




The Knack – Video + Speaking Activity



1. Have you ever heard the phrase “**have a knack for** something” as in

She’s got a knack for storytelling and all things related to the world of fantasy.

2. Check this entry on the noun **knack** from the lexico.com:

knack



Pronunciation  /nak/ 

[See synonyms for knack](#)

Translate **knack** into Spanish

NOUN

[usually in singular]

1 An acquired or natural skill at doing something.
‘he had a knack for communicating’

[+ More example sentences](#) [+ Synonyms](#)

Some synonyms: a gift, a natural talent, an ability, a forte.

3. Now, let’s check some sample sentences from the lexico.com:

*‘My father had **a knack for making a total stranger feel very comfortable** in his presence.’*

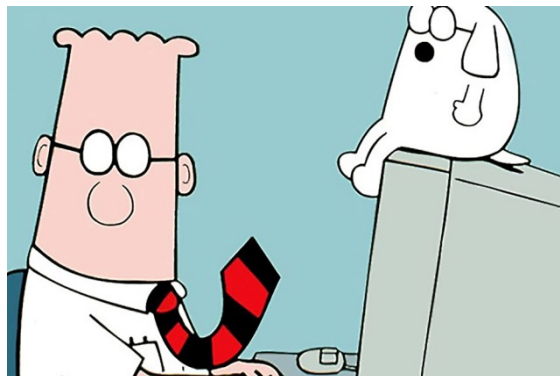
*‘She **had a knack for teaching people** how to enjoy the simple things in life.’*

*‘He has **a real knack for picking projects** that are a little off the beaten track, but guaranteed to be interesting.’*

*‘The band certainly **have a knack for writing** melodies that seem like newly discovered classics.’*

*‘Her voice is immensely beautiful and can lift you out of a blue mood, but more importantly, **she has the knack of making you empathize** with her subject matter.’*

4. To answer the next exercises, we'll first watch Dilbert tell the story of how he discovered he had **"the knack"**:



Vocab:

- that's just **spooky**
- to assemble - to **disassemble**
- to **take things apart**
- a **ham radio set**
- an **EEG**
- social **inaptitude**
- **go away** over time (of a health problem)

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g8vHhgh6oM0>

5. Conversation:

- a. Do you have a knack for something in particular?
Have you always had it (since you were a child), or is it an ability that you developed as you were growing up? Or did you have a particular knack for something as a child that you think you've lost?
- b. Do you know somebody who has a particularly impressive knack as Dilbert does?
- c. Do you think you have a knack for English?
- d. When you were a student at school, what was **your forte** (= your strong point)? And nowadays, has that changed? Did you have any special strategies for learning the topics you were not so good at?