



# **Internet websites for learning English at home**

**Step by Step Guide for parents**

**EAL Service**

**This step by step guide has been design to help parents & guardians in supporting their children's language acquisition by using British Council and BBC English websites. Each step explains what materials, activities and skills can be practiced and on what language level.**

By Aleksandra Jakubów, EAL Service

Dear Parents/Guarians,

In order to help your children in acquiring English, we recommend supporting them at home after their school day, with the use of the following websites. In case you do not have access to the Internet at home, we would like to remind you that you can use the facilities available for free at your local library. The list of libraries is available on the last page of this booklet.

## BRITISH COUNCIL

Below you will find the main link to the **British Council** website.

<http://www.britishcouncil.org/>

### Step 1.

**Main view.** On the top blue toolbar select: **English**.

The screenshot shows the British Council website in a Windows Internet Explorer browser window. The address bar displays 'http://www.britishcouncil.org/'. The website's top navigation bar is blue and contains the following links: Home, English, Arts, Exams, Schools, Higher Education, and More. A red arrow points to the 'English' link. Below the navigation bar is a large banner with the text 'Cultural and educational opportunities worldwide' and an 'About us' button. The main content area features a 'Featured projects' section with tabs for 'UK Architecture', 'Music from around the world', 'Higher education', and 'UK music worldwide'. The 'UK Architecture' tab is selected, showing a video player for 'Venice Takeaway'. To the right, there is a 'Learn English' section with buttons for 'Learn English in your country', 'Learn English online', 'IELTS', 'LearnEnglish Kids', and 'Learn business English'. The browser's status bar at the bottom shows 'Done' and 'Internet'.

## Step 2.

Next link will allow you to choose from the following options:

