

# HOW TO USE LEXOBUILD

Hi, I'm Tony Corballis, The Language Coach for Leaders. Before you listen to the audio, please have a quick read on how to get the most out of it.

## Important info!

In English, some groups of words (such as within phrasal verbs, sayings or expressions) just 'go' together. There is no obvious grammatical reason. This is called collocation. In fact, as children, we learn language in 'chunks' rather than single words. Our brains are built on 'lexical' chunking.

As the Language Coach for Leaders, I specialise in top-end language learners and bilinguals or native-speakers wanting to enrich their communication, and so I draw on the lexical approach. It's all about words themselves and the patterns that they 'chunk' themselves in. The download is based on this approach which you can learn more about at [corballis.com](http://corballis.com).

## Good habits – bad habits

Now, have you ever noticed how eloquent speakers say things differently to how you do? Sometimes we follow bad habits: habits learned through second language learning, or from finding that using something that works gets things done, even if it's not expressed well.

Now, these multi-word items make articulate English quite hard to master. There are many fun ways to learn them. Some are conscious (finding them in texts and activities, looking up, noting and recycling) but much is subconscious (seeing them in context without thinking about it). In fact, reading-noting-reviewing is just one conscious way to learn them and make them easier to recall. That's a visual approach.

## Speaking out loud!

Another way (and useful for speaking) is 'drilling' or saying the item aloud a few times to 'see' the 'soundscape'. This encourages your audio recall and engages this part of your memory, enriching your lexical base.

The bonus is that you can also copy the accent and train your voice. You can not only increase your word-base but you can sound more like a native-born speaker too (my accent is an international blend of New Zealand, British, Australian and American English). Focus on where the stress (louder or higher sound) lies. Also try to mimic the speed: the idea is to become as fast and fluid as what you hear.

I'm Tony Corballis and I'm known as the Language Coach for Leaders. You will hear me read the 'coaching session' once only. **However, I give you long pauses between 'chunks' of language. The pauses give you time to copy the sound of the chunk, or of the phrase immediately before the pause.** So, in a nutshell, speak out loud and try to sound as close to my voice as possible.

I hope you have fun! *Tony* 😊