

Chatterbox #239 – Interview with Iván

Episode description

Culips really appreciates the feedback we get from our listeners. One such member, Iván from Spain, impressed Andrew with his story so much that we just had to have him on the podcast! Iván is a good example of a success story for learning English. Give this episode a good listen!

Fun fact

Special guest Iván talks to us today from Valencia, Spain. Can you imagine: Valencia was founded as a Roman colony all the way back in 138 BCE! That's a lot of history.

Expressions included in the study guide

- It's a pleasure
- You name it
- To mimic
- Ah-ha moment
- Day in, day out
- Fake it until you make it



Transcript

Note: The words and expressions that appear in **bold text** within the transcript are discussed in more detail in the Detailed Explanations section that follows the transcript.

Andrew: Hey, guys, Andrew from Culips here. Today we have a really special episode for you. I have the opportunity to interview one of our listeners, Iván from Spain. So Iván reached out to us and sent us an email, and I just really loved his story about how he studied English with Culips and how he's improved his English from studying with us. So I asked him to come on the show for an interview and he agreed and it was fantastic. So this is the chat that you will hear today, it is my conversation with Iván.

Don't forget that there is a study guide for this episode. It's available on our website, Culips.com and it's a fantastic way to study with us. So please check that out. And I hope you enjoy this interview with Iván. Here we go.

Iván, welcome to Culips.

Iván: Yeah, thank you, **it's a pleasure**.

Andrew: Yeah, so, Iván, you are in Spain right now, is that correct?

Iván: Yeah, exactly, in Valencia.

Andrew: Valencia.

Iván: Just in the east of Spain.

Andrew: East of Spain, and I'm sure it's quite hot there right now. I've been hearing on the news about a heatwave in Europe.

Iván: Yeah, you bet, it's totally crazy. It's getting crazy here and the humidity, totally crazy.

Andrew: I bet. Well, Iván, the reason why I'm talking to you right now is actually because you sent me a message. And I was really shocked because you sent me a voice message, and this was really cool because I felt like we had a connection instantly. You sent me this voice message and told me about how you had learned English and how you had studied with Culips, and I was really impressed with your English. I thought it was a really high-quality English that you have. You're very fluent and a great speaker, and you wanted to come on to Culips to share some of your tips with the Culips community, and I thought that was a great idea. So here we are.

- Iván: Yeah, here we are. Yeah, that was the point in that moment, it could have been a good idea and why not, so let's do it. Sure.
- Andrew: Yeah, let's do it. OK, so maybe let's start at the beginning. When did you first start learning English?
- Iván: So I was, I think, 36 years. So, you know, I've always wanted to learn English. But for me it was kind of tough, and then when I decided to start it was, you know, I was a grown-up and I thought why not, I can do it, you know? I was told that it was gonna be tough, it was gonna be complicated to grasp a good level and a good pronunciation level and fluency. It's quite tough, but I thought, yeah, OK, maybe this is true, but I'm going to try it anyways.
- Andrew: Awesome.
- Iván: So I did it, yeah, and you know, in that case I was 36 and I learned English more or less in 2 years. And everything was by myself because I didn't go to any academy or with teachers, no, nothing at all. But other methods because I thought exactly that, people told me that it was gonna be tough, maybe I should have used another way and that's what I did exactly.
- Andrew: So in only 2 years, you achieved this level of fluency. That's amazing.
- Iván: Yeah, the last year, it was 3 years ago, I learned English in 2 years and then the last year, you know, I've been trying to push that. To try to get it better.
- Andrew: So what was your motivation for learning English? Did you wanna just use it for travelling or for business, or what was your motivation to start?
- Iván: Yeah, you know, I thought that English, and actually I'm just know enjoying it a lot, things like this, you know? I'm now speaking with a native speaker and for me it's awesome, you know?
- Andrew: For sure.
- Iván: And I thought that if you know English, you can open your mind a lot, and it was gonna be interesting for me also in regards to my job and **you name it**. But my actual motivation was that I wanted to speak with other people, without a cultural bias and stuff, you know? And, yeah, that's originally made it.
- Andrew: OK. Very good. OK, so let's get into your method a little bit here. How did you study by yourself? I'm very curious.

