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English is the most commonly studied second language in the world. There have never been more study materials at your fingertips, articles promising secret hacks, or online communities to support you. But if you need to learn English quickly, which is the easiest path to results? In this article, we've pulled together a step-by-step guide on how to learn English at home. We'll also review our best techniques for faster progress, why they work, and the resources you need to become fluent. To learn English effectively, immerse yourself in the language through regular practice, engaging with native speakers, and utilizing online resources. Consistent exposure to English in various contexts, such as reading, listening, and speaking, enhances comprehension and fluency. Learning English on your own can be a rewarding and empowering journey. By following a step-by-step plan, you're sure to progress from absolute beginner to fluent in no time at all. Before you crack open a textbook, start an online course, or even watch a TV show to learn English, you need to know exactly where you're starting. This will allow you to create a solid learning plan and set realistic goals. If you're a beginner, this is especially important - you don't want to get overwhelmed right away. There are many free online English language level tests that will measure your proficiency, identify your strengths, and note areas for improvement. You can take self-assessments specific to certain areas of language learning, like vocabulary. Once you get your results, read our guide to English language levels to understand what your level means and how to move up to the next one. In the language learning community, there is so much emphasis on "becoming fluent," but when you're taking the first steps on your journey to learning English, is this a helpful goal? Probably not. Focusing only on fluency suggests that there is an endpoint to learning English, a point that is always out of reach. The truth is that everyone who speaks any language at all is still learning. Research has shown that most people continue to learn an extra word in their native language every day until middle age. You will learn faster if you set goals that are specific to you. Better targets allow you to track your progress in relation to your own life. We suggest using "SMART" goals, which are: Specific Measurable Attainable Relevant Time-bound These are some great examples: I want to learn 20 new vocabulary words (understanding and using these words in sentences) each week I want to be able to make small talk with native English speakers (weather, tourism, sports, etc.) for my upcoming trip to the United States in three months Within six months, I want to be able to speak with my business partners and email them in English without using a dictionary After nine months of learning English online, I want to score 100 points in the TOEFL exam, so I can get accepted at Columbia University if you've wondered, "How can I learn English by myself?" and immediately felt overwhelmed, start small. A basic English learning plan should focus on fundamental grammar and vocabulary, so you can create a strong foundation in the language. This will help you avoid confusion and build confidence as you progress to more advanced English skills. Start with beginner-level resources, like a free course on English grammar for beginners. Practice your new skills with simple English exercises every day, even if it's only for a few minutes. With a regular study schedule, you'll quickly get comfortable with the language, so you can feel ready to move forward. Even as you progress to more advanced levels, be sure to revisit these basic English skills once in a while. Not only is it good to refresh your knowledge, but it'll remind you of just how far you've come! You need a solid English vocabulary to understand conversations and express yourself clearly. If you're a beginner, learning new words and phrases is an easy starting point that will help you feel more confident when you speak English. You can find many beginner vocabulary resources, like word lists and flashcard apps, that make it easy to study vocabulary every day. Use science-backed study techniques to learn vocabulary, like spaced repetition and active recall, so you'll retain the information long-term. Now that you're more comfortable with the language, it's time to put your new skills to work by listening to English conversations. This will help you understand the pronunciation and natural speech patterns of native speakers, so you can adapt to these sounds. English podcasts are an easy, free way to start listening to native English speakers. Many podcasts are specifically designed for language learners, so the hosts will speak more slowly and explain new vocabulary. Try to focus on active listening rather than passive. That means being completely mentally engaged with what you're listening to. You could also start by listening to the main points or using key phrases and new words. These techniques will increase your chances of learning new vocabulary in the future. Check out our guide to improving your listening skills for more tips from an expert ESL tutor. Regular practice will improve your fluency and confidence, even if you only have basic English speaking skills. That's because speaking enables you to internalize new vocabulary