

The level and need analysis - LNA

Where am I now?

It is quite difficult to know our level in English. I have been studying English for a long time and I cannot say that I speak it fluently even though I was in a European English class. To my mind I think that we are not prepared for having a real discussion with a native English person. At secondary school I have only studied written documents and we never spoke together like I did before. In the preparatory classes it was better but we do not have enough time to improve our English.

To summarize I think that I have a good oral and written understanding but I have some problem with native accents. I believe that I can have a conversation but sometimes I have difficulty in finding my words. The real problem is when I have to do an essay as I often use the wrong grammatical tense. In brief I consider that I am not far from the B2 English level.

Where do I want to be?

Nowadays international relations are crucial when we want to be an engineer. On a curriculum vitae it is normal that you say that you are bilingual. English is the international language for technical reports and all forms of communication between scientists. When you apply for a job you must be prepared to speak in English because they will test your level.

The ideal situation is that I speak like a native English person but I have to be realistic. I would prefer to have perfect oral expression with an extensive vocabulary but I cannot forget grammar which is needed in order to produce clear technical reports.

How I am going to get there?

I went twice to England, once with a group and the other time stayed in a host family. I have concluded from my experience that we cannot learn English if we are alone. To reach the level in oral expression that I want I have to go in an English-speaking country for two months. For example I could go in a vocational training in Australia.

I have to improve my English throughout year and not only during the summer. In order to do that I can read an English magazine or watch the English news on CNN. Nevertheless to get an engineer vocabulary I must try to read technical reports and try not to speak English just during the two hours we have each week.