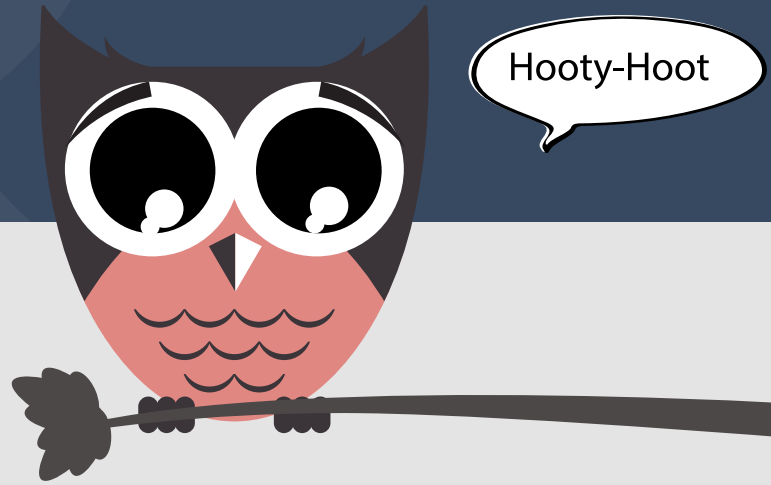


What Do You Do When When You're an ESL Business Professional Whose Communications Are Misunderstood?



You study.

True, you may have extensive knowledge and know-how in business. But, if your English language skills are holding you back you need to focus on three key areas:

- 1. Grammar:** Study the basics of English language sentence structure. There are many online resources — uOttawa's [Internet Resources for ESL Students](#) is a good starting point. (And one of my own specialties is coaching ESL business professionals.)
- 2. Vocabulary:** Read English and listen to English language newscasts and podcasts. List unfamiliar words and look them up. Writing down definitions may help you to remember those words.
- 3. Speaking:** Take every opportunity to engage in English language conversations. Let colleagues and friends whose first language is English know you'd appreciate their help. It may feel uncomfortable, but it's better to be corrected than misunderstood.