- Iván: OK, OK. First of all, I have to say I'm not a teacher, so I'm gonna try to do my best, OK? I have no skills, OK?
- Andrew: Yeah, no worries.
- Iván: OK. So, if the first thing is pretty obvious because you have to listen a lot and I guess what I thought, OK, I'm gonna turn every single device into English. It doesn't matter, TV, radio, in the car the GPS and stuff. Everything in English. And the beginning it was quite tough, you can imagine.
- Andrew: Yeah, was your car GPS reading you the Spanish street name with an English accent?
- Iván: Yes, but that's also because you can see the difference in regard to pronunciation, because you know the Spanish pronunciation in my case. I mean, but then I was listening if this girl says in this other way, so it's perfect because I can understand, study, deep down on the pronunciation matter. So this is really interesting. And the phone and the computer, everything into English.
- Andrew: OK.
- Iván: This is an important. And then in the beginning, it's super complicated because if I like a lot watching TV shows and movies and stuff and of course the beginning, it's quite tough to understand. So in my case, OK, I gotta keep going, keep going, it doesn't matter. I was using a research that for me is super interesting, I don't know maybe for other people, but for me super interesting, is a website that is called ORORO, no, let me start that again, ORORO.TV.
- Andrew: ORORO.TV.
- Iván: Exactly. And this website, you can register and it's for free, but you have all this stuff there, Netflix and SVO. It's a legal one, that's important, it's a legal one. You can also pay and have the premium account, but the free account is super interesting and you can watch their movies, TV shows, and you can slow down the dialect a little. So this is super interesting.
- Andrew: You can adjust the speed.
- Iván: Exactly.
- Andrew: Wow.

- Iván: Because at the beginning, that's super interesting, even because you have to read the timed captions. So you need time, you need time, and this is super interesting research to learn. I think in this case you have to enjoy movies and stuff. So it's perfect.
- Andrew: So you were watching the English content with English subtitles?
- Iván: Exactly. Yeah, because in that case only listening, I mean, in the TV because I was listening to Culips, I was listening a lot of stuff. But in regard to enjoying a time—because that's really important, you have to enjoy your time, because here studying and studying, pretty bored.
- Andrew: I completely agree. If you aren't enjoying it, then you're just gonna wanna quit and you're gonna lose motivation, right? So you wanna have content that you're studying with that you find enjoyable and that you find fun. If it's not fun, it's not worth doing.
- Iván: Yeah, it's not gonna be good. OK, so in that situation I was enjoying it a lot, the TV shows and movies. So this is a good resource.
- The other resource for me, I was listening to many podcasts. But especially when I found Culips, for me was super interesting. I remember even the moment when you came in.
- Andrew: OK, when I joined the team?
- Iván: Yeah, exactly. And it was super interesting because of the way you speak, especially.
- Andrew: OK.
- Iván: As a student I think it's important to try to impersonate someone. To try **to mimic** the way, you know, like, a native speaker speaks is important to try **to mimic** that, because we have our own bias because of our own languages and then we try to do all the same, but that's not possible. If you wanna speak properly, then you gotta try to copy the music of the language. You gotta try to copy the speed of the language also. And you speak in a slow motion, super clear, and very often when I speaking and then I say, oh, wait a moment, I'm just getting out of the way. So I gotta come back and I think in the way you speak.
- Andrew: OK.
- Iván: So for me, it was really, really interesting, you know, something really, really powerful, OK?
- Andrew: Ah, that's cool.

- Iván: Yup. So Culips is another very interesting resource to learn English, and I think all my partners, I mean the community, the Culips community, sure they agree with me.
- Andrew: I hope so. I hope so. But that's a great point, Iván, about this idea of choosing one native speaker in particular and really trying **to mimic** and pay attention to the way that person speaks. And I think that's a great technique for, you know, improving your accent. Just to find somebody that you like, it should be a speaking style that you enjoy or that you think is cool, right?
- Iván: Totally, totally.
- Andrew: And then doing some, you know, shadowing or copying the way that speaker speaks, I think that's a really effective way to study.
- Iván: I think so. In my case, actually, it was super interesting that you were a Canadian guy, because I was at the beginning as a student, you wanna learn and you don't know if I should learn British accent, North American accent, or ... So Canadian's perfect because it's just in the middle.
- Andrew: Yeah, that's what I tell my students, I don't want to brag too much, but I think it's a good accent for English language learners to get a bit of both worlds in there.
- Iván: I agree, exactly, exactly. And then it's a lot more easy because you get relaxed because, OK, I gotta not look for these or, no, no, Canadian is perfect.
- Andrew: Right in the middle.
- Iván: In my case, it was very interesting.
- Andrew: Cool.
- Iván: I think the other point I could say, the other tip is reading. This is obvious also, but reading, in my case, I think of two different types of reading.
- Andrew: OK.
- Iván: First of all is because you want to enjoy, so this is perfect. I love reading, so I wanna read a lot and novels or whatever stuff, it doesn't matter. But reading is great tool, but this is for enjoying. But there's another important way in my opinion, OK? You gotta read to practice speaking and let me explain this a little bit deeper.