1. Learn English
2. Learn English Teens
3. Learn English Kids



1. English for adult learners

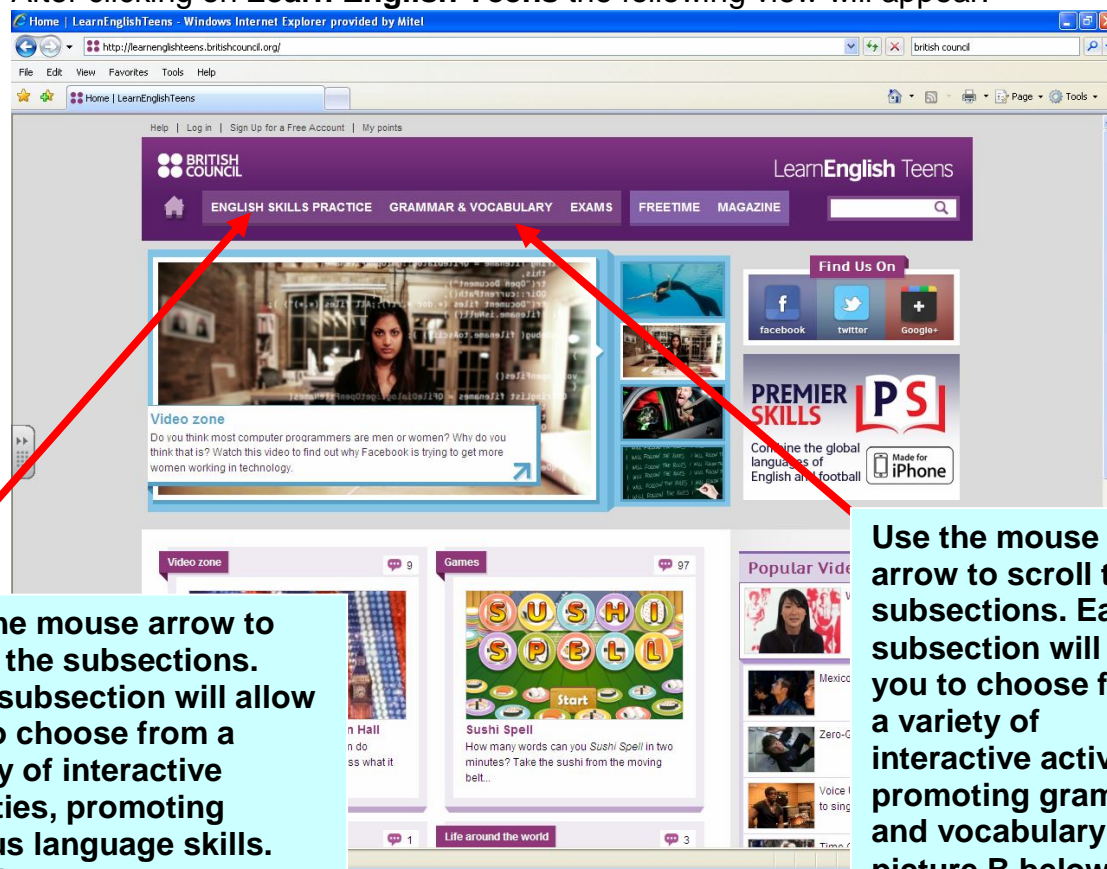
3. English for young learners

2. English for teenagers

Lets start with English for teenagers.  
Click: **Learn English Teens**

### Step 3.

After clicking on **Learn English Teens** the following view will appear:



Use the mouse arrow to scroll the subsections. Each subsection will allow you to choose from a variety of interactive activities, promoting various language skills. See picture A below.

Use the mouse arrow to scroll the subsections. Each subsection will allow you to choose from a variety of interactive activities, promoting grammar and vocabulary. See picture B below.

We recommend that you simply try out the provided options. You will find that you and your child like some activities more than others. Each learner has different learning styles and preferences, therefore, we suggest that you focus on exercises that you and your child find particularly useful or interesting.

## Picture A

The screenshot shows the LearnEnglish Teens website interface. The navigation menu includes 'ENGLISH SKILLS PRACTICE', 'GRAMMAR & VOCABULARY', 'EXAMS', 'FREETIME', and 'MAGAZINE'. A red arrow points to a dropdown menu under 'ENGLISH SKILLS PRACTICE' which lists 'Life in the UK', 'Video UK', 'Short stories & poems', and 'Improve your reading'. Below this, there are several content tiles, including one for 'Sushi Spell' and a 'Popular Videos' section.

Here you will find following options:

- Life in the UK
- Video UK
- Short stories & poems
- Improve your reading

## Picture B

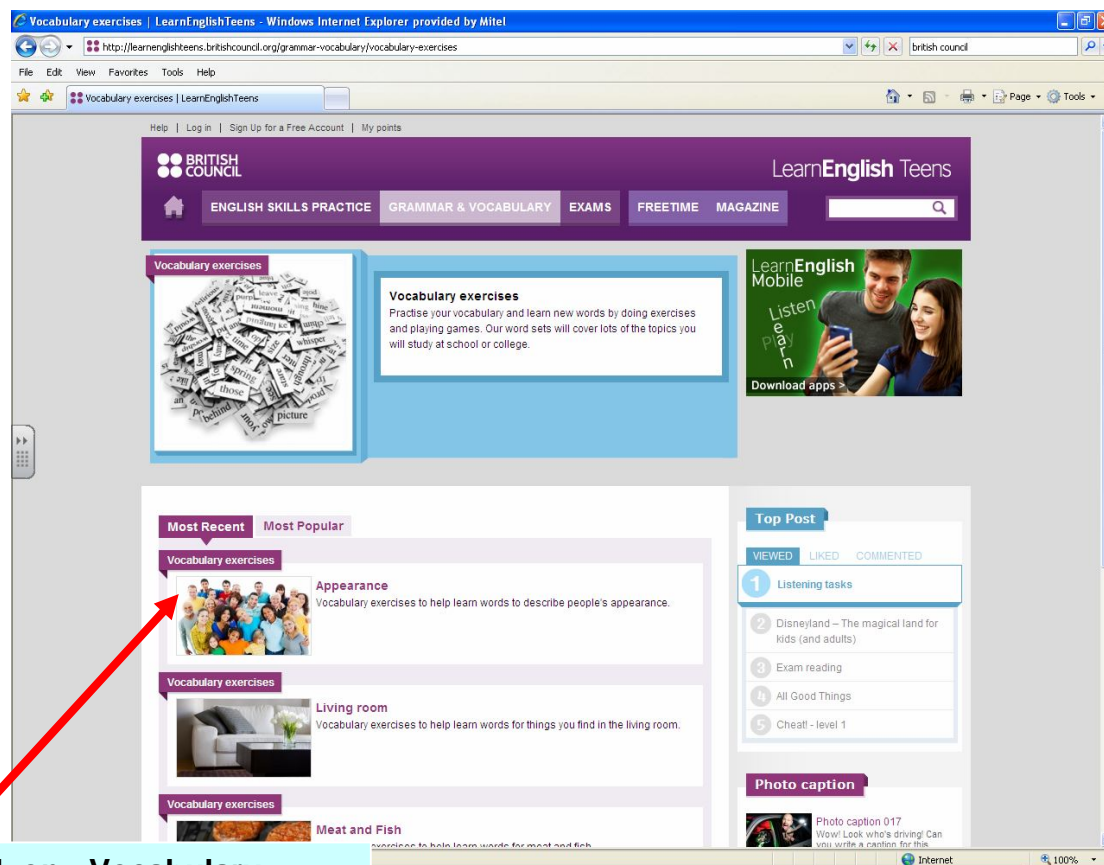
The screenshot shows the LearnEnglish Teens website interface. The navigation menu is the same as in Picture A. A red arrow points to a dropdown menu under 'GRAMMAR & VOCABULARY' which lists 'Grammar snacks' and 'Vocabulary exercises'. Below this, there are several content tiles, including one for 'Sushi Spell' and a 'Popular Videos' section.

