

ENGLISH 1
(Speaking and Listening component)¹
SCHOOL OF ENGLISH AND HUMANITIES
Fall Term 2011-2012 (Sept 26th, 2011 - Jan 13th, 2012)

Professor's name: Mrs. Raluca

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Office hours: to be announced in class

Prerequisites: English Placement Test

Contact hours: 8h/week

A. Course Description

This 16-week intensive course on developing your English language skills for academic purposes focuses on your speaking and listening comprehension skills. Each lesson incorporates practice in both areas.

Students will learn the vocabulary and the grammatical principles and structures of English, as they become fluent in using the language for communicative purposes. Lessons and material will address preparation in language for academic purposes, as well as for communicative fluency. In addition to grammar and text book exercises, students will listen to and discuss excerpts from a variety of contemporary non-fiction interviews introducing the language, ideas, and principles of contemporary academic and civic discourse. Students will demonstrate their ability to produce and comprehend English language, with a focus on the language of scholarly discourse and professional engagement.

A midterm exam will test speaking and listening comprehension skills. A final presentation and project (which may be either an individual or a group presentation) will measure research abilities, speaking, and communicative skills.

B. Course Readings and Materials

1. *Interactions 1: Listening/Speaking*, by Tanka, Judith – Most, Paul. *Interactions 2: Speaking*, by Tanka, Judith. Baker, Lida R. NYC and HCMC: McGraw Hill, 2007.
2. Bring pen, paper and the text books to each and every class.
3. A folder with lined loose-leaf paper to be used for assignments and hand-outs.
4. A good English dictionary.

C. Course Objectives

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

¹ Remedial TESOL for students whose English skills are not at sufficient levels to participate in the coursework for academic disciplines.

- a. understand simple and complex utterances on a variety of topics, ranging from basic personal background and needs, social conventions, and routine tasks to more complex subjects such as lodging, transportation, shopping, greater diversity of instructions and directions, routine telephone conversations, simple announcements, and media reports.
- b. handle successfully conversations in a variety of social situations relating to self and family, daily activities, work, school, recreation, particular interests and areas of competence.
- c. express personal meaning, respond to direct questions, and request for information.

D. Learning outcomes

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- a. understand main ideas, specific information, word endings, directions, instructions, prices, online shopping information, causes and reasons, reductions, conversation starters, voice mail messages, descriptions of people and places, advice, instructions, complaints, small talk, invitations, numbers, short narratives, job interviews, future plans, persuasive messages, other various familiar topics (presentations, stories, advice, ads, phone conversations, opinions, reports) and lectures.
- b. ask and offer personal information; confirm information; apologize; talk about days, dates, numbers, weather, cities, and transportation; compare prices, products and stores; describe clothes, people and places; express likes and dislikes, agreement and disagreement; make and answer requests; role-play; leave voice messages; discuss and; make complaints; discuss about health and give advice; make small talk; interview classmates on various topics; talk about jobs, interviews, future plans; discuss problems and lectures.

E. Course Policies

1. ENGLISH ONLY, PLEASE!

2. Class attendance: Yes, please! This is an intensive language class that will move very quickly, so regular attendance is very important for success. All students are required to come to class on time. This is a speaking/listening course that requires your attendance and, most importantly, participation. Come to class prepared to discuss the topics and to show your teachers and colleagues you are really interested in our work. A student who is absent more than 30% of the class periods will be removed from the course with a failing grade. If a student expects to be absent for more than two consecutive classes, he or she must gain the permission of the instructor in advance. Otherwise, the student may be removed from the course.

3. Assignment deadlines: Know your deadlines and respect them. Unless otherwise indicated in the course syllabus, the submission dates of specific writing assignments will be announced in class.

4. Original work: Most of your assignments are to be undertaken and completed in class.

5. Computer access: All students are required to have access to a computer system on campus, with internet connection, and with a current version of Microsoft Office Word.

6. **Cell phones:** Please turn off your cell phones at the beginning of class. Noisy classrooms are great, as long as the noise is productive!

7. **Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is copying the work of someone else and presenting it as your own work. All work submitted by TTU students must be their own. Every source of information in your work must be identified properly. Examples of plagiarism include:

a) copying work from the Internet and submitting it to your professor as your own work;

b) failure to cite (name) the source of an idea, a phrase, sentence or paragraph in a report, essay, research paper, class presentation or other assignment;

c) use of someone else's data in laboratory reports or someone else's answers to math problem sets.

Your professors will discuss plagiarism with your class and give specific examples of ways to avoid plagiarism and how you should give proper credit to your sources of information. All TTU students are expected to follow these rules. Failure to do so can result in serious penalties, including expulsion from the university.

F. Evaluation and Grading

The grade for the course is a cumulative grade reflecting the quality of work in all assignments throughout the semester:

Attendance	10 points = 10%
Attendance in weekly lectures	5 points = 5%
Participation in class	30 points = 30%
4 x progress evaluation (every 3 weeks)	20 points = 20%
Mid-term exam	10 points = 10%
Final Presentation project	25 points = 25%

Grades

93 - 100% = A	80 - 85% = B	66 - 69% = C	Below 55 = F
90 - 92% = A-	76 - 79% = B-	60 - 65% = C-	
86 - 89% = B+	70 - 75% = C+	56 - 59% = D	

A student's participation is an essential component of the course, measured by their active participation in class by speaking, communicating with their peers, and engaging in pair and group work.

The final Research Presentation must demonstrate the students' ability to research an issue, communicate clearly and be understood by their audience of peers, create a coherent presentation, and answer questions.

