VANTAGE ENGLISH PATHWAY

VEP Express

Everyday English for Angola, the Congos and the World

A1 A2 EN · PT · FR

David Fernando Newman

VEP Express · Everyday English (A1–A2) · Edition 2026 · A5
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Dialogues, texts and activities: original creations of Vantage English Pathway. All characters, companies, prices and phone numbers are fictional; any resemblance to real people is coincidental. Health and emergency scenes practise language only and do not give medical advice.
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A WORD FROM THE AUTHOR

English for real life

To every learner, parent and teacher who opens this book,

For many years I have taught English in Luanda, Pointe-Noire and Kinshasa, to pupils, students and professionals. Again and again, I heard the same wish: **"I understand English, but I can't speak it in real life."** VEP Express was written for that moment: the taxi, the market, the first day at work, the wedding, the hospital, the airport.

Every scene comes from daily life in Angola, the Congos and beyond. Read it, scan it, listen, repeat, and use the phrases the same day. Ten minutes a day is enough to change the way you speak.



In class at the Lycée français Alioune Blondin Beye, Luanda

David Fernando Newman · Author of the Vantage English Pathway collection

The VEP Centre



The VEP Centre, Luanda

Vantage English Pathway was born in Luanda, Angola, at the **Vantage English Center**. The centre welcomes pupils, students and professionals who need English for their studies, their work or their international projects. Its ambition is in its motto: **From Angola to the World.**

The VEP method was built and tested in class with Portuguese- and French-speaking learners. It follows a simple learning loop:

> **LEARN IT → RECOGNISE IT → USE IT → COMMUNICATE IT → WRITE IT → CHECK IT → MASTER IT**

Courses for teenagers and adults, exam preparation, corporate English and teacher training: **vantageenglishpathway.netlify.app**

HOW TO USE VEP EXPRESS

Scan · Listen · Speak

Every scene is a real situation from daily life in Angola, the Congos and beyond. Use one scene a day: in ten minutes, you have new phrases ready to use.

📱

1 Scan

Scan the QR code with your phone camera. No app needed.

🎧

2 Listen

Listen to the dialogue: slow first, then natural speed.

🗣️

3 Repeat

Read and repeat each line. Copy the voice and the rhythm.

🎭

4 Play the scene

Act it out with a friend. Change names, places and prices.

A1 · Starter
Short dialogues, simple phrases.

A2 · Elementary
Longer dialogues, more vocabulary.

PT Leia, ouça e repita uma cena por dia. **FR** Lisez, écoutez et répétez une scène par jour.



Need help? Talk to VEP on WhatsApp

A QR code doesn't play? A question about a phrase? Scan this code: WhatsApp opens with your message ready. Just press send.

+244 975 710 059 · PT · FR · EN

MEET THE CHARACTERS

Who's who?



Nanda
Luanda · student and online seller. Curious and always on her phone.



Jojo
Kinshasa · technician working in Luanda. Friendly, loves football.



Mireille
Brazzaville · nurse who also teaches English in the evening. Calm and practical.



Sr. Tomás
Luanda · candongueiro driver. Knows every street and every joke.



Mrs Grace
Johannesburg · visitor on a work trip. She needs English from everyone!

?

You!
Change the names and play every scene yourself.



CONTENTS

28 scenes

1 **First contact**
Nice to meet you! 8 · Sorry, can you repeat? 10 · What's your WhatsApp? 12

2 **Home & neighbours**
Welcome to our home 14 · No water, no light! 16 · Family dinner 18

3 **Streets of Luanda**
In the candongueiro 20 · Excuse me, where is the bank? 22 · At the market 24 · Money and phone credit 26

4 **At work**
First day at work 28 · On the phone 30 · A visitor on site 32

5 **School & university**
In class 34 · At the secretary's office 36 · Group presentation 38

6 **Health & safety**
At the pharmacy 40 · At clinic reception 42 · Emergency! 44

7 **Celebrations & life events**
Happy birthday! 46 · The alambamento 48 · The wedding 50 · Condolences 52 · Concert night 54 · At the football match 56

