

Headline	Singlish to English - Knowing the difference		
Date	April - June 2003		
Media Title	British Council	Section	
Page No		Size	

Singlish to English – Knowing the Difference



Are these phrases good English?



What is the difference between Singlish and standard forms of English? And why does 'knowing the difference' matter anyway?

Our brand new 5-week *Singlish to English* course answers these questions and helps you on your way to knowing the difference.

Most people assume that good English is good **grammar**, and this is true up to a point. We find that Singaporeans' grammar mistakes are strikingly similar and have selected nine major areas to cover in our *Singlish to English* course.

Surprisingly perhaps, more communication breakdowns arise because of **pronunciation** differences, so the course raises your awareness of these and shows you how to find good models of English in Singapore.

The other important areas we look at are **vocabulary** and choice of **expression**, so that you can always be clear, concise and courteous, as well as correct.

Singlish to English aims to show you how to **help yourself** after the course – where to get the information you need to continue to develop your English.

Singlish to English is **specially designed for Singaporeans**, or those who have lived here long enough to pick up Singlish. You don't have to take a placement test for this course, simply download the application form from our web site at www.britishcouncil.org.sg/english/sge/index.htm and send it to us with your course fees. Courses are available in our centres in Napier Road, Marsiling and Tampines.



The same web page links you to two series of phone-in lessons created in 2001 and 2002 for the 'Speak Good English Movement' (SGEM).

Only B is standard English

If you would like more help with your English, look out for the events, starting on 10 April, in SGEM 2003 organised by the National Library Board.

Do you know someone who needs to know the difference?