

DukeWrites Enrichment Suite

Using YouGlish

With Rene Caputo, ESL Specialist, Thompson Writing Program

Hello. This is Rene Caputo, ESL Specialist with Duke University's Thompson Writing Program. In this tutorial, we are going to explore the YouGlish.com site, a site that can support you in improving your listening, speaking, and pronunciation skills.

YouGlish provides us with a searchable collection of YouTube videos. And you can search for a single word, a multi-word term, or a phrase. And the results will put that in the context of a sentence, which is really beneficial.

So, let's start with a one-word search. [economic] And we'll click on Say It. Now, I'm going to click on this toggle button. And that will put the controls into the video screen. And let's go ahead and play. So, if we look at the controls here, we obviously have play. This is a reply, go back 5 seconds, or go forward. We also have the ability here to go slower or faster. And that is another really beneficial aspect of this site.

So, let's listen to one more person here. Let's replay that and slow it down a little bit. And faster. So that gives you an idea of some of the control you can have with the speed. We're a little bit fast, so let's slow this back down to normal. Ok?

So, those are some of the basic features here. If you would like to see some other interfaces, you can keep toggling there. There are quite a few. And if you want different lighting, you can click on that.

And let's go ahead now and do a search for a two-word term. [silver nanoparticles] So let's stop that and replay that. So, there's an example of a two-word term. And let's go one step further and try a three-word term. [fundamental attribution error]

So, let's imagine we want to go back a little bit further. So that's enough about that. So, you see again we have the one word, two-word term, three-word term. You could expand from there.

Now, you can also do a few advanced searches. We're going to click here. And advance search. This gives you a view of a few of the different kinds of searches you can do. If you click on this, it will set it up for you.

So, let's try a search for a noun form. [contrast:n] And we'll click on play. And we can switch that to ask for the verb form. [contrast:v] So, that's a nice feature to be able to ask for a noun or a verb. You can also ask for the use of that in a question. [contrast?]

So, that is a short tutorial on the Youglish.com website. I hope you found this tutorial helpful and that you will try using it to have a little bit more support for improving your speaking, listening, and pronunciation skills.