8 **Beyond Angola**
At the airport 58 · At the hotel 60 · Shopping abroad 62

Survival phrases 5 · Phrase Finder 62 · Mini-dictionary 64 · Numbers & money 68 · Answer key 69

20 survival phrases

English	Português	Français
Hello! / Good morning!	Olá! / Bom dia!	Bonjour !
Please. / Thank you.	Por favor. / Obrigado(a).	S'il vous plaît. / Merci.
You're welcome.	De nada.	De rien.
Excuse me.	Com licença.	Excusez-moi.
Sorry!	Desculpe!	Pardon !
I don't understand.	Não percebo.	Je ne comprends pas.
Can you repeat, please?	Pode repetir, por favor?	Vous pouvez répéter ?
Can you speak more slowly?	Pode falar mais devagar?	Plus lentement, s'il vous plaît.
Do you speak Portuguese / French?	Fala português / francês?	Vous parlez portugais / français ?
How much is it?	Quanto custa?	C'est combien ?
Where is ...?	Onde fica ...?	Où est ... ?
What time is it?	Que horas são?	Quelle heure est-il ?
I need help.	Preciso de ajuda.	J'ai besoin d'aide.
Can you write it down?	Pode escrever?	Vous pouvez l'écrire ?
I'm lost.	Estou perdido(a).	Je suis perdu(e).
Where are the toilets?	Onde é a casa de banho?	Où sont les toilettes ?
Call a doctor!	Chame um médico!	Appelez un médecin !
Nice to meet you.	Muito prazer.	Enchanté(e).
See you later!	Até logo!	À plus tard !
Goodbye!	Adeus!	Au revoir !

1

Nice to meet you!

A1 📍 Luanda · Talatona



1	**Nanda**	Good morning! Welcome to Luanda.
2	**Mrs Grace**	Good morning. Thank you!
3	**Nanda**	My name is Nanda. What's your name?
4	**Mrs Grace**	I'm Grace. Grace Dlamini.
5	**Nanda**	Nice to meet you, Mrs Dlamini.
6	**Mrs Grace**	Nice to meet you too. Please, call me Grace.
7	**Nanda**	Where are you from, Grace?
8	**Mrs Grace**	I'm from Johannesburg, in South Africa.
9	**Nanda**	Is this your first time in Angola?
10	**Mrs Grace**	Yes, it is. I'm here for work.

🔑 Key phrases

English	Português	Français
Good morning!	Bom dia!	Bonjour !
My name is …	Chamo-me …	Je m'appelle …
What's your name?	Como se chama?	Comment vous appelez-vous ?
Nice to meet you.	Muito prazer.	Enchanté(e).
Where are you from?	De onde é?	D'où venez-vous ?
I'm here for work.	Estou cá em trabalho.	Je suis ici pour le travail.

🔁 Say it another way

Hello! → Hi! *(friends)*

Nice to meet you. → Pleased to meet you. *(formal)*

What's your name? → And you are…? *(relaxed)*

🌍 CULTURE TIP

In Angola, a handshake and a warm greeting come first; with older people, add *Senhor* or *Dona*. In English, use *Mr* or *Mrs* + family name until the person says *Call me Grace*.

PT Em Angola cumprimenta-se primeiro; com os mais velhos usa-se Senhor ou Dona. Em inglês: Mr / Mrs + apelido.

FR En Angola, on salue d'abord ; avec un aîné, on ajoute Senhor ou Dona. En anglais : Mr / Mrs + nom de famille.

✏️ Your turn

1. True or false? a) Grace is from Lisbon. b) Grace is in Angola for work.
2. Change the names and cities: *Kinshasa, Lisbon, Huambo…* and act it out.
3. Introduce yourself to three people.

My new words

_____ _____ _____

🎧 Listened ☐ ☐ ☐ 🗣️ Practised ☐ ☐ ☐

1

Sorry, can you repeat?