and grammar. It also helps you think in English rather than translating in your head. And if you're a beginner, speaking early will push you out of your comfort zone, so you feel less afraid. There are tons of ways to get English conversation practice. You can meet with an in-person conversation club in your area or practice with language exchange partners from an app. The most important thing is to not get discouraged. Learning how to speak English fluently means accepting that you will feel uncomfortable at times. This is completely normal, so don't be afraid to make mistakes and learn from them! Now that you have a strong foundation in all the essential language skills - reading, writing, listening, and speaking - you can move on to more advanced topics. Learning advanced skills, like complex grammar and sentence structure, will allow you to communicate beyond a basic level. As you progress, you'll become more precise, sophisticated, and confident. Enroll in advanced grammar courses and practice more complex language tasks, like analyzing a news story or writing an essay. If you're working with a private English tutor, they can give you feedback to help you improve. One of the most effective ways to learn English at home is to immerse yourself in the language as much as possible. Language immersion speeds up your learning by exposing you to everyday usage and cultural nuances. Incorporate English into your daily activities by watching TV shows, reading books, listening to podcasts, and following the news. You can schedule regular speaking practice with friends, language exchange partners, or tutors. If you don't have a speaking partner yet, there are plenty of English speaking practice exercises you can do every day to hone your skills. If you are just starting your journey to learn English, these tips will set you on the right path. Let's go over some practical advice specifically for beginners that will help you learn faster and build confidence. If you're serious about learning a language by having conversations over video chat tended to see much faster results than those using traditional methods. Scientists followed two groups of students as they began learning a new language: Group A was studying using grammar and vocabulary exercises Group B was learning by speaking, using video technology After twelve weeks, it was found that Group A had made no significant improvement, but Group B had developed their language skills significantly. They had gained more varied vocabularies, performed better in listening comprehension tests, were more able to use grammar, and spoke more confidently. Put simply, even if you study vocabulary exercises, grammar lessons, and theory regularly for weeks, unless you learn English by speaking, you risk not learning how to draw these skills together. This is an easy mistake to make. How often have you heard someone say, "I can understand most of what I hear in English, but I am not very good at speaking it?" Luckily, it has never been easier to find someone to practice speaking with, even if you're learning English from home! Preply has thousands of expert tutors ready to chat over in a video call, and you can adjust our filters to only show those who charge what you can afford to pay. Having a native speaker's undivided attention for regular one-hour sessions can feel intense, but that's because it is highly effective. You will see real progress fast. We are so confident that all lessons come with a 100% satisfaction guarantee. It has never been easier to find reading materials in English or quicker to look things up on Google Translate if you get frustrated. If you aren't quite ready to tackle the complete works of Shakespeare, try: Browsing celebrity gossip on easy-reading websites like BuzzFeed, Mashable or Upworthy Reading a book you love in your native language in the English translation Switching your search browser to show English language results by default Following more American, British, Australian, and Canadian public figures on Twitter and Instagram If you find yourself spending more time on the news, you can also use apps like Lingopie, which have powerful features like dual subtitles, vocabulary lists, and flashcards to help you actively learn while you watch. Here's a list of the best Netflix shows for learning English to inspire you. Watching TV and movies can also help you discover new accents and try to understand them. Try the accent challenge on Preply's YouTube show to test your knowledge of English accents: It seems like there's a new app out for learning English almost every day, each one promising some new, life-changing method to speed up your learning! But there's no need to use up your phone storage by downloading all of them. Here are six that we think are worth your time: Private English classes are highly effective, but that doesn't mean booking them should be a big deal! With the Preply app, you have access to expert tutoring on your phone. This makes organizing 1-on-1 English classes and getting high-quality speaking practice extremely easy. As long as you book just four hours in advance, you can practice speaking English with an expert anywhere you go. After all, the secret to developing great learning habits is to make the logistics as convenient as possible for yourself. There are lots of ways to practice your listening skills, but at some point, you are probably going to