Hello, everybody. You’re listening to *Let’s Master English* and my name is **Coach Shane**. This is our first Podcast of *Let’s Master English*. And it’s also my first Podcast ever in the world. So I am a little bit nervous. Let me tell you about *Let’s Master English*. This Podcast is broken into 3 parts.

The first part will be news. I’ll give you a headline or an interesting story, something that’s not too serious, and you’re going to learn some vocabulary, some pronunciation. And hopefully, it improves your listening skills;

The next section will be Q & A – questions and answers. In this section, I’ll take your questions and I’ve already have a lot of them. And I do my best to answer them;

And the final section will be English tips, advice on how you can study English, according to the title of the Podcast, I’ll guess that your goal is to master English.

So *Let’s Master English*. Oh, and there will be one bonus section, a lot of people have told me that they like the Wisconsin or the country Shane’s speaking style, so country Shane will join in the middle to educate us to give you an interesting fact. And you can share that fact with your friends. I believe country Shane’s is getting his fact from the Factual Cat, you can follow the Factual Cat on twitter at Factual Cat.

Now, in the future, I should add, I hope to add interviews what I want to do is interview other famous English teachers, especially all they are on YouTube and maybe I’ll interview some of you, too. So that’s what *Let’s Master English* is going to be about. I would love to hear from you. If you have a question or you have a comment, please feel free to send me an email. The email address is podcast@letsmasterenglish.com. So are you ready? Let’s go for it.

*A South African chef is being booted out of New Zealand because he’s too fat. The 130 kilograms corpulent cook has been told his health is at the risk and can therefore no longer be allowed a work visa. With nearly 30% of the Kiwis overweight, the last thing Christchurch wants to deal with is overly fleshy foreigners.*

So how was it? Pretty easy? No. I know. It’s quiet difficult. I read it fast, there are some new words for you. So this time why don’t I read it a little bit more slowly, actually easier for you. Let’s try it.

(Reads the text again)

That would be easier? I hope so. But there are some words that we need to discuss. So let’s go back to the first sentence – “*A South African chef*”. Okay, so we know the country - South Africa and from that country there is a chef. C-H-E-F, a chef is a cook, C-O-O-K.

Now, My Mom is cook. Even I, I’m a cook, maybe you, you’re cook, but are we chefs? So we have to distinguish when we talk about the profession. Chefs are professional cooks. Now sometimes, we called a person at the restaurant who cooks meals a cook, and not a chef. So when we say chef was actually referring to somebody with very specific training. They went to school to learn culinary arts. That is the arts of cooking. So if you go to your high school cafeteria or to Macdonald’s, we don’t call those people chefs, we call them cooks. My mother, she’s a great cook, sometimes she cooks like a chef, but I don’t think she’s had a special training. Me, I’m just a regular cook. So this person is chef that means he is professional.

“A South African chef is being booted out of New Zealand because he’s too fat.” So booted out of New Zealand, New Zealand, once again, is a country.
“Boot out”, this is a phrasal verb – “to boot out”. It’s the same as “to kick out”. Now thinking about “boot, B-O-O-T”, it’s a type of footwear, like a cowboy boot or an army boot or a work boot. So boots are big and heavy.

“Booted out, kicked out” all makes perfectly sense. So this is a new phrasal verb for many of you – “to boot somebody out”. Have you even been booted out of some place? One time in high school, I was booted out of History class. Why? Because I caused the problems. Can you think of an example? When you were booted out? So once again, this is terrible because “A South African chef is being booted out of New Zealand because he’s too fat.”

“The 130 kilograms corpulent cook”. Okay, 130 kilograms, yes, that’s very big.

“Corpulent” – C-O-R-P-U-L-E-N-T. One more time, C-O-R-P-U-L-E-N-T. Corpulent means fat. It’s synonym for the word fat. It means very big, very large, roly-poly, tubby.

“The 130 kilograms corpulent cook”, so here, we have an interesting speech patent, we have kilometers corpulent cook. We have “k k k” this called alliteration. And in many news' stories, the writers like to create alliteration. Because it sounds interesting and it’s actually easier to remember and to understand.

“The 130 kilograms corpulent cook has been told his health is at the risk”. Oh, yes, if you’re overweight, if you’re obese. Then yes, your health is at risk. You might get a disease, like diabetes, you might have heart problems. So this is very serious of being overweight.

