



PODCAST TRANSCRIPT

Episode 7: “English Immersion at Home”

Duration: 15:15

How to use this transcript:

1. Print this transcript:

We try to reduce our paper consumption, but we really recommend that you print out this document.

2. Write on it and take notes:

Circle, highlight and note anything that you want. We have even provided space for you to do so!

3. Listen first **without** the transcript:

Don't worry about understanding every single word. Just focus on training your ears to the sound of English.

4. Listen again **with** the transcript:

Listen a second time with the transcript, pausing whenever you want to take notes in the spaces provided.

5. Enjoy! :-)

00:00	<p>Hello friends, welcome to this episode of the Déclic Anglais podcast. As many of you know already, I speak 3 languages proficiently: I speak English (my first language), followed by French and then German.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
00:18	<p>How did I learn 2 extra languages? Well, it wasn't easy, let me tell you. I'm definitely not a natural linguist, I'm a very normal human being. But, I had some techniques that really worked for me. And today I will be sharing some these techniques with you...</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
00:38	<p>These techniques can be applied to any language, not just English. Whether you're learning Spanish, Italian or Arabic – they work for everything. Today I will be sharing some winning strategies that will help you improve.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>

<p>00:55</p>	<p>But, before we begin, I would just like to make a little announcement:</p> <p>Are you preparing for a job interview? Do you need to show a potential employer that you speak good English? Well, this February 2021, I will be running an online workshop via Zoom, where I help people prepare for job interviews in English.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
<p>01:22</p>	<p>The workshop consists of 3 classes over 3 evenings, on Monday 15 February, Wednesday 17 February and Friday 19 February.</p> <p>I will teach you all the vocabulary and grammar you need to know, in order to answer some common job interview questions. Plus homework that will help you practice at home.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
<p>01:47</p>	<p>All of this for the low price of €30! I can't guarantee you'll be hired, that you'll get the job, but we can make sure you wow everyone with your English skills!</p> <p>Interested? Send me an email to contact@declicanglais.com</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>

02:17	<p>Now, dear listeners I must confess. When I was learning German, I did have had the great fortune to live in Germany for nearly 2 years, living and speaking German on a daily basis. And I have been living in France for over 5 years now, with Charlotte, my lovely French fiancée, and I have a French-speaking circle of friends.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
02:41	<p>For you, you might not have the luxury of being able to go and live for a year in the UK or the USA. So, what can you do, from your home in France, Algeria, or Tahiti? Create your English bubble!</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
02:57	<p>So, you can't immerse yourself in English by going to London or San Francisco. You can't leave your job and your children for one year to improve your English. It was the same for me as a student, I had lots of exams and classes, I had a weekend job – I couldn't leave Britain and go to France or Germany.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>

03:19	<p>But, here's a trick that worked for me. While living in the UK, I created my own little immersion bubble. I created conditions around me that would expose me to the French language as much as possible.</p> <p>How can you do this too? <i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
03:38	<p>First, take your mobile phone, go to the "settings" (<i>les paramètres</i>) and change the language to English – or whatever other language you're learning. If you use social media (<i>les réseaux sociaux</i>), do the same here. Change all language settings to English.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
04:03	<p>This may feel bizarre for the first week. But trust me, it's such an easy way to expose yourself to English. And don't worry, you won't get lost. If you can understand this podcast, you can use your phone or Facebook in English, no problem.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>

04:22	<p>Now, let's take that one step further. Extend your immersion bubble to the media you consume. Ladies and gentlemen, we live in the age of the internet. It has never been easier to get news in any language you want, whenever you want.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
04:42	<p>Did you know, it's entirely possible to receive the French news entirely in English? Yes, France24 has a 24-hour streaming service in English. And that's not all, you can also get all of your French news through euronews.com, thelocal.fr—and connexionfrance.com.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
05:16	<p>So you see? If you enjoy reading or listening to the news with your coffee in the morning, DO IT IN ENGLISH! You will be amazed at how quickly you will learn new words, new vocabulary. And the great thing is that with the news, you always find the same vocabulary coming back, and it's written so people can read it easily.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>

05:40	<p>It's not like poetry or literature, that can be very difficult – even for advanced learners. But for you, at your intermediate level, consuming the news every morning in English is a great way to move forward.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
05:58	<p>Moving on from newspapers, media also covers TV programmes. Ladies and gentlemen, do you realise how lucky we are in 2021 to have things like Netflix, Amazon Prime or Disney+? You can stream English TV programmes into your living room or onto your phone ANY TIME YOU WANT!</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
06:23	<p>You can watch in English with French subtitles, or in French with English subtitles, or in German with Spanish subtitles it doesn't matter. Guys, when I was at university 10 years ago, I would have given my right arm, I would have given my right arm to have access to so many of my favourite TV series in so many languages. It's amazing what we have today, right at our fingertips.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>

