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| At home, I can improve my skills in English by… | At home, I can improve my knowledge and understanding by: | At home, I can also learn by… |
| **Reading**   * Trying reading as many different types of texts as possible: novels, short stories, magazines, blogs, quality newspaper articles that interest you… * Read for enjoyment! * Set some personal reading time aside every day; even 20 minutes * Try reading genres that you wouldn’t normally read at home, such as plays or anthologies of poetry. * Find newspapers aimed at younger readers. These can be borrowed from the school library. Try [***www.firstnews.co.uk***](http://www.firstnews.co.uk) * Try accessing newspapers online * Visiting book shops to browse/ see what is new * Swap books with friends * Why not form a book club with your friends where you meet to talk about your favourite books? * Get into the habit of looking up new words to broaden your vocabulary- maybe decide to learn two new words a week. You can use online dictionaries if you don’t own one; [*www.****dictionary****.com*](http://www.dictionary.com) *or* [*www.oxford****dictionaries****.com/*](http://www.oxforddictionaries.com/) *www.collins****dictionary****.com* * Keep a notebook especially for this. Note down the meanings * Other websites of interest include: BBC Events- Authors Live *www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p006v267* * BBC Authors Live *www.bbc.co.uk/events/rhvg9*   **Writing**   * Start writing for enjoyment at home e.g. keeps a diary or write your own novel or write your own blog- *www.****write****rsdigest.com/online-editor/the-12-dos-and-donts-of-****writing-a-blog*** * Practise spelling words you find difficult or words found in your personal reading. Your teacher will give you 10 spelling words a week to help you improve; stick these on the fridge or on the walls of your room! * Keep your own vocabulary notebook up to date with other words you see, not just the 10 in school. * Online resources for grammar and spelling can be accessed at home, such as BBC Bitesize at [*www.****bbc****.co.uk/education/*](http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/) *bbc.co.uk/learning* [*https://www.****bbc****.co.uk/****skillswise***](https://www.bbc.co.uk/skillswise) * [*http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/english/spelling\_grammar/nouns\_adjectives\_prepositions/play/*](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/english/spelling_grammar/nouns_adjectives_prepositions/play/) * *Read over and proof read your writing or read it aloud* * *Ask another person to read it over for you* * *Take part in writing competition, for example BBC 2 500 words short story competition* or competitions you hear about in school*www.****bbc****.co.uk/programmes/p00rfvk1*   ***Talking and Listening***   * *Try to take an interest in what is going on in the world around you. Watch or listen to the news a few times a week* [*www.bbc.co.uk/****newsround***](http://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround)*is aimed at younger viewers* * *Watch documentaries on TV* * *Talk to your parents/ guardians about some of the stories/ issues you learn about here or in school* * *Form opinions about these issues* * *Join a debating society in or out of school* * [BBC - GCSE Bitesize - Speaking and listening](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/english/speaking/)   *www.****bbc****.co.uk/schools/****gcsebitesize****/english/****speaking*** | * Talking about books with parents or guardians * Visit/ join your local library * Take opportunities to hear authors speak about their work (**See *BBC Authors Live***) * Ask for help with homework assignments * Revise regularly for example new grammar taught in school * BBC- Learning: online learning resources – [*www.bbc.co.uk/learning-*](http://www.bbc.co.uk/learning-)***class clips*** | * researching the kinds of jobs and careers you can have using English * Take opportunities to visit the theatre to see plays being performed * Or go to the cinema to see films of novels or plays * [*www.rsc.org.uk/education*](http://www.rsc.org.uk/education) * **Interactive Learning Resources Royal Shakespeare Compan**y: *www.rsc.org.uk/education*[*www.bbc.co.uk/learning-*](http://www.bbc.co.uk/learning-) *class clips* |