

The resources below offer opportunities for strengthening English listening and conversation skills. The audio and video recordings provided by the virtual resources are often accompanied by transcripts.

Global Conversations

Members of the Duke community are welcome to participate in our weekly English conversation gatherings during fall and spring semester. Typical topics include current events and intercultural norms. For details, contact Rene Caputo, r.caputo@duke.edu.

National Public Radio (NPR)

NPR's **All Things Considered** program provides audio recordings of news stories. Click on the title of a story, then on the play button within the blue rectangle. Stories that are at least several days old typically offer a transcript. To access that, click on the lines symbol on the far right of the blue rectangle or simply scroll below that. <https://www.npr.org/programs/all-things-considered/>

Ted Talks

TED Talk videos cover a variety of topics and are usually accompanied by transcripts. Choose a topic from the top of the page or scroll down for the newest videos, then click on your chosen video. The transcript link is below the bottom right corner of the screen. <https://www.ted.com/talks>

Academic Earth

The Academic Earth website shares videos of college lectures. Choose a topic, then click on the image of a playlist or on View Playlist. Click on a lecture title or the screen image. Click on CC for captions if they do not appear. <https://academicearth.org/playlists/>

The British Council

The British Council website offers listening, speaking, reading, and writing modules. Transcripts are provided for the audio resources. Module links appear on the upper right of the linked webpage. <https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/skills/listening/c1-listening>

Connected Speech and Thought Groups

U.S. speakers often connect words when speaking, reducing the sounds heard. Here are helpful resources on [connected](#) speech, [stressed](#) and [reduced](#) words, and [thought](#) groups.