have to absorb new words that you don't know. Flashcards are a quick and dirty way to absorb new words. Why dirty? Well, learning new vocabulary with flashcards takes words away from their original contexts, so you might lose some of their more subtle shades of meaning. However, if you want to grow your vocabulary as fast as possible, a flashcard app like Quizlet is a great shortcut. With Quizlet, you can create a set of flashcards with new English words you are trying to learn and practice typing them out until you know them by heart. It's a simple concept, but it's highly effective. Some people really get hooked on flashcard apps and find they fall into a "virtuous circle" of learning. Apps are highly addictive, which makes them highly effective. You might even find that learning on Quizlet replaces your habit of scrolling Twitter, Instagram, or TikTok! Of course, Spotify is not a language learning app. But chances are you already use it or a similar app to listen to music and podcasts. And one of the secrets to an effective study plan is integrating something you already use into your existing habits. If Spotify is already on your phone, look for ways to use it to learn English. Subscribe to some podcasts for English learners, and you'll get a notification every time a new episode is out. Even if you don't listen to them right away, the notifications will help remind you of your learning goals. You can also download playlists of songs for learning English or make your own. Need some inspiration? Check out our article on English for those who love to sing. Most learners find that their English reading skills develop a lot faster than their listening, speaking, or writing. Use this to your advantage! Reading can significantly improve your command of grammar and give you the vocabulary you need to become more fluent. Beelineapp makes reading in English as convenient as possible. It shows you a text in your own language with the English translation side-by-side. Texts are short enough that you can really dig into every word. They cover topics like fairytales, science, and current news articles. There's even a "karaoke" feature where you can read along to an audio recording, which will help you match up unusual English pronunciation with unusual English spellings. The basic version of Beelineapp is free, but you can also upgrade to a paid version if you want. If you're a beginner, you can create a set of flashcards with new English words you are trying to learn and practice typing them out until you know them by heart. It's a simple concept, but it's highly effective. Some people really get hooked on flashcard apps and find they fall into a "virtuous circle" of learning. Apps are highly addictive, which makes them highly effective. 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Reading can significantly improve your command of grammar and give you the vocabulary you need to become more fluent. Beelineapp makes reading in English as convenient as possible. It shows you a text in your own language with the English translation side-by-side. Texts are short enough that you can really dig into every word. They cover topics like fairytales, science, and current news articles. There's even a "karaoke" feature where you can read along to an audio recording, which will help you match up unusual English pronunciation with unusual English spellings. The basic version of Beelineapp is free, so you won't have to worry about wasting money on an app you might not use. We think it's a great addition to your learning toolkit. If you want to learn to speak English fast, you'll need plenty of speaking practice. The most efficient way to get it is with 1-on-1 tutoring. However, many students do not have the time (or budget) for more than two or three Preply classes per week. For free speaking practice, Tandem is a great solution! It's a language exchange app that connects learners from all over the world. It can help you find a native English speaker who is trying to learn your native language so you can partner with someone and swap language skills. In traditional language exchanges, you choose one partner and devote some time to speaking your target language (English) and some time to speaking their target language (your native language). Language exchange apps like Tandem have opened up a lot more options. If you only have five minutes to spare, you can simply exchange messages with a native English speaker. If you have more time, you can have a longer, digital "language exchange" by sharing voice notes or using video chat. It's a great way to test your English skills out with real people. As you may have guessed, the only "hack" that actually works for learning English fast is a lot of practice. 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Let's go over some practical advice specifically for beginners that will help you learn faster and build confidence. If you're serious about learning to speak English quickly, the evidence is clear: having regular conversations with a fluent speaker is pretty much the only way. The faster you can break the mental barrier of testing your language skills out loud, the faster you'll be able to speak confidently. A 2016 study published by the University of Michigan demonstrated that students learning a language by having conversations over video chat tended to see much faster results than those using traditional methods. Scientists followed two groups of students as they began learning a new language: Group A was studying using grammar and vocabulary exercises Group B was learning by speaking, using video technology After twelve weeks, it was found that Group A had made no significant improvement, but Group B had developed their language skills significantly. 