- Andrew: OK, yeah, that could be a little confusing at first. Reading to practice speaking, how does this work?
- Iván: Yeah, yeah, let me explain it.
- Andrew: Sure.
- Iván: You can read out loud, first of all, so you can hear you and then you can practice when written in this other type, pronunciation and linking words. Because this is, you know, from my point of view, it's really important to link the words properly, because you have to learn how to do that and you have to figure out the tricks that you can use and try to write down into the way of linking words, because if you stick linking words with fluency so then you will understand better. So in my case, I thought, OK, this other type of reading, I can read out loud so I can speak by myself. In Spain, for instance, it's quite tough to stumble with other native speakers that you can have a conversation, it's tough. You can do it, but it's once in a while, OK?
- Andrew: Right, not an everyday thing.
- Iván: Exactly. So I thought, OK, I'm going to speak out loud every day by reading and practicing pronunciation and linking. And if you want, I'm gonna tell you also, guys, a few tips that I find super interesting in regard to pronunciation and linking words, OK?
- Andrew: Sure, we'd love to hear them, yeah.
- Iván: OK, let's go.
- Andrew: Yeah.
- Iván: Pronunciation, you know from my perspective, pronunciation, there are few key sounds that you have to master.
- Andrew: OK.
- Iván: First of all is the R.
- Andrew: Yes.
- Iván: The R letter, it's super tough, OK?
- Andrew: It's very different than the Spanish R, right?
- Iván: Yes, totally, because the Spanish R is quite close to the Scottish R.
- Andrew: Oh, OK.

- Iván: Like they say breakfast, breakfast for instance, it's super weird. Spanish R is like that, so for us it's simple to do, you know, to go to the, towards the Spanish R and we have to change that totally. So we have to learn to master this sound R, R, R, like a burr, for instance, beer, sister. So we have to practice words individually and try and **mimic** that sound and master that sound. And then you're, like this one, it's important because your English will sound much better. And this word is super important. Then the other letter that I think is important also is the L sound.
- Andrew: L, yeah.
- Iván: Pencil, pencil. So it's quite similar, the way you build the sound, but in that case, touching the roof of the mouth IL, IL instead of ER, ER, ER but the sound are quite similar.
- Andrew: Yeah, very connected sounds, actually. Very similar.
- Iván: Exactly. I think so. So in that case, this is the other important sound that we have to master. The other sound that is super important also is the T, the T.
- Andrew: T, OK.
- Iván: But in my case, I think it's not exactly the T is important. You can say "too" is simple but especially when linking words that you can let the T flap.
- Andrew: Yeah, the flap there.
- Iván: Exactly this sound.
- Andrew: Yes. Yes, it almost sounds more like a D instead of a T, like a very soft T, yeah.
- Iván: Exactly, like a soft T. But it's pretty curious also because, from your perspective as a teacher, I found many times that you say that, not only you, I mean in general native speakers say that it sounds like a D, but from my perspective as the student, D and T very often are quite similar also, especially when you speak in a fluent way.
- Andrew: Right.
- Iván: With fluency, with natural conversations. So you can say "I don't know", or you can say "I like the city" and "city" and "I don't" sound quite similar.
- Andrew: Sound the same.
- Iván: Exactly.
- Andrew: Right, right.

- Iván: So I would in my case, I would focus on that idea. So keeping that sound for both of them, especially when linking words, so you have a vowel T or D or another vowel so then you can use that to link words using the T flap.
- Andrew: Right, right.
- Iván: So that one is the other letter, and then the last letter that I would notice here is the I vowel.
- Andrew: I, OK.
- Iván: Yeah, why? Because it's not the same as you say, "I like it." That if you say, "I like it." So you should turn a little bit that E sound into I sound, I sound. I like it, I like it.
- Andrew: I like it.
- Iván: Exactly, because, from a perspective as a Spaniard, it's quite simple to say it, drr, brr, it sounds super strong. Super strong. We have to fuzzy the sound, OK? In English, you have to fuzzy a lot of the sounds.
- Andrew: Right, right.
- Iván: So in that case, I would use the I sound instead of the E, for instance, "this table, I like this table" instead of "this table," because then it's important also to make a difference between plural and singular. So this instead of these, so you can use that to make noticeable that difference.
- Andrew: Right, OK.
- Iván: So those are the letters that I would in this case notice. And then in regard to linking, I think it's super, super important to use the T and D as I mentioned before, using this letters T and D to connect words, because they're gonna appear all the time.
- Andrew: All the time, at the end of words. Especially past tense verbs, right? Almost every regular verb that's in the past tense is gonna end with one of those, with a D.
- Iván: Exactly, so then it's super simple to use that trick, the sound to join the words. And then keep going, and the other, in this case, I think it's a good idea also to mention that when you find an N and then a T, both of them together—like for instance, the internet. You can say "the internet" or you can say "the internet" so you drop the T.
- Andrew: Almost always I drop the T in my pronunciation. I always say internet; I never say internet.

