



30-DAY ENGLISH SPEAKING CHALLENGE



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WANT TO TURN YOUR LANGUAGE LEARNERS INTO LANGUAGE USERS?

Give your students 30 unique daily challenges to better develop their speaking abilities. Keep track of their progress. Respond to submissions with text, audio, or video feedback.

WHY A 30-DAY CHALLENGE?

There are lots of reasons to give your students a 30-day challenge, but among the most persuasive are:

- ♦ developing good habits,
- ♦ improving skills,
- ♦ gaining a sense of accomplishment.

With difficult endeavors, such as learning a language, students routinely suffer from a lack of motivation. This often happens because the task seems too big, too daunting, and the progress made can be difficult to notice.

One of the objectives of a 30-day challenge is to encourage students to work routinely at a specific goal for long enough to be able to notice an improvement. This last part is key. It's essential that students finish the challenge with a sense that they've gotten better through their efforts.

In most cases a 30-day challenge is self-directed, but that doesn't mean there's not a role for the teacher. In addition to keeping the students accountable by checking their progress, it's important to offer words of encouragement and praise along the way.

BEST PRACTICES FOR RUNNING THE 30-DAY ENGLISH SPEAKING CHALLENGE


- ♦ **Have clear start and finish dates.** The challenge can run a few extra days, but no more than that.
- ♦ **Do the first challenge together.** This is the best way to trouble-shoot any problems the students may encounter.
- ♦ **Respond to student submissions promptly.** It may be challenging, but the students will get so much more out of the experience if they have regular feedback.
- ♦ **Respond to meaning, not to form.** Avoid making too many corrections to the students' speaking. Respond to what they've said, not how they've said it.
- ♦ **Recognize and celebrate success.** Give a certificate or some kind of reward to those who make it to the end.

HOW TO GET STARTED

The following instructions assume that you have already registered for a ZenGengo teacher account. If you have not, please do so now by visiting www.zengengo.com/sign-up.

If you already have an account, the first step in getting started is to import the 30-day English Speaking Challenge course. You can do this by clicking the **Import Course** button located at the top of the page.

A rectangular button with a blue border and a blue icon of a document with a plus sign, followed by the text "Import Course".

If you are logged in to your ZenGengo account but cannot see the **Import Course** button, click the **Home icon**  in the top menu bar and it should appear.

Next, enter the course code (**BVKXA**) into the popup.

Once the course has been imported, you can go ahead and configure the submission settings. These settings govern how the challenges will be submitted by the learners. To get started, click the **Submission Settings** ① button near the top of the teacher dashboard. This will open the settings panel ④, where you will see three main options available for collecting submissions:

- ♦ **Collect student details on submission** (students manually enter their information when they submit)
- ♦ **Specify a list of students in advance** (students choose their name from a list uploaded by the teacher)
- ♦ **Require login with Google or Microsoft** (students will authenticate using their Google or Microsoft account)

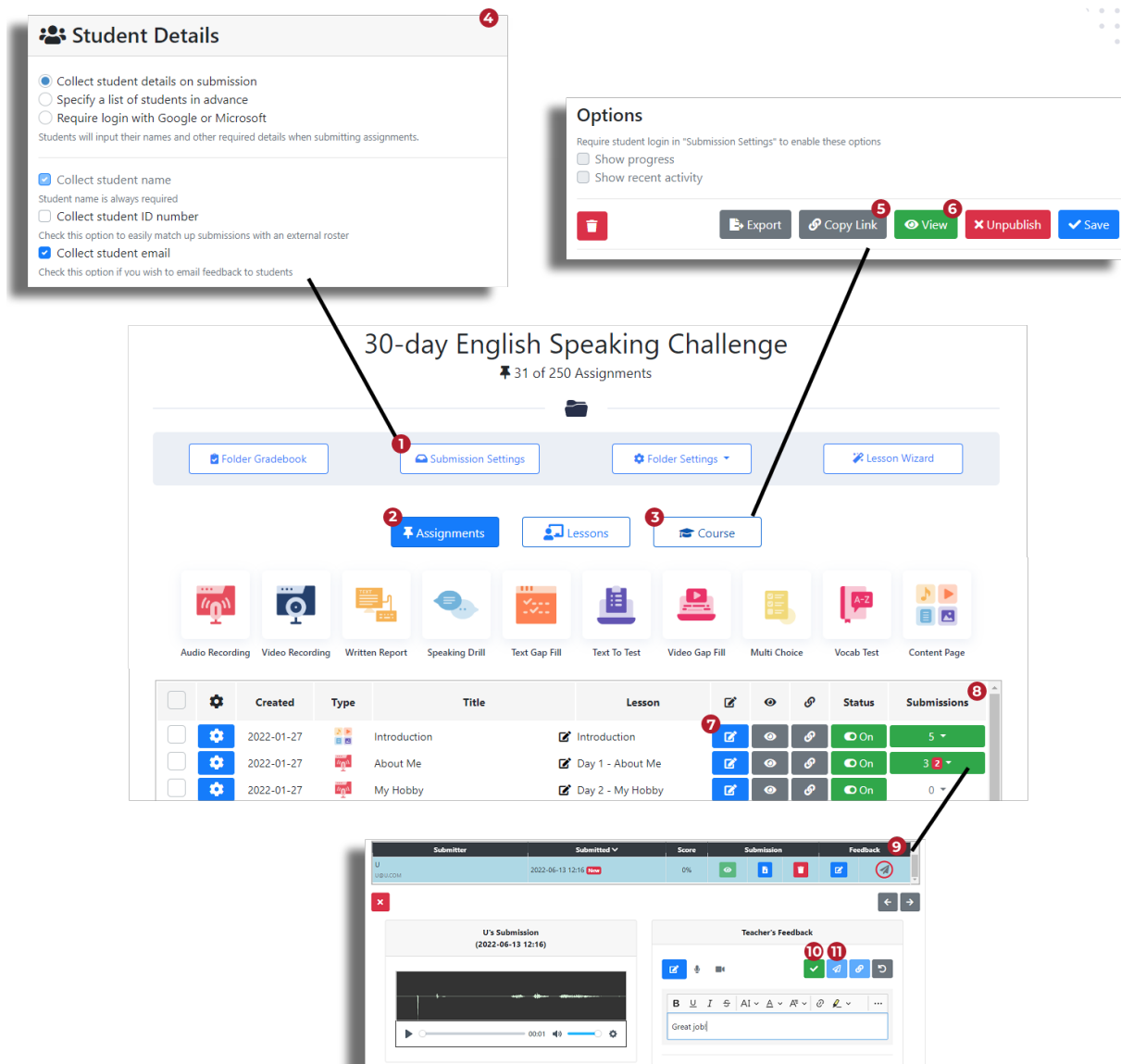
Any of these options will work for administering the 30-day English Speaking Challenge, but remember that if you want to provide feedback (recommended) you will need to have the students' email addresses. For **login with Google or Microsoft**, these are collected automatically. For the other two options, you must specify that you want email addresses.

