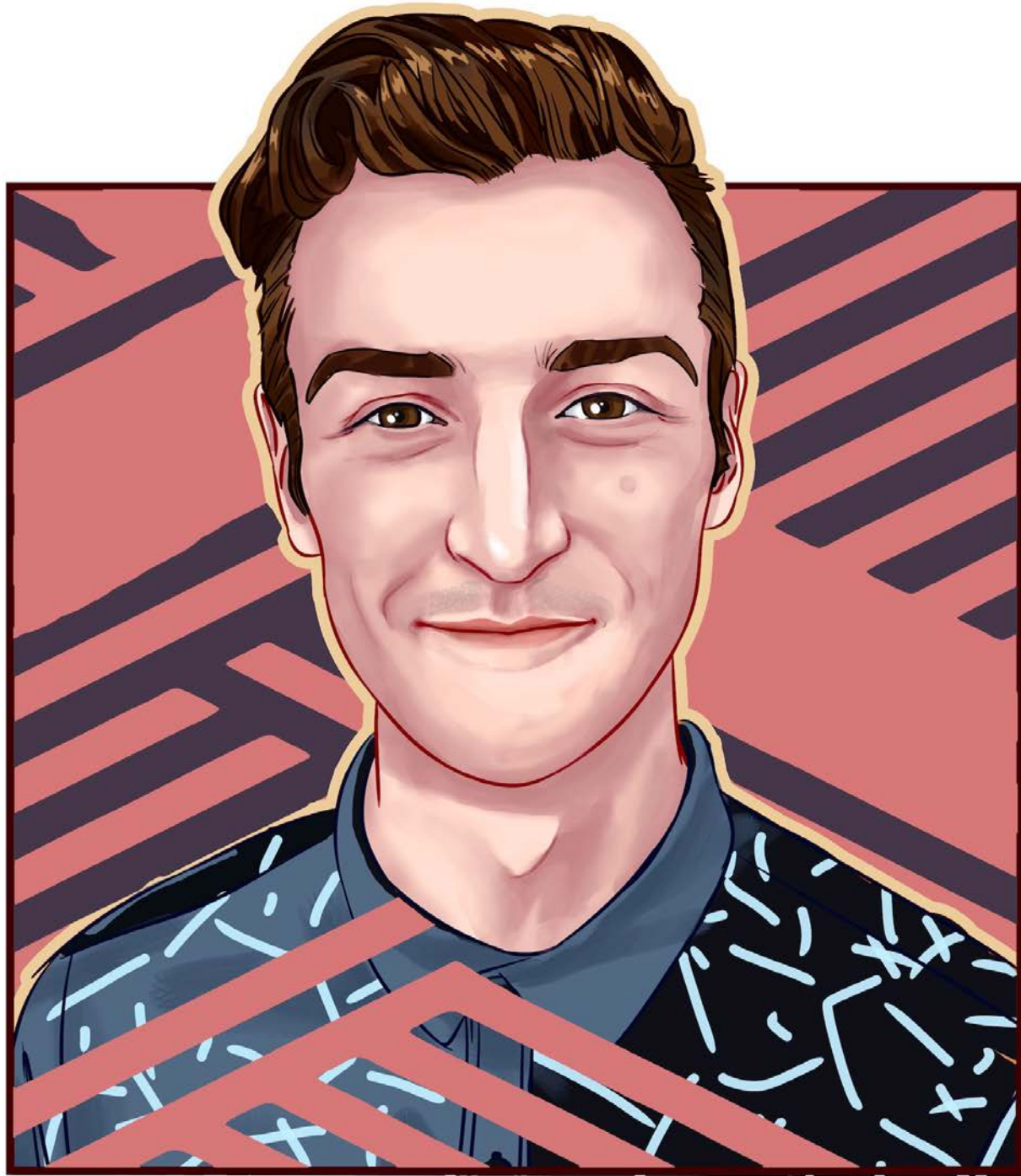


# Jeremy's English Tips

Episode #25:  
How do I know if I'm on the right path?