- Iván: Exactly.
- Andrew: It's too difficult. Internet, much easier.
- Iván: Much simpler, I do agree. Totally. But there is an important key here because when you say, for instance, to say "I want to," everyone knows it's "I wanna" very often.
- Andrew: Right.
- Iván: You say very often "I wanna." But if you dig a little bit, you will see it's an N and T, so it's "I wanna" instead of "I wanna." So you are dropping the T in there. But you can also use, for instance "I'm listening to you," "I'm listening to you." So very often you say "I'm listening to you," so it's the same trick or "I'm trying to go there," "I'm trying to go there," "I'm trying to study," "I'm trying." So that kind of way of linking the words by using N, T, dropping the T, it's super useful to make your English little bit more fluent. There are many more, but I thought these ones are pretty interesting for the community to pay attention.
- Andrew: Yeah, well, I have a couple of thoughts about what you just said. And the first is that, just a minute ago, you used the word noticing, and I think noticing is so important. And how do you notice these types of elements of connected speech? It's by doing a lot of listening, right? So you mentioned that you did a ton of listening and through doing that listening you can notice and you start to find patterns, right? Oh, native speakers do this here and there and there and there, ah-ha! You can kind of have that breakthrough moment and then apply that to your own speech. So I think that's a really key point is the noticing.
- Iván: Yeah, actually, it's when I find that it's an **ah-ha moment** for me, I love it, totally. I have a very analytic mind because, by experience, I have this kinda syndrome. So for me, I'm just all the time studying and analyzing things. So for me, it's super interesting. But the point is that if you wanna notice that, you gotta pay attention to this sound and then try to write down the rules. So you have to make up rules, it doesn't matter if they are real. You know, very often I find that my tricks are, you know, I make them up.
- Andrew: Right, they have to make sense to you.

- Iván: Exactly, because they are not properly build for my phonetic point of view, for instance. I have no idea about phonetics, so I have to figure out that. I need to figure out how to build, to use my mouth differently. I'm gonna try to use the back of the throat, because I think it's important to pull down one or two tones. When I speak Spanish [*speaking in Spanish*], so it's a little bit different when I speak Spanish, but when I speak English, I know a little then the tone. So I have to use the throat differently, the mouth differently, the tone differently. Even I get my muscles a little bit tired.
- Andrew: A little fatigued.
- Iván: Exactly. So it's super interesting when you find a pattern, so try to figure out the pattern, write down the pattern to have a rule to follow. I don't know, it goes pretty good, it works, I think.
- Andrew: Yeah, I think that's awesome. And the second thing that I wanted to say is that you're absolutely right about connected speech being a more advanced indicator of your English proficiency, right? Because the way that native speakers speak, we speak in just this big stream of speech, right? There's no breaks between words, like, it's not like looking at a novel where you can see a little gap in between each word. Speech is just a flow, it's just coming out and there's no real break in between words, they're all linked together. And so picking up on this and linking your words is a really great way to improve your accent, I think. So for you to pick up on this and develop your own set of guidelines and your own rules, it's really cool to hear about it, actually, and it's really effective. It shows your English is very good. So you're doing something right, I think.
- Iván: Well, I don't know. I'm trying, and I think I make a lot of mistakes, you know, this is normal, I think. I would encourage people to speak, it doesn't matter if they make mistakes, because it's normal. But it's super, super interesting when you can have a conversation with a native speaker and then you can be understood, and the reward is awesome. I would encourage all of them to try, you know, as help.
- Andrew: Yeah. Well, Iván, thank you so much for sharing some of your tips here with the Culips community. I think our listeners will be really encouraged to hear a success story like this because, you know, sometimes it can get a little frustrating just studying **day in, day out** and not feeling like you're making any progress. But I think you're proof that if you stick with it and if you keep your motivation high by studying with materials that you like and enjoy and if you're just patient with yourself, you can get there.