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language exchange can be a highly effective and fun way to learn. Language exchanges are another aspect of English learning that has become a lot easier since the rise of the internet! Here's our guide to the top language exchange websites and apps to find the best partner for you. A word of warning: flashcards can be a false friend when it comes to spending time on learning a new language. While they can be helpful, they can also be a waste of time. So instead of spending time on flashcards, it's better to focus on learning the language in a more natural way. So one of our favorites include: Memrise Word Power Lite Quizlet Anki The good news? A professor at the University of Western Ontario has found that you only need about 800 of the most frequently used words to understand 75% of the language as it is spoken in normal life. That's definitely an achievable number of flashcards! For more information, check out our article on how to memorize English vocabulary. There's a podcast for nearly every interest, subject, and hobby these days. Much like YouTube, there is a rich selection of free podcasts for learning English. Many of the best ones offer full transcripts, so you can read along to what you hear and develop your ear for English pronunciation. The main advantage of learning with podcasts is that they fit into parts of your day that you can't otherwise use for studying. Your boss probably won't let you study English at work...but maybe she would let you plug into a podcast? You can't really study your flashcards while you're driving...but you can put a podcast on with no problem at all! Here's our pick of the best podcasts for learning English, plus some tips on how to get the most out of your study time. Music is the great universal language! It can also be a powerful tool for making a second language feel more natural. Listening to music with English lyrics can help you gain a better understanding of pronunciation, vocabulary, and sentence structure without feeling like studying at all. An interesting study even showed that listening to music in a new language can help you pick up grammatical rules more easily, similar to how you first learn to speak as a child. There is no shortage of great, free English-language music on the web. YouTube has an almost unlimited supply of music with lyric videos so you can read along without missing a word. Aside from that, you can also use: LingoClip allows you to practice your listening skills by creating "fill in the gaps" exercises from your favorite song lyrics Radio Garden is a great, free tool to listen to radio stations around the world If you don't mind feeling a little silly, the British Council has a free collection of English songs made for children Watching TV series is often suggested as the best way to learn English, but which are the best shows? According to a 2012 study by Kaplan, the top five most popular shows that their students chose to help them learn English were: Friends (the top most-watched show, with a huge 26% of all their students tuning in!) How I Met Your Mother CSI House The Big Bang Theory Of course, you will get more out of your learning if you are more engaged than if you're watching passively. Try the Language Learning with Netflix extension for Chrome, which allows you to watch Netflix with subtitles in English and your native language at the same time. This great free tool even allows you to save new words that you come across. You can also use apps like Lingopie, which have powerful features like dual subtitles, vocabulary lists, and flashcards to help you actively learn while you watch. Here's a list of the best Netflix shows for learning English to inspire you. Watching TV and movies can also help you discover new accents and try to understand them. Try the accent challenge on Preply's YouTube show to test your knowledge of English accents. It seems like there's a new app out for learning English almost every day, each one promising some new, life-changing method to speed up your learning! But there's no need to use up your phone storage by downloading all of them. Here are six that we think are worth your time: Private English classes are highly effective, but that doesn't mean booking them should be a big deal! With the Preply app, you have access to expert tutoring on your phone. This makes organizing 1-on-1 English classes and getting high-quality speaking practice extremely easy. As long as you book just four hours in advance, you can practice speaking English with an expert anywhere you go. After all, the secret to developing great learning habits is to make the logistics as convenient as possible for yourself. There are lots of very exciting parts of learning English, but at some point, you are probably going to have to just memorize a bunch of words. Flashcards are a quick and dirty way to absorb new words! Why dirty? Well, learning new vocabulary with flashcards takes words away from their original contexts, so you might lose some of their more subtle shades of