So “The 130 kilograms corpulent cook has been told his health is at the risk and can therefore no longer be allowed a work visa.” Okay, so for several years, he has a work visa and he has been a chef in New Zealand, but this year when he went to renew his visa, they said "No. We’re sorry you are too fat". Now actually, they didn’t tell him he was too fat, the word “fat” is a rude word. I’m sure they said you’re overweight or perhaps they said you’re obese. So is that the good reason to not give somebody a work visa? Well. It might be, because if he’s working in the country and he develops a disease like diabetes, then he needs help and he needs insurance, and I believe in New Zealand, the government helps pay the medical bills, so that means the government must be paid a foreigner’s medical bills. The government in New Zealand does not want to do that.

So let’s look at the next sentence. “With nearly 30% of the Kiwis overweight”. So nearly 30% of the Kiwis are overweight. But I didn’t say are overweight, I started it with, “With nearly 30% of the Kiwis overweight”. What is Kiwis? K-i-w-i-s, plural, capital K is a big letter K. Kiwis is a nickname for New Zealanders. People from New Zealand are sometimes called Kiwis.

“With nearly 30% of the Kiwis are overweight”. Oh, my goodness, this is a very bad situation for the country. “With nearly 30% of the Kiwis overweight, the last thing Christchurch wants to deal with is overly fleshy foreigners”. Christchurch, what is that? That’s the capital of New Zealand, so when we say Christchurch, we were referring to the capital, the government. If we talk about the United States, we could say Washington or Washington D.C; If we talk about Russia, we could say Moscow. So when we say Moscow doesn’t want to talk to Washington that refers to the government.

And in this case, “With nearly 30% of the Kiwis overweight, the last thing Christchurch wants to deal with”. The last thing, the New Zealand government wants to handle, wants to take care of is overly fleshy foreigners. Once again, we have alliteration - overly fleshy foreigners. Overly, O-V-E-R-L-Y; fleshy, F-L-E-S-H-Y; foreigners. So we have V.F.F So overly fleshy foreigners is no problem. People are from the other countries.

“Overly fleshy” means too much. Flesh, flesh is another word for skin. Too much flesh, too much skin means too fat, overweight, obese, roly-poly, pudgy, corpulent. It’s the same idea as fat - Fat foreigners. Do you understand this situation? So once again, this is actually a serious news’ story.
This man and his wife have been lived in New Zealand for several years, and what is really interesting when he first came to New Zealand, he weighed 160 kilograms.

So he’s actually lost the weight, and now the government is telling him you can not stay. What do you think? Is that fair or unfair? I don’t know. It is unhealthy. However, he has been losing weight, in fact, he weighs now less than when he first came to the country. So shouldn’t the country take that into consideration? Hum, well, the wife and the husband are, of course, arguing this to the New Zealand government. So I don’t know what will happen, but I do hope they get the chance to stay. There are must be a reason of his wife and he left South Africa to move to New Zealand, there are must be a very good reason.

So good luck to him. And especially I hope that he’s able to lose more weight. This is the first time, I’ve ever heard of somebody’s visa being turned down because of being overweight. So if you’re thinking about immigrating to another country, you might want to get yourself in good physical shape. Now I’m going to read this story two more times. The first time will be a little bit slow and I hope that you understand perfectly. The second time is going to be really fast. Are you ready?

(Reads the text again)

Okay, it’s the time for our Q&A section. And today we have a question from Michael, Michael is from Moscow, he wants to know everything there is to know about subways. And that’s a terrible question, Michael, How am I supposed to answer this question. Well, I decided I’ll talk about vocabulary.

Now actually, I haven’t been a subway in America. And that was in San Francisco. And San Francisco subway system is called BART, B-A-R-T, and that stands for Bay Area Rapid Transport, Transport or transportation. I’m not sure. Anyway, BART.

Now I do live in Soul, South Korea. Well, near Soul, And In Korea, some of subway lines are called SMART- Soul Metropolitan Area Rapid Transport. So each city, we have the different name for their subway’s systems. London has a different name; New York has a different name; Chicago has a different name, so depending on the city you go to, some of the vocabulary might be a little bit different.

