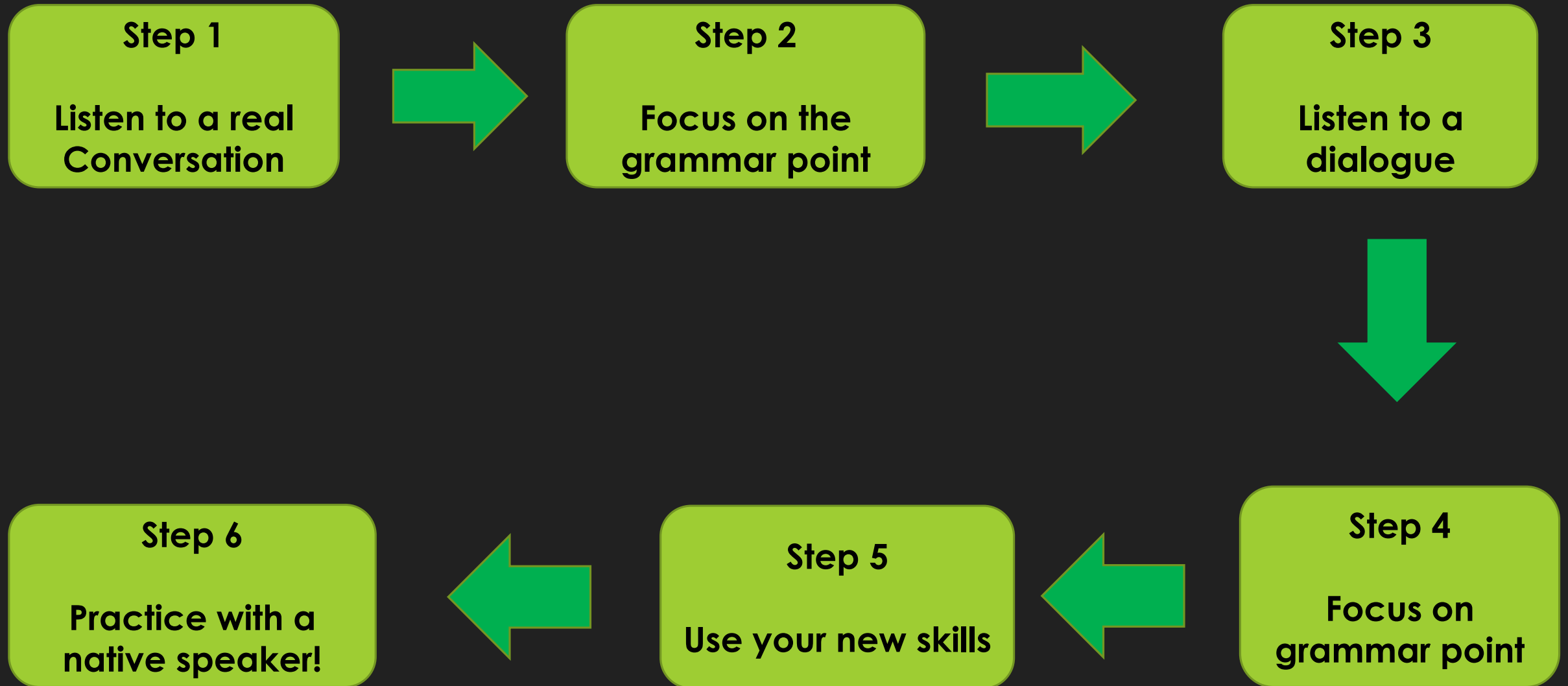




How Would Your Life Be Different If.....

A Grammar Lesson

Our Method



Step 1: A Different Life Path



Please listen to
audio step 1- A
Different Life Path



How would your life be different now if you had chosen a different profession or field of study? Lindsay asks Vin this question in this conversation.

Please open the file called Transcript Step 1- A Different Life Path

Step 2: Focus on Grammar

What would your life be like now if you hadn't chosen your current career path?

Learn how to talk about this using the conditional form.

Please click the link called “A Different Life Path”



Step 3: How Would Your Life Be Different?

Now listen to the conversation between two friends talking about how their lives would be different today if they had learned certain things when they were young.

**Please open Audio Steps 3 and 4:
How Would Your Life Be Different**

**Please read the Transcript Steps 3
and 4- How Would Your Life Be
Different**



Step 4: Focus on Grammar

Learn how to use these grammar points in conversation.

Please open link called “How Would Your Life Be Different?”

Step 5: Use Your New Grammar Skills!

Complete the sentences to test your learning!

- 1) If you _____ (to enter) your current career path, what would you have done?
- 2) If you _____ (to be) left-handed (or right-handed), how would your childhood have been different?
- 3) If you hadn't decided to travel in your twenties, what skills _____ (to learn) at home?
- 4) If you _____ (to go) to medical school when you were 30, how much debt would you have now?

Please see answers on the credits page

Step 5 Answers

- 1) If you **hadn't entered** your current career path, what would you have done? *This question is in the 3rd conditional- the question is asking about a choice in the past and a result in the past.*
- 2) If you **were** left-handed (or right-handed) how would your childhood have been different? *The first part of this question is the second conditional (unreal) because it is a situation that is permanent and will never change- not just in the past (left or right-handedness). The second part is in the 3rd conditional (past unreal) because the person's childhood is over. It's in the past.*
- 3) If you hadn't decided to travel in your twenties, what skills **would you have learned** at home? *Both parts of this question are in the 3rd conditional because both situations are in the past.*
- 4) If you **had gone** to medical school when you were 30, how much debt would you have now? *We are assuming that this person is no longer 30, the person is older, so the first part of the sentence is in the 3rd conditional, but the second part of the sentence uses the 2nd conditional (unreal conditional) because the question is about now, the present moment.*

Step 6: Practice with a Native Speaker

- What career path did you choose? Why did you choose that path? How **would** your life **be** different now **if** you **hadn't chosen** that career path?
- **If you hadn't learned** English when you were in high school, what language **would you have learned instead?**
- Name 3 decisions that you have made in the past that you regret. Why did you make those decisions? What **would you do** differently if you could make those decisions again now?

Step 6 Continued

- How did you meet your current spouse or partner? at a party, at work? **If you hadn't been** at that event, **would you have met** the person? How **would things be** different for you now **if you hadn't met** that person?
- What's the biggest risk that you have ever taken? Why did you take the risk? Are you glad that you took the risk? **If you hadn't taken** that risk, what **would you have missed out** on?
- Was the interview for your current job difficult? What **would have happened if you hadn't gotten** the job?

Step 6 Continued

- **What would you have done** last weekend **if you had had** more free time?
- Where did you grow up? How **would** your childhood **have been different** if you had grown up in New York City? Tokyo? A small town in Italy? How **would** your personality **be** different now **if you had grown up** in these places?

Credits

- Cover page- rocking chairs:
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/delipphotos/>
- Thinking on bench:
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/simonpowell/>
- Roads diverge:
http://www.flickr.com/photos/pa_ro_for_peace/