meaning. However, if you want to grow your vocabulary as fast as possible, a flashcard app like Quizlet is a great shortcut. With Quizlet, you can create a set of flashcards with new English words you are trying to learn and practice typing them out until you know them by heart. It's a simple concept, but it's highly effective. Some people really get hooked on flashcard apps and find they fall into a "virtuous circle" of learning. Apps are highly addictive, which makes them highly effective. You might even find that learning on Quizlet replaces your habit of scrolling Twitter, Instagram, or TikTok! Of course, Spotify is not a language learning app. But chances are you already use it or a similar app to listen to music and podcasts. And one of the secrets to an effective study plan is integrating something you already use into your existing habits. If Spotify is already on your phone, look for ways to use it to learn English. Subscribe to some podcasts for English learners, and you'll get a notification every time a new episode is out. Even if you don't listen to them right away, the notifications will help remind you of your learning goals. You can also download playlists of songs for learning English or make your own. Need some inspiration? Check out our article on English for those who love to sing. Most learners find that their English reading skills develop a lot faster than their listening, speaking, or writing. Use this to your advantage! Reading can significantly improve your command of grammar and give you the vocabulary you need to become more fluent. Beelinguapp makes reading in English as convenient as possible. It shows you a text in your own language with the English translation side-by-side. Texts are short enough that you can really dig into every word. They cover topics like fairytales, science, and current news articles. There's even a "karaoke" feature where you can read along to an audio recording, which will help you match up unusual English pronunciation with unusual English spellings. The basic version of Beelinguapp is free, so you won't have to worry about wasting money on an app you might not use. We think it's a great addition to your learning toolkit. If you want to learn to speak English fast, you'll need plenty of speaking practice. The most efficient way to get it is with 1-on-1 tutoring. However, many students do not have the time (or budget) for more than two or three Preply classes per week. For free speaking practice, Tandem is a great solution! It's a language exchange app that connects learners from all over the world. It can help you find a native English speaker who is trying to learn your native language so you can partner with someone and swap language skills. In traditional language exchanges, you choose one partner and devote some time to speaking your target language (English) and some time to speaking their target language (your native language). Language exchange apps like Tandem have opened up a lot more options. If you only have five minutes to spare, you can simply exchange messages with a native English speaker. If you have more time, you can have a longer, digital "language exchange" by sharing voice notes or using video chat. It's a great way to test your English skills out with real people. As you may have guessed, the only "hack" that actually works for learning English fast is a lot of practice. Remember: everyone who is an expert at something spent a lot of time being terrible at it first! We are big fans of learning to love your mistakes and embracing them as part of the learning process. How do you make it feel easy? Integrate the English language into your daily life, and find ways to enjoy the process. Changing your phone settings to English, subscribing to a great ESL YouTube, and singing along to the Beatles won't feel as "hard" as working through a language textbook, but they're all valid ways to pick up everyday English skills. Check out our free English fluency handbook to learn expert tips on being a confident speaker. Note: ISO 639-2 is the alpha-3 code. Where two codes are provided (21 languages total), the bibliographic code is given first and the terminology code is given second. ISO 639-1 is the alpha-2 code. Multiple codes for the same language are to be considered synonyms. ISO 639-1 Language Code ISO 639-2 Language Code English name of Language French name of Language en eng English anglais >> See change history for this code. >> Perform another search Comments on this document: English is the most commonly studied second language in the world. It has become a global lingua franca, and its importance in the modern world is growing. English is the most widely spoken second language in the world, with over 1.5 billion speakers. It is the official language of many countries, and it is the most common language of international communication. English is also the most common language of the internet, and it is the most common language of science, technology, and business. English is a very important language to learn, and it is a language that can help you to achieve your goals. English is a language that can help you to communicate with people from all over the world. English is a language that can help you to find a job, to start a business, and to travel. English is a language that can help you to learn more about the world and to become a more global citizen. English is a language