Here, you will find following options:

- Grammar snacks
- Vocabulary exercises

## **Step 4.**

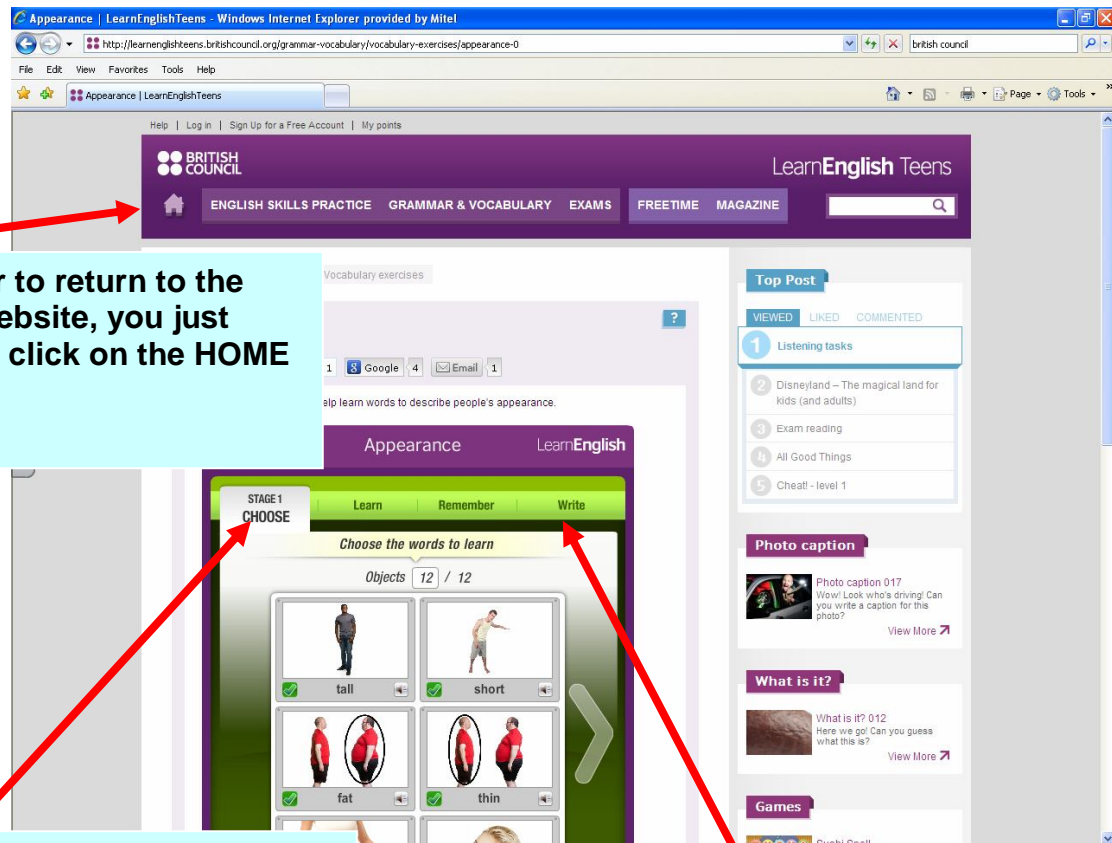
As an example we selected view B. Grammar and Vocabulary. Here, you will find a selection of topic based activities; e.g. appearance.



