

Screen English Journal Prompts List

In your **Screen English Journal**, you will write about (and reflect on) your journey in our class using screen media in English to study, maintain, or improve your English language skills. You must post once per week. You should write a little about the week's experiences. You should also write about a "bigger" topic each week. For this bigger topic, use any of the following prompts. Please don't use any prompt more than once.

1. Reflect on your experience using screen media to learn English. What have been your biggest challenges so far? What strategies have you used to overcome these challenges?
2. Choose a TV show or movie in English that you've watched recently. What did you learn from it in terms of the English language or cultural concepts from English-speaking cultures? How has it helped you improve your language skills?
3. Write about a time when you have used some English language screen media—specifically some kind of passive entertainment—to practice your English listening skills. How did it go? Did you find it helpful? Why or why not?
4. Consider how you can use social media to improve your English skills. What are some ways you can connect with other English learners or native English speakers online? What types of content can you share or create to practice your language skills?
5. Describe a time when you used subtitles to improve your English listening skills. How did it help you? What did you learn?
6. Write about a piece of news or current event that you read about, or saw a video broadcast about, in English. How well did you understand the news piece? What new vocabulary, grammar, or cultural concepts did you learn from it?
7. Consider using video chat to practice your English speaking skills with a fellow EFL student. (i.e. another student who is studying English as a foreign language.) What are some tips or strategies you can use to have a successful conversation?
8. Choose a podcast or audio program in English that you've listened to recently. What did you learn from it? How has it helped you improve your language skills?
9. Try watching a piece of English-language media with the subtitles turned off, and relying only on your listening skills and intuition to understand the contents. How did it go? What did you learn?

10. Watch a documentary in English on a topic that you already understand well. Afterward, reflect on what you learned in the documentary, and how it might have been different from watching a documentary on a topic you don't know well. Also, write a little about the documentary itself.
11. Choose a TED talk or other educational video in English that you've watched recently. What did you learn from it? How has it helped you improve your language skills?
12. Try playing a computer or console game with the language set to English. Reflect on the experience, and also reflect on the experiences you had interacting with other players in English.
13. Explore the work of one Youtuber whose postings appeal to you. After consuming at least a dozen of their past videos, reflect on what you could learn or what benefit you could get from subscribing to their channel and watching their regular video postings over a long period of time.
14. Write about a time when you used a translation app or website to help you understand English text. How did it help you? What did you learn? How reliable do you find such apps and websites?
15. Choose a random science video on YouTube in English and watch it. What did you learn from it? How did the video's creator make the ideas accessible to you beyond simply speaking about them? Did the visual content of the video help you overcome any language barrier difficulties?
16. Watch a film in a foreign language that you cannot speak or understand. Watch the movie with no subtitles on. How much do you think you understood? What cues did you rely on to understand the narrative? How many of these cues do you rely on when interacting with someone in person in English, or when watching English-language screen media?
17. Try recording and editing a video of your own in the style of a Youtuber you admire. (You don't need to *post* the video on Youtube, nor do you need amazing, professional quality editing: this exercise is mostly about the effort of making a video in English in someone else's specific style.) Afterward, reflect on the experience and what you learned from it. Share the video in your post.
18. Collect some of your photos and create a "photo" essay, and post it to the Screen English journal. Write no more than 200 words, but include at least 10 photos that express your ideas in a clear and communicative way.
19. Write about a time when you used social media to connect with native English learners. How did it go? What did you learn from your interactions?
20. Have a "conversation" with Chat-GPT or another AI chatbot. What was it like? How did it feel to "talk" with a machine? Do you think it is a good way to practice using English?