**Culips English Podcast**

# Transcript

Hello everyone, this is Jeremy and you're listening to Jeremy's English Tips, a series by the Culips English Podcast where I teach you interesting expressions or share language learning tips.

Hi there, language learning friends. Thank you for adding the Culips English Podcast to your language learning routine. In today's episode, I'd like to answer a common question that I get from language learners all over the world. And that question is, am I studying English correctly? How do I know I'm on the right path?

If you have ever wondered this, or asked yourself this question, I would like to say this to you: you're doing just fine. In fact, if you are asking this question, it shows that you are trying your best and that you really want to improve. This means that **your heart is in the right place**, as we say in English. This expression, your heart is in the right place means that your intentions are directed at the right activities or your intentions are good.

Now, there are a number of ways I could answer this question. It really depends. Of course, there are some study activities that are better than others. There are some study activities that might be good for one person, and terrible for another person. So, it really does depend on the person and the situation. So, to help you answer this question for yourself, I recommend listening to Culips. **There are some episodes I did in the series called Jeremy's English Tips that I believe can be quite helpful if you are looking for better study methods.**

Now, another related question I also get is, how do I know I'm on the right path? And the real answer is, **as long as you are making progress, then you are on the right path**. Think of it this way, let's say that you are walking up a mountain, you are hiking up a mountain. On the other side of the mountain, I am also hiking up. Both of us, if we keep going, will eventually reach the top of the mountain. Whose path is better? Well, we can't say. You might take longer to get to the top of the mountain but you might also see more beautiful views and smell more fragrant flowers on your path than I will. In the end, language learning

is really a lifelong task. That means that the learning really never stops. So if you commit to learning this language for the rest of your life, then it really isn't so important when you finish this journey.

In fact, I'll tell you a little secret, there really is no top to this mountain. You just continue climbing higher and higher and higher into the clouds. Of course, from the bottom of the mountain, when you start your journey, it really does seem like there is a top. But in reality, those who get close to that top will tell you, you never really get there.

This might sound discouraging to some people, but I believe it is a wonderful gift. This means that we get to enjoy the language learning journey for our entire lives. I am still learning words in English. I am still learning about the English language and I have had a young man's lifetime speaking, reading and interacting with this language. I have taught this language for almost a decade, and still, there are words that I have never encountered. So, please don't feel discouraged. I hope that you can find enjoyment in the endless journey.

Thanks for listening to this episode of Jeremy's English Tips today. We have a study guide and a transcript available at our website, [Culips.com](https://culips.com). If you have questions or comments, you can contact us via social media or email at [contact@culips.com](mailto:contact@culips.com). Don't forget to leave us a five-star rating on Apple Podcasts and share this podcast with your friends. Thanks for listening this far. Don't worry whether you're on the right path or not. Because in the end, your path is the right path. Just keep going friends. Bye!

# Key points

1. If you are asking the question *am I on the right path?*, then you are most likely doing well.
2. You can listen to other episodes of Jeremy's English Tips to help you find some good study methods.
3. As long as you are making progress, you are on the right path.
4. In the end, language learning is a lifelong task.
5. Enjoy the process and don't worry so much about getting to the destination.

## Writing and Speaking Questions

1. What is meant by "the path" in the title of this episode?
2. What does the expression "your heart is in the right place" mean and is there an equivalent in your native language?
3. What does Jeremy mean by "the mountain" in this episode?
4. Have you spent a lot of time worrying about finishing your English learning journey? Why or why not?
5. Why is language learning an endless journey?

# Study Challenges

1. Write a short story about a hike up a mountain and relate it to language learning.
2. Write a list of ten reasons why language learning is an endless journey.

## Credits

Music: Miei by Broke for Free, Feel Good (Instrumental) by Broke for free

Episode preparation/research: Jeremy Brinkerhoff

Audio editor: Andrew Bates

Study guide writer: Jeremy Brinkerhoff

Business manager: Tsuyoshi Kaneshima