The screenshot shows the 'Vocabulary exercises' page on the LearnEnglish Teens website. The page features a navigation bar with 'GRAMMAR & VOCABULARY' selected. A large blue box at the top contains a pile of word cards and a text box that reads: 'Vocabulary exercises Practise your vocabulary and learn new words by doing exercises and playing games. Our word sets will cover lots of the topics you will study at school or college.' Below this, there are three topic-based exercise boxes: 'Appearance' (with a group photo), 'Living room' (with a living room image), and 'Meat and Fish' (with a plate of food). A red arrow points to the 'Appearance' box. On the right side, there is a 'Top Post' section with a list of activities: '1 Listening tasks', '2 Disneyland - The magical land for kids (and adults)', '3 Exam reading', '4 All Good Things', and '5 Cheat! - level 1'. The bottom of the page shows the browser's address bar and status bar.

**Click on: Vocabulary exercises: appearance.**

## Step 5.



In order to return to the main website, you just have to click on the HOME button.

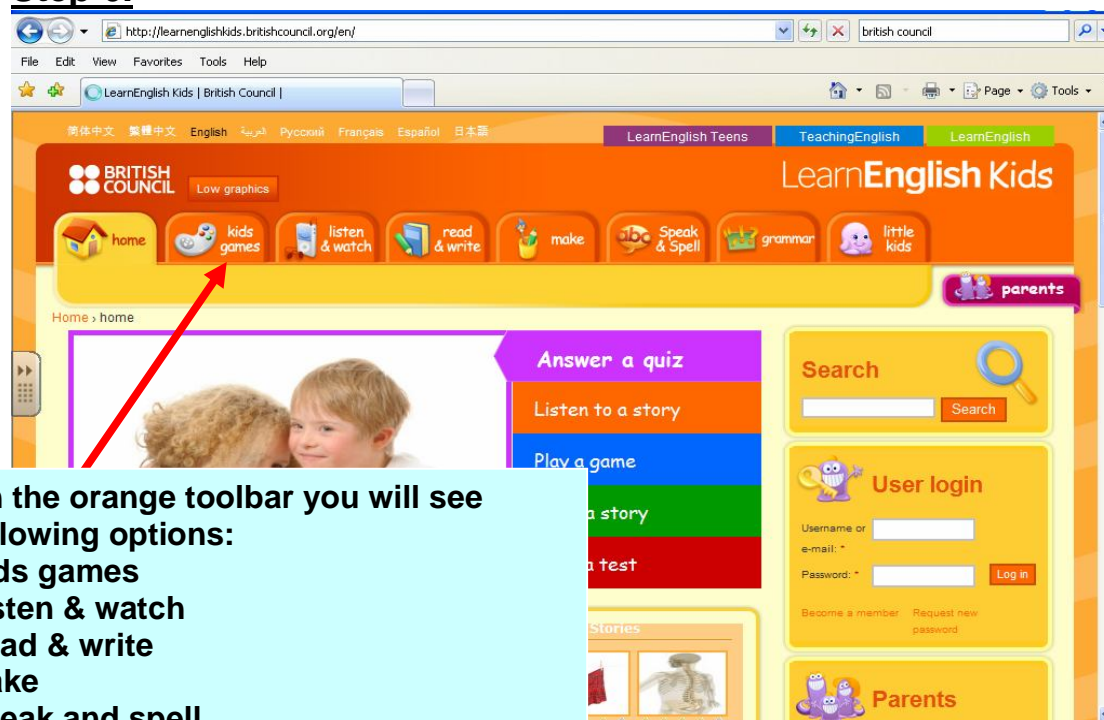
After clicking, a window with an exercise will appear.