Note:

- ♦ The default submission setting is **Collect student details on submission** (name and email).
- ♦ Requiring students to **login with Google or Microsoft** provides a more-reliable record of submissions and enables students to track their progress through the challenges. However, it requires that they first register on ZenGengo. [Step-by-step instructions for student registration and enabling progress tracking can be found here.](#)

After configuring the Submission Settings, you are ready to share the course link with your students. To find the link, click the **Course** ③ button on the teacher dashboard and scroll to the bottom of the page. There you will find a row of buttons including one that says **Copy Link** ⑤.

If you wish to preview what the course looks like for students, click the **View** ⑥ button.



EDITING THE CHALLENGES

After you have imported the course into your account, you'll be able to change the individual challenges in any way you see fit. To do this, select the Assignments ② tab on the teacher dashboard, then click the edit icon ⑦ next to the assignment. This will open the editing panel where you can change the title, image, prompt, recording time, and other settings. Be sure to scroll all the way to the bottom to save your changes before closing the panel.

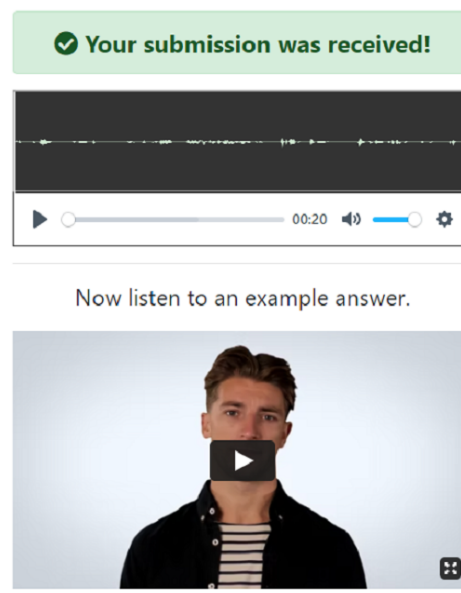
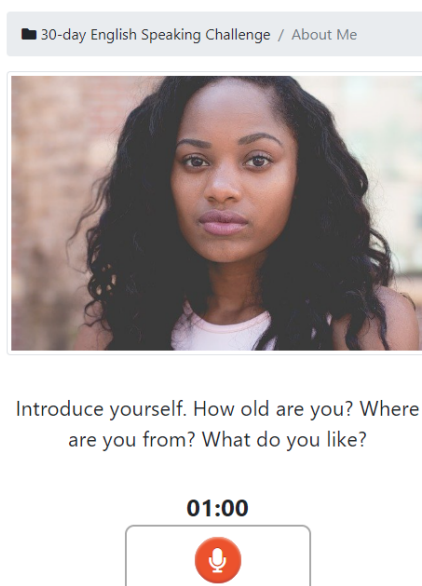
GIVING FEEDBACK

Once your students start submitting their responses to the challenges, you'll be able to provide them with personalized feedback. Locate the Submissions ⑧ column in the Assignments area of the teacher dashboard. Green numbers represent the total submissions for the assignments. Red numbers are the submissions received since you last checked in.

To view submissions, click the down arrow and choose the display method (list or gallery). Click one of the blue icons in the Feedback ⑨ column. This will display the student submission alongside the feedback area. It's possible to provide your feedback as either text, audio, or video (recommended). After you've finished giving feedback, click the green check ⑩ to save. Note: If you have the students' email addresses, you'll be given the option to send ⑪ your feedback directly to their inboxes. How great is that!

THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE

For students, doing the 30-day English Speaking Challenge couldn't be easier. All they need to do is visit the course page and click on the day's challenge. Each challenge contains an image, a speaking prompt, and a recorder. To start recording, students simply click the microphone icon. Clicking it again will stop recording. Students can listen to their responses and decide if they'd like to submit or re-record. Once they've submitted, they'll be given the chance to watch a video of an example response.



PARTING WORDS...

We really hope that you take advantage of ZenGengo's 30-day English Speaking Challenge. Not only is it a great way to help your students improve their speaking skills, it's also a fantastic way to get to know more about your learners. If you encounter any troubles, or if you have comments or questions, don't hesitate to reach out to us at support@zengengo.zendesk.com. Good luck!



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