. Goodman

Language is the flood of the soul into which thoughts run and out of which they grow. - Oliver Wendell Holmes

Travel is a condensed lesson of life which is about facing and overcoming adversities. - Paul Stoltz

The premise of cultural travel is that you're not surprised by anything, because you're not carrying a yardstick. - K. Muller

Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry and narrow-mindedness, and many of our people need it sorely. Broad, wholesome,

Take a look at our new website, send in your email address for our online newsletter (even if you already receive it) and give us a comment of what you like (or don't) about the website...even a one word comment will qualify. Two of our partner schools have graciously donated two study opportunities for our students to celebrate the new launch. In March we will do a random drawing of entered email addresses and notify the winners: TRIP ONE- CLIC of Seville, Spain - On the dates of your choice, a two week study trip to CLIC

chari table views cannot be acquired by vegetating in one's little corner of the earth. - Mark Twain

It's no coincidence that in no known language does the phrase "as pretty as an airport" exist. - Douglas Adams

You will bring back pots and pictures. A sheaf of photographs, a jingle of coins. But you will bring back more. A vision of a wide world, remembered laughter, new friends., new understanding. P. Brown

A few of our best recommended materials or resources

Pimsleur Tapes (update—we are now selling these through our site.)

Spanish for the Health Professional, Medical Spanish, Spanish for Police and Firefighters, Business Spanish, Household Spanish - Audio Forum 800.243.1234, www.audioforum.com

Breaking out of Beginner's Spanish - Joseph Keenan

Spanish for Gringos - W. C. Harvey

Periodicals in Spanish for various levels and interests, including health professionals - Educ. News Service, 800.600.4494, www.ednews.com

Receive a professional rating of your level of oral proficiency through the Amer. Council of Teachers of Foreign Language. The interview is conducted by telephone at a pre-arranged time. Expect a fee of \$100+. Contact 914.948.5100.

You Don't Learn In A Vacuum Feb '96

Can you imagine learning the con-

with Intensive Classes and the use of a fully equipped school apartment for two. Airfare, meals or airport pickup not included. A value of \$995!

TRIP TWO- Intercultura of Heredia, Costa Rica - On the dates of your choice, four weeks free tuition in the regular program. Airfare and host family lodging and meals not included (you can add family stay and two meals daily for \$400 for the 4 weeks). A value of \$725!

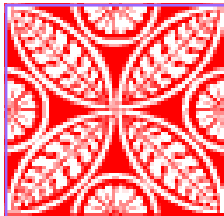
cepts involved in a scientific lab experiment without ever having access to a lab? You could only read about what a bunsen burner looks like or imagine the result of two compounds mixed together. Can you picture trying to learn to play tennis without ever actually getting on the court? All the videos, books and lessons are not of much help until you actually put the principles to work by playing the game itself. Unfortunately, many people try to learn a foreign language in this same way. Even an excellent teacher still has to cope with an artificial situation, when the student walks out the door and immediately is surrounded once again with English. There is nothing more motivating than dire necessity, as well as wanting to become a part of your surroundings.

Who Needs Words? Feb '96

In Mexico much communication takes place with gestures. Rubbing the thumb on the upturned forefinger indicates money. Also used is a crooked index finger with an extended thumb and the remaining three fingers in a fist (as if holding a fat wad of dollar bills). Putting your finger under your eye indicates "Watch out!" An eye drawn on a paper is the same. An invitation to a drink is signaled by the little finger held straight with the middle fingers curled against the palm, and the thumb wobbled toward the mouth. When backing up a car two quick slaps on the car means keep on. One knock means stop. Patting an elbow with the palm of the other hand is the gesture for stinginess or someone being cheap. Wave an index finger from side to side to signal you're not buying to a street vendor.

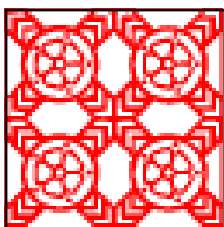
How to Be A More Successful Language Learner Oct '98

You cannot learn the language without learning something about the culture. Another trait is sociability. If you use every opportunity to talk with other people, the increased contact will contribute toward a high learning curve. You need to be open-minded and receptive. You must learn to be tolerant of ambiguity. Learn to depend on all your sense in learning. Organize information about the language in areas such as vocabulary and grammar. Firmly set and understand your objective. Be realistic in your goals. Celebrate your small triumphs instead of concentrating on all that you have not yet mastered. Don't just sit there. Ask questions.



Travel Safety Feb '96

Leave jewelry and valuables at home. Don't carry valuables on the street. Take only cash you will need for the day. If you expect to use a credit card, put it in your shoe. Don't put anything of value in a suitcase you check on an airline. Put valuables in a carry-on and never let it out of your sight. If you're the victim of a robbery, don't resist. Turn over everything you're carrying (which shouldn't be a lot!). Don't get into a taxi with two men in the front seat. Use radio taxis (or called ones) when possible. Don't send signals - being intoxicated, looking obviously lost, dressing in a loud, tourist way. These set you up as a target. Be especially cautious in crowded places. Spend money for safety when necessary. Don't express political opinions and get involved in demonstrations. Ask advice from locals and pay attention. Always keep in a second location numbers of credit cards, travelers check numbers, and know where to call to replace them.