A1 📍 Luanda · Mutamba



1	**Mrs Grace**	Excuse me. Where is the Hotel Baía?
2	**Jojo**	Sorry? Can you repeat, please? It's very noisy here!
3	**Mrs Grace**	The Hotel Baía. B-A-I-A.
4	**Jojo**	Ah, the Hotel Baía! It's on the Marginal.
5	**Mrs Grace**	Sorry, can you speak more slowly?
6	**Jojo**	Of course. The hotel... is on... the Marginal. Near the bay.
7	**Mrs Grace**	Is it far?
8	**Jojo**	No, it isn't. Ten minutes on foot.
9	**Mrs Grace**	Ten minutes. Thank you very much!
10	**Jojo**	You're welcome. Have a nice day!

🔑 Key phrases

English	Português	Français
Excuse me.	Com licença.	Excusez-moi.
Can you repeat, please?	Pode repetir, por favor?	Vous pouvez répéter, s'il vous plaît ?
Can you speak more slowly?	Pode falar mais devagar?	Vous pouvez parler plus lentement ?
How do you spell it?	Como se escreve?	Comment ça s'écrit ?
Is it far?	É longe?	C'est loin ?
You're welcome.	De nada.	De rien.

🔁 Say it another way

Can you repeat, please? → Sorry, can you say that again?

Thank you very much! → Thanks a lot!

You're welcome. → No problem.

🌍 CULTURE TIP

Asking someone to repeat is normal and polite. Say *Sorry?* with a rising voice, or *Can you say that again?* Never pretend to understand: repeating the key word (*Ten minutes?*) shows you are listening.

PT Pedir para repetir é normal e educado. Repita a palavra importante para confirmar: Ten minutes?

FR Demander de répéter est normal et poli. Répétez le mot clé pour confirmer : Ten minutes?

✏️ Your turn

1. Find two phrases Grace uses to ask for help.
2. Spell your name and your street to a partner.
3. Your partner speaks fast; ask them to repeat and to speak slowly.

My new words

_____ _____ _____

🎧 Listened ☐ ☐ ☐ 🗣️ Practised ☐ ☐ ☐

1

What's your WhatsApp?

A1 📍 Luanda · Ilha



1	**Nanda**	It was great to meet you, Mireille!
2	**Mireille**	You too, Nanda. Let's stay in touch.
3	**Nanda**	Sure! What's your WhatsApp number?
4	**Mireille**	It's nine two three, four five six, seven eight nine.
5	**Nanda**	Nine two three... four five six... seven eight nine?
6	**Mireille**	That's right. And yours?
7	**Nanda**	I'll send you a message now. Look!
8	**Mireille**	Got it. Thanks! Are you on Instagram too?
9	**Nanda**	Yes. My name is @nanda.style.
10	**Mireille**	Great. See you soon!

🔑 Key phrases

English	Português	Français
What's your number?	Qual é o seu número?	Quel est ton numéro ?
Let's stay in touch.	Vamos manter o contacto.	Restons en contact.
That's right.	Isso mesmo.	C'est ça.
I'll send you a message.	Vou mandar-lhe uma mensagem.	Je vais t'envoyer un message.
Got it.	Recebi. / Percebi.	Reçu. / Compris.
See you soon!	Até breve!	À bientôt !

🔁 Say it another way

What's your WhatsApp number? → Can I have your number?

Let's stay in touch. → Let's keep in contact.

See you soon! → Talk to you later!

🌍 CULTURE TIP

Say phone numbers in groups, one digit at a time: *nine two three*. For 0, say *oh* or *zero*; for 33, you can say *double three*. Always read the number back to check it.

PT Diga o número em grupos, algarismo a algarismo. 0 = "oh" ou "zero"; 33 = "double three".

FR Dites le numéro par groupes, chiffre par chiffre. 0 = « oh » ou « zero » ; 33 = « double three ».

✏️ Your turn

1. Write Mireille's number in figures.
2. Dictate a (fictional) number to a partner. They read it back.
3. Ask three people for their (fictional) number.

My new words

_____ _____ _____

🎧 Listened ☐ ☐ ☐ 🗣️ Practised ☐ ☐ ☐