Iván: Yup. My pleasure, Andrew. **It has been a pleasure** and, yeah, I think this is possible, so let's do it. There's an important saying in English that you say, **fake it until you make it**. So this is what I'm trying to do, I'm trying to fake English until I make it.

Andrew: **Fake it until you make it**, yeah. Awesome.

Thank so much Iván, have a great day.

Iván: Thanks to you, Andrew, thanks to you. Bye bye.

Andrew: Thanks. Bye.

So, I hope you enjoyed listening to that interview as much as I did. I really enjoyed speaking with Iván, and thanks again Iván for coming on the show, that was fantastic.

Again, our website is Culips.com. You can listen to all of our past episodes on our website. So definitely check that out. We're also all over the place on social media, YouTube, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, **you name it**, we're there. Just search for the Culips English Podcast and you can find us.

And if you're a fan of Culips and you enjoy studying with us, please follow us and leave us a nice review or rating wherever you listen to your podcasts, wherever you consume Culips, whether it's Apple Podcast, Google Podcast, Spotify, Castbox, YouTube. Wherever you listen to us, please do us a favour by following us on these platforms.

OK, I think that's it for me, for now. We'll be back soon with another episode and I'll talk to you then. Bye.

Detailed Explanations

It's a pleasure Idiom

In this episode, when host Andrew greets special guest Iván, Iván responds by saying “**It's a pleasure.**” This is a common way of accepting a greeting. It has the same meaning as it's nice to be here or thanks for having me. You can also use this expression in the past tense to express gratitude for having been received by saying **it was a pleasure.**

Here are a couple more examples with **it's a pleasure**:

Erik:	Welcome to Sydney! Is this your first time in Australia?
Frank:	Yes, it is.
Erik:	Then welcome to my home country!
Frank:	It's a real pleasure.
Erik:	No, no. The pleasure is all mine.

Sarah:	Thanks for coming by the house and having tea with me.
Wendy:	It was certainly a pleasure.
Sarah:	We should do this again soon.
Wendy:	Next time, I should receive you at my place. How about that?
Sarah:	That would be lovely.

You name it

Idiom, informal

You name it is an expression you can say when you have too many choices to mention. In this episode, Iván speaks of the benefits of learning English. After mentioning a few of them, he ends by saying **you name it**. He means that he could go on, but he'll stop there. It is similar to saying etcetera.

Here are a couple more examples with **you name it**:

Peter:	Excuse me, sir. Would you mind helping me with something for a moment?
Salesman:	Sure! What can I do for you?
Peter:	I'm looking for a toy for my 5-year-old nephew. Do you have anything suitable for a boy of that age?
Salesman:	Of course. Just over here. We have building blocks, large piece puzzles, colouring books, musical instruments, you name it .
Peter:	Oh boy. Can you help me narrow it down?

Minji:	Hey, I haven't seen your friend Sandra lately. Is she all right?
Trish:	Yeah, she's great. You probably haven't seen her around because she's always travelling.
Minji:	Wow, that sounds like fun. Where has she been?
Trish:	She's been everywhere! Africa, Europe, throughout Asia. Even South America, in the jungle or in the big city, you name it . She's comfortable everywhere.

To mimic Verb

To mimic is to copy someone or something. In this episode, Andrew and Iván speak of the importance of **mimicking** someone's speech patterns in their target language. They also use similar verbs, such as to impersonate and to shadow.

Here are a couple more examples with **to mimic**:

Jill:	Has your son given any thought to what he wants to do when he gets older?
Liz:	Actually, he has told us that he wants to be a comedian or an actor.
Jill:	I can see him doing that. Even when he was younger, he could mimic anyone in the room. Does he still do that?
Liz:	For sure. It gets him in trouble sometimes. Anyways, we're enrolling him in a special performing arts school. We hope that will help him further develop his skills.

Carrie:	You have been a pretty successful soccer player. Is there any secret to your success you would like to share with us?
Ernesto:	No secrets. Just hard work and lots of practice.
Carrie:	Of course. Have you modelled your game after any player in particular?
Ernesto:	I've always been a big Messi fan. I tried to mimic his game as best as I could. But that's not easy—Messi is a special player.