On the green toolbar you will also find additional revision materials for parents.

Let's now get back to English Kids from the main window.



## Step 6.



On the orange toolbar you will see following options:  
Kids games  
Listen & watch  
Read & write  
Make  
Speak and spell  
Grammar  
Little kids



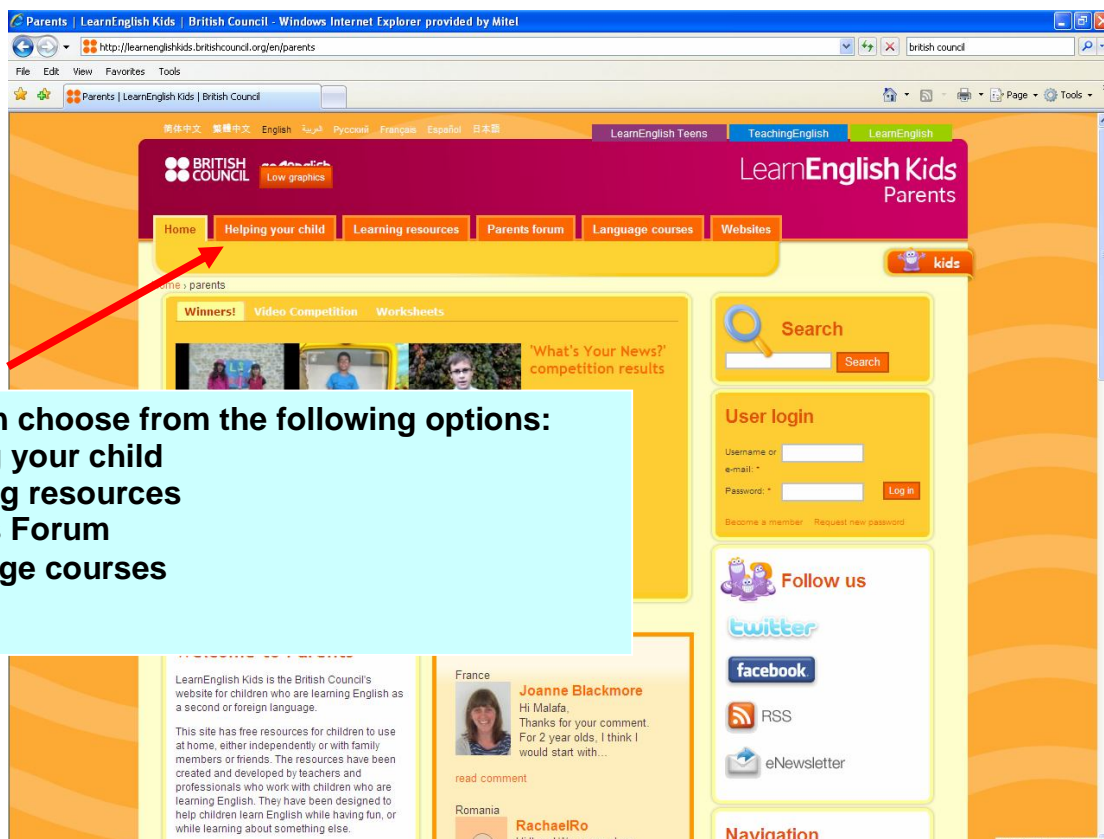
As an example, lets select **listen & watch**.



After clicking, you will find a selection of various games and activities.

Additionally, you can click on **PARENTS** with tips for parents.

