

In this lesson I'm going to show you the different activities that we're going to use to practise chunks in this course. And if you don't know, the word 'chunk' means a (large) part of something, so in this case *a chunk* is a part of a sentence. Okay, let's get started!

In this course you'll be doing a lot of practice together with me. This is step 3 in the Speaking Operating System: **Practise and build**.

So, there are 6 key actions to perform in this step:

1. Repeat
2. Say the opposite
3. Change tense
4. Say something true for you
5. Substitute
6. Synonyms

I'm gonna go through the 6 steps very briefly, so that when I ask you to do it later, you'll do it straight away, without any hesitation.

Okay let's begin.

PRACTICE INSTRUCTIONS

So the first one is:

1. Repeat

Simply mirror the words I say.

For instance:

"Sweltering heat" – now you!

And you'd respond with:

"Sweltering heat".

2. Say the opposite

Express the opposite by making the phrase negative or using an antonym.

For example:

"I like sweltering heat."

You might counter:

"I don't like sweltering heat" or "I prefer freezing cold. / cool breezes"

3. Change tense

Shift the phrase into another tense, but make sure it's logical, okay?

For instance:

"We often experience sweltering heat here."

You can change to:

"We often experienced sweltering heat here last summer." or "We used to experience sweltering heat here, but these days not anymore."

Still with me? Let's continue with the next actions.

4. Say something true for you

When I say "What about you?" you share a phrase that reflects your reality.

Example:

"I enjoy sweltering heat" – what about you?

You might say:

"I also enjoy the sweltering heat." or "Sweltering heat isn't for me."

5. Substitute

Replace a word I mention with another word I provide.

Let's see:

"Sweltering heat is common in Madrid" – swap 'hometown' for 'Madrid'.

Your response should be:

"There's often sweltering heat in my hometown."

6. Synonyms

Here you swap the highlighted word with its synonym.

For instance:

"I love sweltering heat" – use a synonym for 'love'.

Possible answers?

"I'm really partial to sweltering heat" or "I adore sweltering heat."

All right, that wraps up this lesson. Implementing this practice tool can elevate your fluency and make speaking English more intuitive.

Before we conclude, here's a challenge: Pick any English sentence you like and apply all six actions. You can share your results with our community. It's a fun way to practise!

In the next module we're going to be talking about exam preparation strategies.

See you there!