that can help you to become a more successful person. English is a language that can help you to live a better life. English is a language that can help you to achieve your dreams. English is a language that can help you to become a more confident person. English is a language that can help you to become a more fluent speaker. English is a language that can help you to become a more effective learner. English is a language that can help you to become a more successful student. English is a language that can help you to become a more confident learner. English is a language that can help you to become a more fluent learner. English is a language that can help you to become a more effective learner. English is a language that can help you to become a more successful student. English is a language that can help you to become a more confident learner. 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YouTube. She teaches with a whiteboard, like in a classroom. Here is one of her videos about auxiliary verbs: This YouTube channel features conversations between the hosts, Camille and Calvin. They use basic English and speak slowly. The videos have subtitles to help you understand them. Here is a lesson for you learn how to talk about the weather in simple English: Lingopie is an English app that provides interactive subtitles (and a heap of other features) as you watch TV shows and movies. You can even use it with your favorite shows on Netflix. You can try it free for 7 days, and it costs from \$5.99/month after that. Podcasts are a fun and convenient way to improve your English listening skills. You can listen to a podcast while you are driving to work, at the gym, or cleaning your house. Beginner English podcasts have short episodes and the hosts speak slowly so you can understand more easily. You can slow down the podcast speed even more if you need to. Here are some good English podcasts for beginners: On the Podcasts in English website you can listen to special beginner-level podcasts. They are free to listen to. If you want access to the transcript, worksheet, and vocabulary tasks for each episode, there is a small subscription fee. The Coffee Break English podcast is designed for learners at level A1-A2. You can listen to episodes on Spotify and Apple Podcasts. There are videos on their website too, with notes for each lesson. The episodes cover topics like pronunciation and easily confused words. This is a new weekly podcast from the BBC just for beginner learners. Each episode features a real conversation. The website has a vocabulary list and transcript to help you learn as you listen. If you want to start learning American English, listen to some VOA podcasts. VOA has a lot of different podcasts, but Everyday Grammar and Ask a Teacher are good English lessons for beginners. You can download them to listen to whenever you like. Learning English is like piecing together a puzzle. You need all the pieces to see the full picture. Vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation are these pieces that help you form sentences and build fluency. Words are the building blocks of any language. You need these to communicate basic ideas. When you start to learn English, you will cover topics like: Numbers Days and months Colors and shapes Introducing yourself Describing people Food and dining Animals Likes and dislikes Daily routines Shopping You will learn phrases as well as words. Phrases are groups of words like: Brush your teeth Wash the dishes My name is How are you? I don't like I am from I would like Playing word games like crosswords is also a fun way to remember words better. Find some fun games for learning English here. English grammar can look scary, but it's easier when you learn it little by little. Many common sentences in English use auxiliary (helping) verbs like 'do,' 'be,' 'have,' 'can,' and 'will'. Learning about these will help you build sentences. English has many tenses to talk about the past, present, and future. Start with the simple tenses: I went to the park yesterday. (simple past) I go to the park every day. (simple present) I will go to the park tomorrow. (simple future) It's easier to learn English grammar if you take lessons, use an app, or have a study book. Although English pronunciation can be irregular, it's important to get it right to avoid miscommunication. Here are some tips to help you improve your English pronunciation: Start with slow speech practice. Pay attention to word stress and practice stressing the correct syllables. Practice some tongue twisters to improve articulation. Pay attention to mouth movements and try to mimic them. Listen and repeat after native speakers to fine-tune your pronunciation. Record yourself and compare it to a native speaker. With consistent practice, you can improve your English pronunciation. Learning English means practicing reading, writing, listening, and talking. Let's look at these things one-by-one and see how to improve them. Reading English is a vital skill whether you want to do business in English, travel, or just keep in touch with friends. Reading should be fun. Start with easy books so you can understand the words and enjoy reading. As you improve, you can try harder books. Watching English movies and TV shows with subtitles will help improve your reading skills, too. Writing skills are important for communication. You can practice writing by: