

# Blending listening with extensive reading

## Recipe for a successful program



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# Blending listening with extensive reading

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## Phase 1

**Extensive Reading**

**Book Club Café**

## Phase 2

**Extensive Listening**

**Book Club Café**

**Three-part model**

- **Sustainability**
- **Transferability**
- **Motivation**

# Book Club Café

## Overview

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### What is it?

- Extensive reading/listening project
- In-class session / relaxed café-like atmosphere
- Students share information
- Complete package
- >2 years at Macquarie University English Language Centre, Sydney, AUS
- 2 awards from English Australia
- Data shows that it works
- Easily transferred

# Book Club Café

## Phase 1: Extensive Reading

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### Ingredients for Reading

**Voluntary  
Reading**  
(outside class)

**Learner  
autonomy**

**Follow-up  
activities**  
(in class)

**Online  
reading  
resources**

**Relaxed/fun  
atmosphere**  
(biscuits, music)

# Book Club Café

## Phase 1: Extensive Reading

### Week 1

#### Set-up

##### Introduce:

- Book Club Café
- Websites for reading
- Reading logs
- Importance of reading



### Week 1-5

#### Reading

##### Students

- Read outside class time
- Choose their own texts
- Record information to share



### Week 2-5

#### Book Club Café (1hr/wk class time)

##### Students

- Share information (groups of 3-4)
- Enjoy a relaxed and fun atmosphere
- See immediate benefits of reading



## Phase 2: Introducing Listening

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### What are the challenges our students face when listening in English?

- Speed (too fast)
- Processing in real time
- Connected speech
- Accents
- Lack of specific vocabulary
- No visual clues

## Phase 2: Why blend listening with reading?

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	<u>Intensive Listening (IL)</u>	<u>Extensive Listening (EL)</u>
<b>Overall aim</b>	Accuracy	Fluency
<b>Specific purpose</b>	Answer question	Information/Enjoyment
<b>Focus</b>	Words/Pronunciation	Meaning
<b>Materials</b>	Teacher chooses	Student chooses
<b>Amount</b>	Not much	A lot
<b>Speed</b>	May be uncomfortable	Should be comfortable

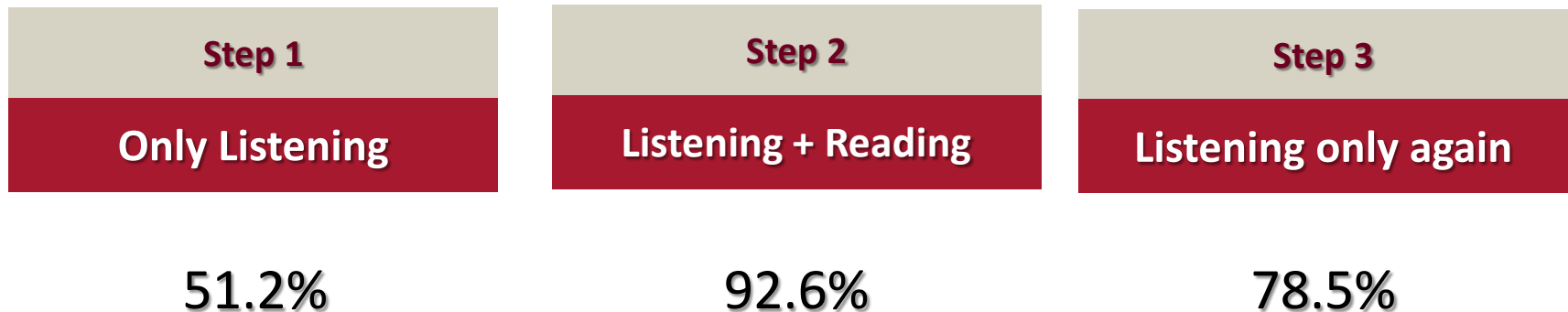
*(Frost, 2015)*

# Book Club Café

## Phase 2: Extensive Listening

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### Activity 1:



- Level of improvement (self-perceived): **27.3%**



## Phase 2: Extensive Listening

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### Activity 2:

### Sugar in hot drinks - level 2



23-02-2016 15:00

Level 1

Level 2

Level 3

**Analysis** showed how much sugar is in hot drinks. An example is that a can of coke has an average of 9 teaspoons of sugar, but that's nothing compared to Caffe Nero's Latte with 13 teaspoons of sugar. A Costa Chai Latte has 20 teaspoons of sugar, and the worst **offender** is a Starbucks's hot **mulled** fruit drink with 25

teaspoons of sugar. That is three times more sugar than you should have in one day!

Most sugar is in mochas and lattes. Costa and Starbucks say that they want to reduce the sugar in these drinks, but for now, it may be better for you to choose drinks with less sugar.

**Source:** [www.newsinlevels.com](http://www.newsinlevels.com)

# Book Club Café

## Outcomes

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### Comments from students

Allows us to reading regularly

I can choose the texts myself

It helped me develop my vocabulary and grammar.

Listening is very difficult for me. With these activities I can practice my listening alone more.

I liked the chatting we have on Friday afternoons because it's very relaxing and it's genuine conversation.

I love sharing what I listened with my classmates in a relaxing atmosphere with music and food and coffee.

It can help me find the habit of reading.

I really enjoy sharing what books I read, especially when the books are something that I really love or have passion for.

# Book Club Café

## Three-part model

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### Sustainability

- Non-assessed
- Flexible to use with different teachers over time (i.e. casuals, relief, practicum)
- Variety of follow-up ‘student-centred’ activities

**Spelling  
competitions**

**Class  
glossary**

**Role play**

**Summarising**

**Guessing from  
the Title**

**Critical thinking**

## Three-part model

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### Sustainability

- Wide range of online resources:
  - ER Central
  - ESL Fast
  - News in Levels
  - ESL Bits
  - The Conversation
  - Project Gutenberg
  - British Council Learn English Magazine
  - BBC Learning English (6-minute English)
  - CNN Student News
  - ELLLO (English Listening Lesson Library Online)
  - Behind the News (ABC)
  - Listen a minute

# Book Club Café

## Three-part model

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### Transferability

Simple to  
implement

Easy to explain

Low cost

Adaptable

### Motivation

Learner  
autonomy

Learning as a  
social experience

Genuine  
interaction

Peer pressure



“ESL Book Club Café”

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**Thank you**