## Step 8.



You can choose from the following options:  
Helping your child  
Learning resources  
Parents Forum  
Language courses

## Let's now have a look at the next recommended website BBC English.

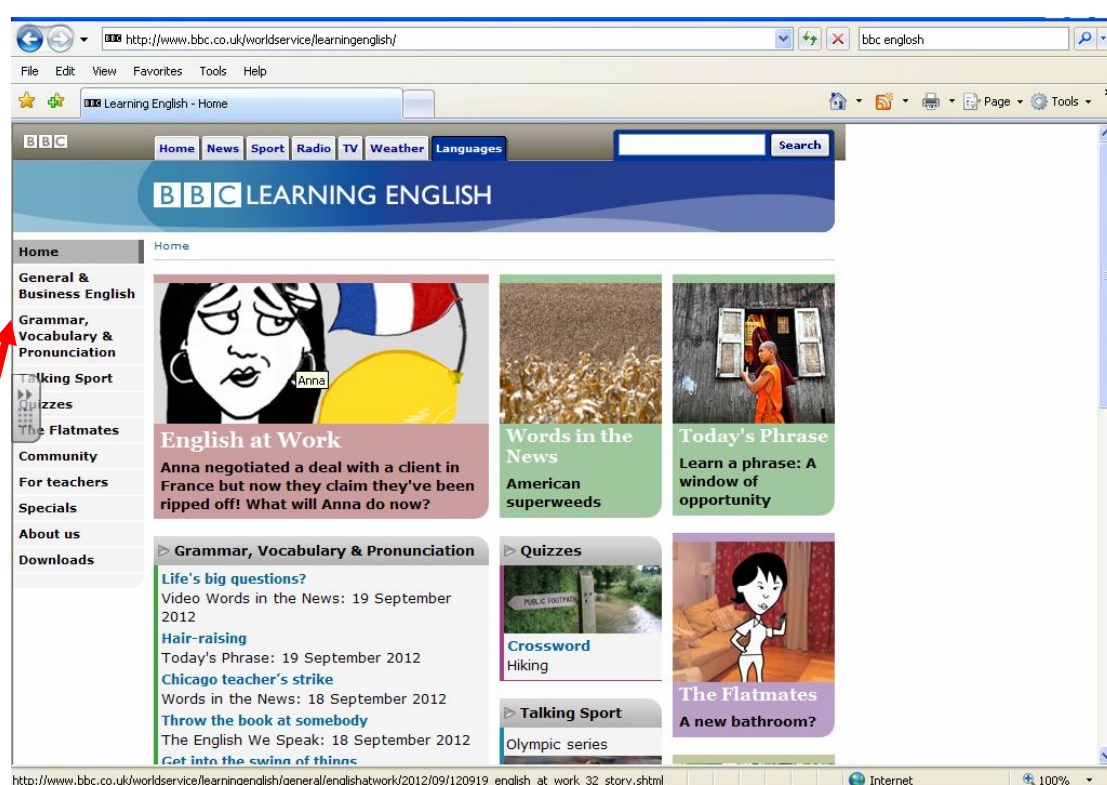
### 2. BBC

Bellow you will find the address of the BBC English website.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/>

#### Step 1.

**Main view.** On the left you will see a number of sections.



Select from the options:  
General & Business English  
Grammar, vocabulary & pronunciation  
Talking support  
Quizzes  
The Flatmates  
Community

## Step 2.

The screenshot shows the BBC Learning English website in a Windows Internet Explorer browser. The page title is 'Learning English - Grammar, Vocabulary & Pronunciation'. The main content area is titled 'Grammar, Vocabulary & Pronunciation' and features several sections: 'Words in the News' with an article about 'superweeds', 'Today's Phrase' with three items, and 'What's new?' with a list of latest content. A red arrow points to the 'Pronunciation tips' link in the left sidebar.

After selecting option Grammar, Vocabulary & Pronunciation, following options will appear. As an example lets select Pronunciation Tips.