06:54	<p>Now, many of you may be saying to me: <i>“Mais Tom, j’ai déjà essayé de regarder des séries en anglais. C’est trop difficile, ils parlent trop vite, je comprends pas tout. »</i></p> <p>Honestly, I understand, I’ve been in that position already. But let me ask you, do you really need to understand every, single, little word?</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
07:17	<p>Does it really make so much of a difference if sometimes you don’t understand? Absolutely not. Dear listeners, even today after 5 and a half years in France, I still don’t understand every single word I hear on TV or the radio. And you know what? It’s not a problem, because 99% of the time, I still understand the general meaning of what I hear.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
07:45	<p><i>Pour mieux illustrer ce point en français, est-il vraiment nécessaire de avoir si le méchant se cache derrière un buisson d’aubépine, ou s’il se cache derrière un buisson de thuyas. Qu’est-ce que ça change ? Très souvent les mots que nous ne connaissons pas, ne sont pas du tout des mots importants.</i></p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>

<p>08:01</p>	<p>So, what I'm saying is: you don't need to understand every single word you hear. The most important thing is to train your ears so that they are more used to (<i>pour qu'ils sont plus habitués à</i>) that they are more used to the sound of English. When I started watching French and German TV, I would also have this complex.</p> <p>"What did the man say? Oh no, I missed what part... Wait... Go back... ARGH!"</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
<p>08:31</p>	<p>But I promise you, it gets easier. The key is to trust your brain, to trust yourself to tune into English. If you are listening to this podcast, you are already training yourself. Well done!</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
<p>08:49</p>	<p>And now, the next part – the scary (but also most effective) part... Produce English every day!</p> <p>Producing language, producing English – this means actively speaking and writing English. Reading, listening, watching, those are all passive skills. They're also important. But now, let's focus on <i>producing</i> the language. Because you can't have one without the other, balance is important.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>

09:23	<p>How do you practice speaking or writing English every day?</p> <p>Well, remember I mentioned that we live in the age of the internet? The internet is filled with language learners just like you and I, many of them are native English-speakers who want to practice French. This is great news, because you want to practice English. You have something in common, don't you?</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
09:54	<p>If you do a simple internet search, for example: "English/French tandem partner", you will find thousands of opportunities to meet with English native-speakers online. And most of these tandems are free, you don't need to pay. You can arrange to meet them for 30 minutes every week on Skype, Zoom, or WhatsApp. Then chat for 15 minutes in English and 15 minutes in French. Easy!</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
10:26	<p>Do this as often as possible, twice per week minimum. And if you can, change partners often, this way you can get used to <i>(vous habituer à)</i> you can get used to a variety of English accents. Ok, I should also say, if you are younger than 18 years old, please get your parents' permission before doing this – always be careful on the internet.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>

10:57	<p>But otherwise, finding yourself a nice, friendly tandem partner can be a great way to improve your active language skills. Just remember, that the whole point of a tandem is mutual help and exchange. Make sure you help them with their French the same as they should help you with your English – be polite, be respectful. I think this goes without saying (<i>je pense que cela va sans dire</i>) I think this goes without saying.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
11:31	<p>Ok, my final strategy for producing English: think in English – easier said than done (<i>c'est plus facile à dire qu'à faire</i>) easier said than done. But let me explain. We all think, we all hear voices in our heads:</p> <p>"I'm hungry. It's a nice day outside today. Ok, don't forget, go to the supermarket after work. Hmm, I wonder if they have that fish I like..."</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
12:01	<p>So why not try to do this in English? Why not try to have your thought process in English? It's actually a really interesting exercise and I did this all the time at university in French or German. In fact, I would say that it even helped my speaking skills, as I was always practicing in my head and looking for vocabulary.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>

12:28	<p>The key is not to worry about making mistakes, just focus on having fun, playing with the language in your head. Let's try it together right now. Think of something that you must do after you finish listening to this podcast. Take a second.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
12:50	<p>Ok, do you have something? Now, I will say the beginning of the sentence, then I will pause. You finish the sentence (in your head, mentally) with the thing that you must do.</p> <p>Ready? Here goes:</p> <p>“After this podcast, I really need to...”</p> <p>One more time: “After this podcast, I really need to...”</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
13:30	<p>Well done! You just practiced producing English! That wasn't so difficult, was it? It takes some practice, but like I said earlier, don't worry about making mistakes. Just focus on having fun, playing with the language in your head and finding the right vocabulary.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>

13:48 So let's recap, let's summarise, recap:

A winning strategy to learn a language, is to create your English immersion bubble. So for us learning English:

Number one:

Change your phone and social media settings to English.

Consume your local news in English.

Take advantage of streaming services like Netflix to watch TV in English.

And finally, make sure you actively produce English every day:

Find yourself a tandem partner, help them speak French and they will help you speak English.

Finally, try thinking in English as often as possible.

(Ecrivez vos notes ici).

14:37 There we have it ladies and gentlemen, thanks for listening to this episode of the Déclis Anglais podcast. I hope you find all this useful, it's a lot to take in, I know. But persevere!

As you know, you can always send me an email if you have any thoughts or opinions you'd like to share with me. I'm here to help you on your language-learning journey!

Have a great day, and I look forward to seeing you for our next episode.

Bye for now!

(Ecrivez vos notes ici).

How did it go?

Take a moment to revisit the notes that you took.

List here 3 words or expressions (minimum) that you would like to remember from this podcast. We recommend that you consult a free, online dictionary like www.wordreference.com to ensure that you have the correct definition and context.

WORDS/EXPRESSIONS THAT I WANT TO REMEMBER:

1.

2.

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