Ah-ha moment

Idiom

An **ah-ha moment** is when you suddenly realize or discover something for the first time. It is also called a eureka moment.

Here are a couple more examples with **ah-ha moment**:

Felicity:	How was your math test?
Jordan:	It went well.
Felicity:	Really? That's good. You were so nervous all week.
Jordan:	Yeah. I was nervous because I didn't understand a certain problem. Then I found a similar math problem online, and ah-ha! It all became clear to me.
Felicity:	So you literally had an ah-ha moment ?
Jordan:	I did. It felt great. After that, I could sleep well.

Bernard:	Is your car still making that weird noise?
Reggie:	No, I fixed it.
Bernard:	Oh? What did you do?
Reggie:	Remember when I was spending all my time on the engine?
Bernard:	Yeah.
Reggie:	Well, my father came around and suggested I look at the air filters. After an afternoon of fixing and cleaning those, I had an ah-ha moment . Long story short, I figured it out. Now everything is perfect.

Day in, day out

Idiom

Day in, day out is another way of saying all day, every day. It means you are spending all your time doing or concentrating on something. In this episode, Andrew and Iván talk about immersing oneself in a language to learn it. That means **day in, day out**, you are using that language. The expressions 24/7 (meaning 24 hours a day, 7 days a week) and 365 days a year (meaning every day during a year) are similar to **day in, day out**.

Here are a couple more examples with **day in, day out**:

Shawn:	Wow, how did you get so good at playing the guitar?
Jingjing:	You just need to practice a lot.
Shawn:	I practice all the time, but I'm nowhere as good as you.
Jingjing:	Um, I hate to break it to you, but you only practice a few times a week. I practice day in, day out . When I'm at home, I always have my guitar in my hands.
Shawn:	You're right. I should probably do that, too.

Rudy:	How was your semester in Italy?
Malcolm:	It went well. Lots of fun.
Rudy:	Can you speak any Italian?
Malcolm:	Actually, I'm pretty fluent.
Rudy:	Already? You were only there 4 months!
Malcolm:	I know, but I was taking an intensive program. We were immersed in Italian day in, day out . I almost forgot how to speak English!

Fake it until you make it Idiom

Near the end of this episode, Iván shares his outlook on learning English by saying **fake it until you make it**. This means that you should act like you can do something until you actually can. It's a positive way of looking at your future success.

Here are a couple more examples with **fake it until you make it**:

Jack:	Oh, nice to see you here. I didn't know you can ski.
Fred:	Actually, I can't. Well, not very well.
Jack:	Are you sure it's a good idea for you to be here?
Fred:	Of course! Fake it until you make it . I gotta start somewhere.

Tomassi:	Is your friend Nadia coming to camp with us?
Robert:	She said she wanted to come.
Tomassi:	She doesn't seem like the camping type.
Robert:	Don't be deceived by that. She's up for anything. She's a fake it until you make it kind of person.
Tomassi:	That's great. We should have fun, then.

Quiz

1. Which of the following is NOT a synonym for to mimic?

- a) to impersonate
- b) to copy
- c) to try
- d) to imitate

2. What is an ah-ha moment?

- a) realizing you left your keys in your car
- b) realizing you're not as good at playing soccer as you thought
- c) thinking about the lyrics of a song
- d) thinking about the meaning of life

3. Where ISN'T Iván from?

- a) Barcelona
- b) Eastern Spain
- c) Europe
- d) Valencia

4. When is a good time to say it's a pleasure to someone?

- a) the first thing you say
- b) after leaving
- c) after they say thanks for coming
- d) after they invite you again

5. What does you name it mean?

- a) writing the title of a song
- b) naming your child
- c) telling someone your name
- d) saying there are more examples you could say

Writing and Discussion Questions

1. Have you tried mimicking an English speaker? Do you think it is a good technique to use?
2. Do you think the philosophy of fake it until your make it is beneficial? What are instances in your life when you do that?
3. What are some of the things from this episode that you feel you could use in your own studying of English?
4. What kind of ah-ha moments have changed your way of looking at things?
5. What is something you can do day in, day out?

Quiz Answers

1.c 2.b 3.a 4.c 5.d

Episode credits

Today's guest: Iván G.

Host: Andrew Bates

Music: *Something Elated* by Broke For Free

Episode preparation/research: Andrew Bates

Audio editor: Andrew Bates

Transcriptionist: Heather Bates

Study guide writer: Matty Warnock

English editor: Stephanie MacLean

Business manager: Tsuyoshi Kaneshima

Project manager: Jessica Cox