## Step 3.

The screenshot shows the BBC Learning English website in a Windows Internet Explorer browser. The page title is 'BBC Learning English | Pronunciation Tips'. The main content area is titled 'Pronunciation tips' and features several sections: 'Introduction', 'The sounds of English', 'Features of English', 'Quizzes', and 'Programmes'. A red arrow points to the 'Introduction' video player, and another red arrow points to the 'The sounds of English' link in the right sidebar.

After clicking you will automatically move on to pronunciation activities.

## Step 4.

Home > Downloads  
Last updated at 13:05 BST, Thursday, 20 September 2012

### Downloads

**PLEASE NOTE:**  
There is currently an issue downloading our files with Internet Explorer 8. When right-clicking the 'Save target as...' link does not appear. We are working to fix this problem as soon as possible but in the meantime there is something you can do to make 'Save target as ...' appear.  
To the right of the address bar is a button for 'Compatibility mode'. If you select this, then go back to the download link and right-click, you should now see 'Save target as ...' and you will be able to download the file.

**The last 7 days' audio, video and text to take away**

Words in the News: American superweeds: Text	pdf
Words in the News: American superweeds: Report (1 MB)	mp3
Words in the News: American superweeds: Words (1.1 MB)	mp3
Video Words in the News: Life's big questions: Text	pdf
Video Words in the News: Life's big questions: Audio (1.8 MB)	mp3

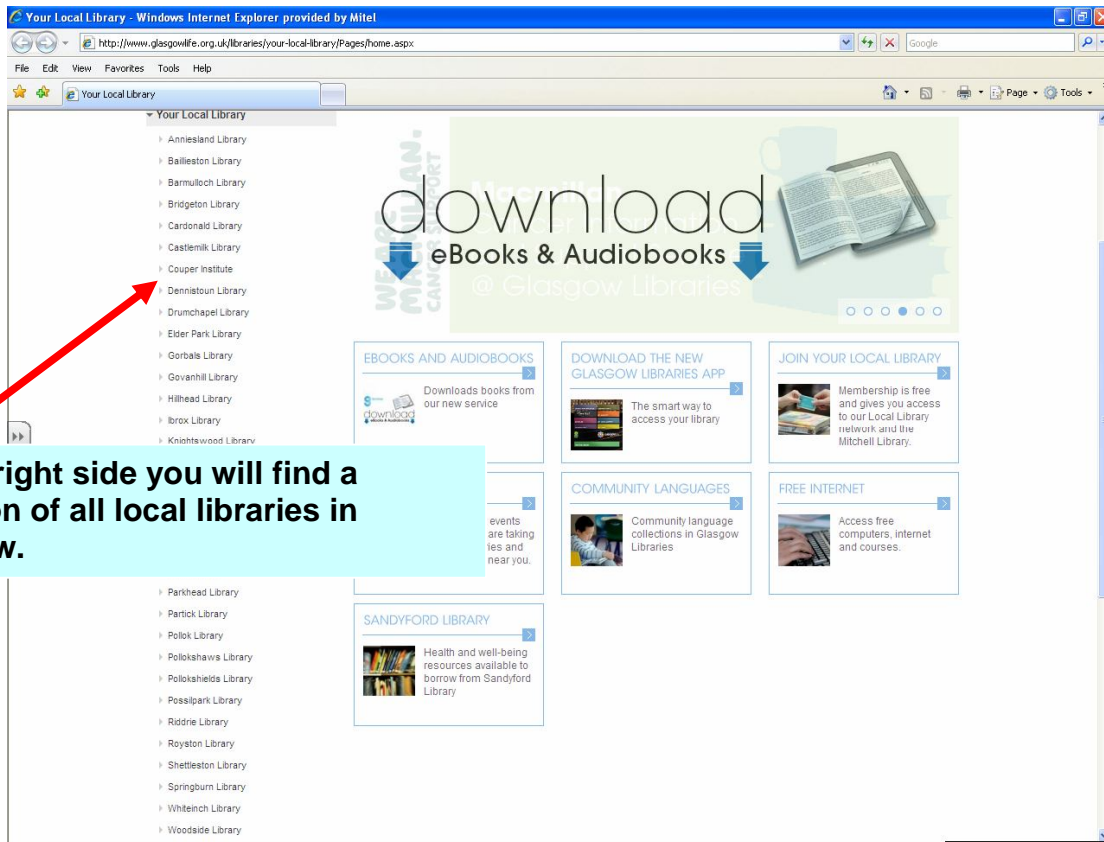
Here, you will find a list of ready to download materials.

