

Активный и пассивный английский язык

Welcome back to my blog, my friends! This time I'd like to tell you about two sorts of the English language. It's actually related to any language, I'm not saying only about English. But as I learn English and my blog is about this language, I'm going to talk about English here. So here we go.

The point is that I really believe that there are two variants of English — «active» and «passive». So what are they? I'm going to tell you about them from my point of view. Agree or disagree with me it's up to you, but it's actually not only my opinion. I heard the same from a few experienced teachers. And I'd like to share these thoughts with you.

1. Active English.

What do I mean by saying «active English»? The answer is very simple. When we're learning English and mostly focusing on the speaking practise, then we're learning the active language. Active means English which we're trying to use every day, we speak this language and communicate with people as often as possible. This sort of learning is much more harder than learning of «passive» English. And pretty much here depends on the location where you live.

I mean, those people who just get to English speaking country have to learn «active» English. It's impossible for them not to talk with native speakers every day, because they live with them and they need to communicate with them. And of course the best way to learn active and real English is to move to the UK, Canada, the USA or another English speaking country.

And on the contrary, those people who live for example here in Russia focus more on learning by textbooks, books in English, listening to English speech etc. It's rather complicated for us to talk to people in English and improve our speaking skill every day. We just don't have such an opportunity. But anyway, if you want to learn «active» English and you want to speak this language easily and automatically, you can do it even if you don't live in London! It might take you a little more time, but if you really want, you'll make it!

I live in Russia, I've never lived in any English speaking country for awhile and anyway I can speak English pretty well. I'm not an example, there are thousands of people like me. I'd just like to say that if you want to speak English, you must learn real and active language. Use real English material, talk to people in English more often, listen to English speech! Improve four core skills: speaking, listening, reading and writing! This is the key to fluent English.

So if you're good in the conversation, you can express your thoughts and easily talk to people in English, you're the «active» learner. You might be bad in grammar and not so good in writing, but if you need to speak English you won't have problems.

2. Passive English.

And what if we don't want to be able to speak English fluently, but we just want to be great in reading, writing and to know grammar very well? So in this case we can learn «passive» English. There are many people who can read, write and understand English, but they can't speak. And it's not so bad, it's ok. All people are different. Some of us want to speak English without any problems, and some of people want to read English books and just chat with friends in English.

As a rule, vocabulary of «passive» learners are more wide. They read a lot, and reading improves vocabulary very well. Also such people know grammar very well and they're better in writing.

Learning of «passive» English is easier than learning of «active» one. You don't have to try to talk to people and improve your speaking skill constantly. Instead, you pay much more attention to reading and learning grammar. And it's not so difficult to find such a learning material wherever you live. We live in the 21st century, and the Internet is our great helper. And it's just stupid not to use it nowadays.

What English should we learn?

I don't know like you, but I prefer to combine «active» and «passive» learning. It's rather complicated for me to talk to people in English more than 2-3 times a week. I work a full-time job, so I just chat with them more often. I'm fond of reading English books and listening to podcasts in English. And I do it pretty often.

So I'd say that it's very important to improve all main skills. I'm always trying to read books and listen to English speech, but I never forget about speaking practise and try to keep it up as often as I can. And I'm glad that I can speak English quite easily!

That's all I wanted to share with you, guys! Keep learning English and take care!