Keeping a diary and writing about your day Joining a language exchange or an online community for people learning English Using a writing checker like Grammarly to help you learn from your mistakes and improve your spelling Using Write & Improve, a free tool from Cambridge English to practice writing and receive feedback Understanding spoken English can be difficult because people have so many different accents. Podcasts, movies, TV shows, and YouTube videos are all helpful ways to learn how English words sound. Listen to different accents and notice how words flow together. Find more tips to improve your listening skills here. Speaking English is when you really get to use what you've learned. Talking with people who have always spoken English can help you speak better. Here are simple ways to get better at speaking in English: Ask questions when you talk to others Join groups where people talk about your interests or hobbies Take some private lessons with a tutor using Preply or British Council Record yourself talking and listen back if you keep practicing and trying new things, your speaking will improve. Beginner English speakers are classed as CEFR level A1 or A2. You can check your level with free tests on these platforms. You can take these tests as often as you like to track your progress. As you improve, make sure you challenge yourself with harder lessons and learning materials. If you are reading this article because you want to help someone else learn English, this part is for you. Hopefully, you already have some inspiration from the tips and resources listed above. Other ways you can support beginner English learners include: Identify their preferred learning style (visual, auditory, reading/writing, or kinesthetic) and find lesson materials to suit them Work on creating some meaningful goals for learning English Help create a study schedule that they can commit to Keep them accountable to their study plan and celebrate short-term milestones together Help them find community groups with other English learners Watch short video clips together and discuss the content Be realistic about how long it takes to learn English Learning English is a big step, but it opens up many opportunities. You can use websites, podcasts, books, videos, and online lessons to build your vocabulary and learn English basics like how to form sentences. Practice reading, writing, listening, and speaking a little every day. And connect with other English learners so you can support one another as you improve. Note: ISO 639-2 is the alpha-3 code. Where two codes are provided (21 languages total), the bibliographic code is given first and the terminology code is given second. ISO 639-1 is the alpha-2 code. Multiple codes for the same language are to be considered synonyms. ISO 639-2 Language Code ISO 639-1 Language Code English name of Language French name of Language eng en English anglais >> See change history for this code. >> Perform another search Comments on this document: A lifetime subscription to Babbel Language Learning is on sale. Credit: pexels Deal pricing and availability subject to change after time of publication. TL;DR: A lifetime subscription to Babbel Language Learning is on sale for £131.66 as of Jan. 13, saving you 55% on list price. It's easy to fall into the same old stagnant routine — especially when you're stuck at home with nowhere to go and nobody to see. But rather than allowing yourself to double down on bad habits and boredom, now's a great time to nurture your mind and enhance your creativity. One way to do so is by learning a new language. Of all the language-learning apps on the market these days, Babbel is definitely a fan favourite. With over 10 million users worldwide, it's earned an impressive 4.5 out of 5 stars on the Google Play Store and 4.6 out of 5 on the App Store. Students love its user-friendliness and short, yet valuable bite-sized lessons. It was even named Fast Company's "most innovative company in education" a few years back. So, what makes Babbel so beloved? First, you can choose from over a dozen different languages to learn at any given time, including Italian, French, Portuguese, Dutch, Polish, and Russian. And no matter how busy you are, you can dive in completely on your own time and fit the quick 10 to 15-minute lessons (from beginner to advanced) into your schedule. Then, of course, there's the content itself. Babbel covers a lot of real-life topics (think transportation, dining, or directions) that you'll actually use if you ever travel abroad — you know, rather than a bunch of random vocabulary terms. It also uses speech recognition technology to ensure you're pronouncing words accurately, so you sound more like a local and don't embarrass yourself on your next vacay. Another helpful feature is offline accessibility. You can download your courses, lessons, and review items beforehand and access them later regardless of your Wi-Fi situation. Mashable Deals Just in time for the new year, you can snag a lifetime subscription to Babbel's top-rated language-learning app for its lowest price yet — £131.66 (normally £294). Joseph Green is the Global Shopping Editor for Mashable. He covers VPNs, headphones, fitness gear, dating sites, streaming, and shopping events like Black Friday and Prime Day. Joseph is also Executive Editor of Mashable's sister site, AskMen. 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