

Listening

Listening to Kiwis. Difficult? Yep.

There's our:

- accent
- speed
- word choice
- NZ context

It's only practice that'll help, and we've got it!

Listen to the mini conversations in each Kiwi Savvy lesson. We'll show you how to get the best listening practice from them.

You'll be a crackerjack at understanding us Kiwis in no time, mate!

Conversation Script



Hey, we're going kayaking down the Whanganui River next month if you're keen.

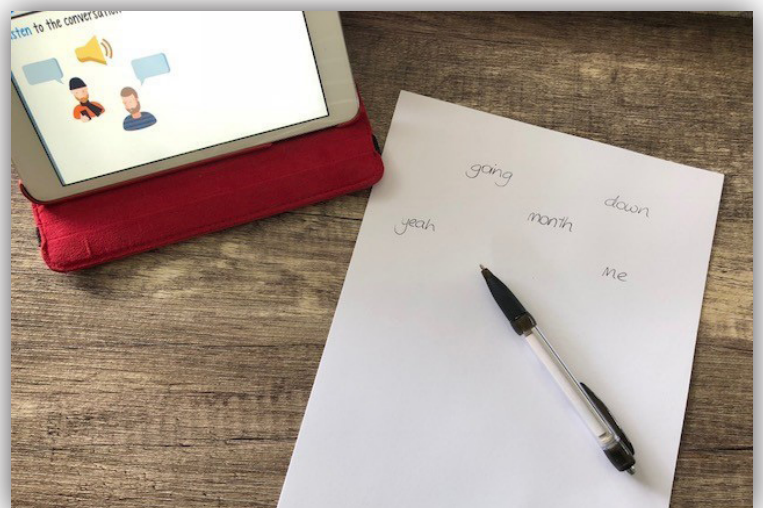


Oh yeah, that'd be a bit of me!

How to do it!

1. Listen to the conversation recording once – but **don't look** at the conversation script!
2. Think about:
 - where the people are
 - what relationship they have
 - what they're talking about
3. Get a pen and paper.
4. Listen to the conversation again. Write down a couple of words you hear.
5. Listen to the conversation again. Write more words you hear.
6. Continue doing this until you think you've written the whole conversation – it doesn't matter how many times you listen.
7. Read and listen to the conversation script to check.
8. Listen again while you read the conversation.

Tip: Remember to practise your pronunciation – this will help your listening too!



Pronunciation

You want New Zealanders to understand you, right? Great pronunciation is the answer!

Learn the pronunciation bits to focus on, then practise, practise, practise!

Understanding pronunciation

We show you the essentials of how to pronounce the expression or language pattern in each Kiwi Savvy lesson:

Word stress

the more strongly-pronounced part of a word

Contractions

that **would**- that'd

Sentence stress

the more strongly-pronounced words in a sentence

Say it like this



... that'd be a bit of me!

Connect these sounds
Emphasise these words

Intonation

the rise and fall of your voice

Individual sounds

especially vowels
- Kiwi vowels are different!

Connected speech

the sounds that we connect

But you can practise your pronunciation further by saying the whole conversation. Copying our pronunciation will make your English sound more natural, and we'll be able to understand you better!

How to do it!

1. Listen to the conversation.
2. Repeat the conversation – one side at a time. You can look at the conversation script while you listen, but make sure you copy the pronunciation you hear. Don't read the script with your own pronunciation.
3. If there's two of you – perfect!



Speaking & Writing

If you find the right situation to use your language out there in NZ, use it!

Speaking is the skill you'll use most, but you'll also need to write occasionally. Make the most of every opportunity with these ideas:

Speaking

Of course, getting out and speaking with Kiwis is the best practice you can get. But here are some other ideas:

- Write your own mini conversation using an expression from the lesson – just change the context. Then practise saying it – it's even better with two!
- Combine other Kiwi Savvy expressions and vocab you've learnt to create a conversation.
- Engage a Kiwi in conversation and throw in one of your new expressions – see if they understand you!
- Have a chat on the phone – find out info on a tourist attraction, or whether a shop sells a certain product, etc.

Conversation Script



Writing

The informal language in Kiwi Savvy lessons means you'd probably practise writing through:

- text messages
- notes
- informal emails

Take these opportunities to practise writing new words and expressions.

You've got time to think about what you're going to say, and you don't have to worry about pronunciation.

Writing is like a practice run before the real thing – speaking!

Hi ya, we're popping out for a bite to eat if you're keen.

Sounds good - I'm starving! 😊

Sweet, meet you downstairs in 5 😊

Vocabulary

Words. Boy, do us Kiwis know how to use them! In our world, we know what they mean – but do you?!

Kiwi Savvy lessons also include words we like to use. Increase your vocab and understand how Kiwis use words. It's all about the context!

How to do it!

You'll see vocab Kiwis like to use in our example conversations in each Kiwi Savvy lesson.

Conversation Script

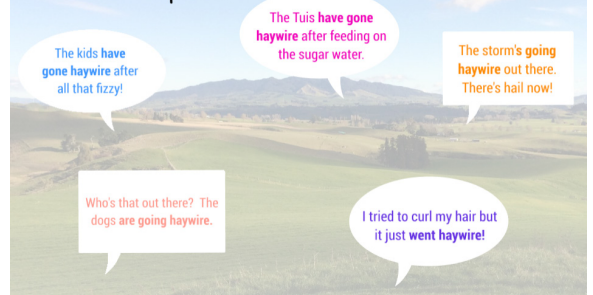


Wow, I need to mow the lawn again!




Yeah, all this rain's made the grass go haywire, eh!

Look at more examples



Check the meaning of new words and expressions at the end of the lesson.

Note this vocabulary

Nouns	Meaning
fizzy	a NZ word for a carbonated sweet drink, e.g. coke, lemonade, etc.
Tui	a native NZ bird 
hail	balls of ice that rain from the sky
Other	
,eh	hasn't it - Kiwis often use eh instead of question tags

But if you want to learn a useful skill, don't check the meaning just yet – guess it!

Guess the meaning of a word from the context

Using the context to guess the meaning of a word is a handy skill. Especially when you're out in the real world and you come across language that you're unsure of, but you need to know.

How to do it!

1. Read the whole conversation – this is the context.
2. Decide if the word is a verb, noun, adjective, adverb, etc. If you're not into grammar, think about it like this:
 - is it an action? – something you **do**
 - is it a thing? – a name, a state, an object
 - does it describe a thing? – a **fat** dog, a **red** ball, a **comfortable** sofa
 - does it describe how or when you do an action? – quietly, lazily, fortnightly
3. Guess the meaning of the word. Use the context to help you (the whole conversation).
4. Check the meaning in the *Note this vocabulary* section at the end of the lesson.

Example

The young boy **scaled** the tree in just under a minute. He could see everyone below him laughing.

scaled

After reading the sentence, we know:

- the boy did an action using the tree – **scaled** must be a verb
- the boy must've been up high because he could see everyone below him

Guess: **scaled** must mean something like climbed

And sure enough, it does!