We also recommend, viewing downloads with a good selection of ready to use materials.

We wish you good luck and we hope that the presented in this booklet websites will help you and your child in developing your English.

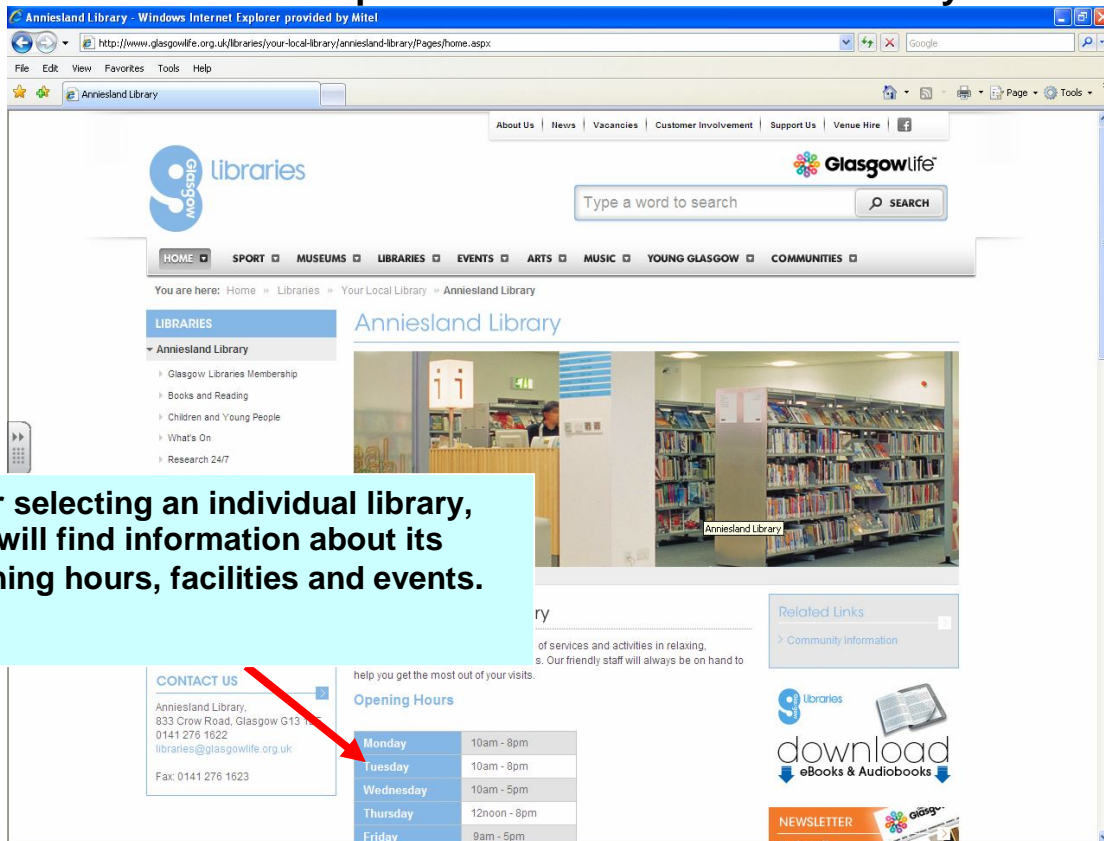
# Libraries

[http://www.glasgow.gov.uk/en/Residents/Library\\_Services/](http://www.glasgow.gov.uk/en/Residents/Library_Services/)



On the right side you will find a selection of all local libraries in Glasgow.

As an example lets select: Anniesland Library.



After selecting an individual library, you will find information about its opening hours, facilities and events.

Good luck!

By Aleksandra Jakubów, EAL Service