So make sure you do some good research. Of course, when you go to the subway station, you need have a ticket. And in San Francisco, they have the BART card, that card, that looks like a credit card. But in the card you have money, you can charge the card by putting money into the card - 10 dollars, 20 dollars. And every time you want to use the subway, and even the buses, you swipe your card over the reader.

So when you enter the subway station, there is a gate, and the gate is usually called a turn-stile and on the top of the turn-stile, there is the area where you set your card and you just put there for seconds, and take it away. And subway fee is automatically deducted from your card. If you don’t have enough money, then you need to go to a machine, looks like a vending machine, and it will charge your card, just like charging the battery on your phone. So you put your card into the machine, and then you add 10 dollars or 20 dollars, and your card is good to go.

And every city, the name of the card is different. I think in London, it’s called an Orchestral (Oyster?) card. Why orchestra (oyster)? I don’t know. Also in London, when they talk about the subway, they have 2 words - underground and tube. So the tube is actually the subway.

In America, we just say subway. We get on the subway, and we get off the subway, sometimes we need to transfer trains or transfer the subway. So we start on one train, and then we transfer to another train. Transfers’ station can be very confusing. In New York City, several different trains will go to the same station, to the same track, so you really have to pay attention to the front of the train where they have the final destination printed.
In some cities, the trains or subways are named by colors: the blue line; the green line; the orange line... In some cities, they are named by the final destination, which can be a location, and can be a street name. For example in New York City, the Lexington line. I highly recommend that you go to the city’s subway site online, take the best information. But that’s not that complicated. It’s actually very easy and I hope I’ve answered some of your questions.

How are you doing? Everybody. **This is country Shane’s and I’m here to bring you to a fact.** A strawberry is not actually berry, but a banana is. This’ been country Shane bringing you to the Facts.

Okay, it’s time for today’s **English tip.** And come on, this is podcast. And this is all about listening. So one really important thing, if you want to master English is you have to use English everyday. Now I know sometimes it’s very difficult to speak English. Maybe there are no foreigners around you; maybe your family doesn’t want to speak English with you; maybe you’re all alone. Well, even if you’re alone, I want you to repeat after me, but minimally, at the minimum, you have to listen everyday.

That’s why I make this Podcast. This is one tool you can use to listen to English. Now you can sit on your desk and listen. But the nice thing about the Podcast is you can wash dishes and listen; you can be driving and listen; you can be exercising; you can be doing anything and listen. Even at the office, turn the volume down below and listen.

Podcasts are the great tool to keep you in practice. Now only by listening, you’ll never master English, but by improving your listening skills, you will improve your confidence, and it will have the effect on your pronunciation. So once again, the tip of today is to listen, listen to English as much as possible.

It can be my podcast, it can be other podcasts. It can be Pop songs, If you’re Justin Bieber’s fan, listen to Bieber; if you’re Queen fan, listen to Queen. Whatever the music is that you like, listen to it in English.

Listen to the news, CNN is pretty difficult, but things like NPR, that’s National Pubic Radio, that’s not too bad, there are many talk shows. And radio stations that you can find it online too. Of course, it’s going to really difficult to understand everything, but once again, use it as background noise, create an environment of English around you. If you are not exercising, if you don’t clean your room, if you are not doing a dishwasher, this is an excellent excuse to start.

Start exercising, just walking, start cleaning your room, start doing the dishes, and all you do it, it will be your personal time to listen to English, listening to a podcast, listening to the news, listening to a radio station. All of these are available online.

If you had a smart phone, that’s the easiest way, but the nice thing about podcast is you can download them directly to your phone, and this podcast will be yours forever. Well, I’m sure eventually, you will delete it.

And that’s the Podcast number one for **Let’s Master English.** Once again, my name is **Coach Shane.** I hope you enjoy the Podcast. I’m very curious as to whether you like it, how were your criticisms, your comments, and I’d also like to tell you there will be a transcript. Everything I said you can read it. And I will put this on my website and my website is not ready yet. So hopefully, I don’t know, by Podcast 3 or Podcast 4, the website will be up and running and then you can go back to Podcast number one and find the transcript there. So Podcast 3, Podcast 4, you have to listen to there, then I’ll give you the website address, and you can find the transcripts. Thank you very much, everybody, I hope you enjoy the Podcast and that’s it. 

And **Let’s Master English.**