Cross-Cultural Consideration Sept '96

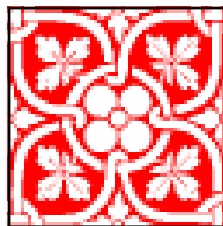
Latin Americans tend to be more formal, and they place courtesy in high regard. Say *con permiso* when you leave the table and do a lot of handshaking both upon arrival and departure. Greetings in Latin America are more physical. (Lots of kisses and *abrazos*!) Don't assume that everyone has the same standard of living as you do. Be careful with criticism. Most Latin Americans are easily offended. When making a suggestion do it in a non-critical, non-demanding kind of way. Communication should be clear cut, without slangy idioms or cultural preconceptions. Family influence is very important in all business matters. Time is viewed in a more fluid way. Don't be offended by tardiness. Stay a little looser. Don't get right to the point. Ease your way into things with a lot of social conversation. Study Latin American history. You'll understand the why of things and earn great respect from Latin Americans.

Culture Shock Disease Oct '99

The phases through which some people pass...

Honeymoon Phase: You are fascinated by the new at first. This does not normally last, and you have to seriously cope with the conditions of real life.

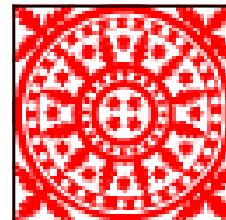
Hostile Phase: Hostility grows out of genuine difficulties such as mail, language challenges, transportation. You may become aggressive and harshly critical. Instead of trying to account for conditions and the historical circumstances which have created them, you talk as if the difficulties you experience are more or less created by the people of the host country for your special discomfort. This stage is a crisis.



Grin and Bear It Phase: As you get some knowledge of the language and the ability to get around, the beginning of the adjustment is taking place. In this stage the visitor begins to become interested in the people of the host country. The sense of humor returns and instead of criticizing, you joke about difficulties.

Effective Adjustment Phase: You accept the customs of the country as just another

way of living. You can operate in the new atmosphere without feeling anxious, although there are moments of strain. You accept the food, drink, habits and customs, and actually begin to enjoy them! When you leave the country, you genuinely miss it.



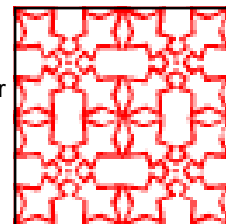
Advice Abroad Oct '00

Be prepared to step out of your comfort zone. Let go of your conventional idea of right and wrong. Take safety and health precautions seriously. Tell people how to reach you in emergencies. Don't speak English. Adopt the local schedules. Don't live with a Walkman on your head. Learn about the places you will visit before your trip. Read books and study maps. Always keep a sense of humor. Realize that sometimes the same things aren't as important in your foreign destination as they are at home. Looking on the experience as a means of finding out who you are and what you are capable of becoming, at any age. Learn what it truly feels like to be in the minority. Don't make uneducated assumptions. DO learn what is universal about humanity.



A Road to Quick Growth Feb 2001

As more and more corporations and entrepreneurs expand their business dealings with foreign companies and the U.S. based immigrant communities, learning a foreign language has become a career plus and sometimes a career must.



LANGUAGE LINK

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Email: info@langlink.com



STUDENT SHARINGS

ILEE of Buenos Aires, Argentina

Had a fantastic trip—Stayed in a great area right across from the zoo, park and gardens. Learned so much about Argentina from talking about Evita, politics, dictators, etc. Also learned a lot about Buenos Aires from taking tango lessons. I was at the school with a GREAT group of students and teachers.

~ Gretchen Husting, TV/Film, Illinois

Amauta of Cusco, Peru

Another grand adventure thanks to Language Link. You have a marvelous organization that delivers every time. I cannot say enough good about you or all you did for me. ~ Leslie Bishop, Teacher, Oregon

Intercultura of Heredia, Costa Rica

I just studied in Heredia for five weeks, it was awesome. The culture there is so rich, the people so nice, and the food is great. The school was great, and the teachers incredible. I would recommend it to anyone. ~ Lewis Leff, Student,

Georgia

Spanish Language Institute of Cuernavaca, Mexico

Thank you for the effort you put into your newsletters...they are so informative and enjoyable! It really makes me interested in visiting different places and continuing to learn the language! I have been to Cuernavaca twice and loved it! Please keep up your good work! ~ Sally Free-love, Volunteer, North Carolina

Academia de Español Quito, Ecuador

I had a superb teacher who was also a great friend. We talked about everything and went everywhere. My family had to be the best—they included me in many family activities and were always there at meals to chat. ~ Mary Morfeld, Ph.D., Teacher, Texas

Becari of Oaxaca, Mexico

The teachers are excellent and know how to teach adults, plus lots of patience! I loved the weaving and cooking classes. And what a delightful family! When do I get to go back? ~ Kathleen Polly, Teacher, Colorado

CLIC of Seville, Spain

I traveled to Spain with a group from my school. We stayed in Sevilla for two weeks and it was the most life changing experience of my life. I miss it so much, whenever someone says Spain or I see something about it on the tv, I break out in tears because I'm not there. ~ Tara Doherty, Student, New Hampshire

PLFM of Antigua, Guatemala

In talking with other folks, those who weren't at PLFM were pretty unhappy with their schools. From our discussions, it appeared that PLFM was MUCH more structured, much more "together" in the sense of being organized, with much better teachers. ~ Leigh Dingerson, Community Organizer, Washington DC

La Janda of Vejer de la Frontera, Spain

I was especially impressed with the quality of instruction—all instructors were professional, enthusiastic and helpful, and gently but firmly insisted on conversing entirely in Spanish. ~ Gayle Leader, Public Administrator, Pennsylvania