To pass the course, students must demonstrate their ability to continue on to the academic courses in all departments at TTU.

Learning Center

There is a Learning Center available at Tan Tao University, and all students are encouraged to attend. It will offer supplemental assistance to any student who would like some extra help in any English skill area. The Learning Center will

assist students with English reading and writing, and recordings are available to assist students in improving their listening and speaking skills. The Learning Center is available on an appointment basis from 2:30 – 4:30 every week day and other times as professors' schedules permit.

G. Course Schedule:

WEEK 1: Sept 26 – Sept 30

Unit 1: ACADEMIC LIFE

Listening: Listening for main ideas. Listening for specific information. Using context clues. Listening for stress. Listening for conversation starters. Listening to voice mail messages. Listening to descriptions of people.

Speaking: Starting a conversation: introductions and courtesy phrases. Continuing a conversation. Asking for and giving personal information. Apologizing and reconciling. Confirming information. Talking about days and dates. Talking about campus, cities, and transportation. Describing people. Leaving voice mail messages. Using stress. Small talk.

Textbook support: Interactions 1: Chapter 1 (Academic Life Around the World)

WEEK 2: October 3 – October 7

Unit 2: COMMUNITY

Listening: Listening for main ideas and for details. Listening for reasons. Listening for clues. Following directions. Listening for reductions.

Speaking: Describing places. Discussing facts. Using the phrase *by the way*. Opening and closing phone conversations. Requesting and giving directions. Asking questions and offering clarification. Saying you don't understand.

Textbook support: Interactions 1: Chapter 4 (Community)

WEEK 3: October 10 – October 14

Unit 3: HOME

Listening: Listening for main ideas and for details. Listening to descriptions. Listening to flight information. Using context clues. Listening to advice. Guessing meaning from context. Using non-verbal communication.

Speaking: Describing photos. Expressing frustration. Showing agreement and disagreement. Talking about abilities. Expressing likes and dislikes. Using a T-chart to compare two sides of a topic.

Textbook support: Interactions 1: Chapter 5 (Home).

WEEK 4: October 17 – October 21

Unit 4: EXPERIENCING NATURE.

Listening: Listening for main ideas and for details. Taking notes on a lecture. Getting meaning from context. Recognizing stress in two- and three-word verbs. Listening to a story about camping. Listening to weather forecasts. Distinguishing between *can* and *can't*.

Speaking: Talking about your favorite place in the world. Talking about weather and seasons. Discussing vacation plans. Persuading a group. Asking about

travel information. Discussing environmental problems. Summarizing ideas using key words.

Textbook support: Interactions 1: Chapter 2 (*Experiencing Nature*).

WEEK 5: October 24 - October 28

Unit 5: CULTURE CLASHES

Listening: Listening for main ideas and for details. Listening to an advisor's presentation. Distinguishing among -s endings. Listening for instructions. Discussing and expressing opinions. Taking a trivia quiz. Taking notes on similarities and differences.

Speaking: Generalizing. Summarizing using key-words. Comparing customs. Apologizing. Understanding a speaker's point of view. Using a matrix diagram to organize ideas.

Textbook support: Interactions 1: Chapter 6 (Cultures of the World)

WEEK 6: October 31 - November 4

Unit 6: HEALTH

Listening: Listening for main ideas and for details. Listening to radio advice. Distinguishing between rising and falling intonation in tag questions. Listening to medical advice. Listening to phone messages from healthcare professionals.

Speaking: Using countable and non-countable nouns in questions. Interviewing people about food-shopping. Ordering and refusing food politely. Forming and using tag-questions with correct intonation. Asking for and giving advice. Discussing health topics. Using a problem-solution chart to list and clarify things. Summarizing medical visits using key words.

Textbook support: Interactions 1: Chapter 3 (*Living to Eat, or Eating to Live?*) + Chapter 7 (*Health*).

WEEK 7: November 7 - November 11

Unit 7: IT'S ON TV!

Listening: Listening for main ideas and for details. Radio reports on crimes and/or events / news reports. Listening to radio ads. Listening to opinions about television.

Speaking: Accounts of real-life situations. Discussing preferences and experiences in spending free-time. Speaking about hobbies. Expressing, agreeing with, and disagreeing with opinions. Discussing ads. Talking about the quality of TV programs. Describing favorite TV shows and movies.

Textbook support: Interactions 1: Chapter 8 (*Entertainment and Media*)

WEEK 8: November 14 - November 18

Unit 8: SOCIAL LIFE

Listening: Listening for main ideas and for details. Interviews with influential people. Interpreting intonation used with exclamations. Listening to a sportscast. Listening to an interview with a sportsperson.

Speaking: Discussing social and business etiquette. Giving and accepting compliments. Discussing parties. Explaining a sport. Giving and understanding instructions. Taking turns.

Textbook support: Interactions 1: Chapter 9 (*Social Life*) + Chapter 10 (*Sports*).

WEEK 9: Nov 22 - 23 - MIDTERMS

WEEK 10: November 28 - December 2

Unit 9: LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION.

Listening: Listening for main ideas and for details. Making inferences. Understanding statements with rising intonation. Identifying correct spelling in a spelling bee. Getting meaning from context. Taking notes in columns. Predicting note organization.

Speaking: Discussing the meaning of friendship. Comparing American and British English. Contradicting politely. Talking about stereotypes. Using

interjections. Using expressions for guessing. Speculating about hypothetical situations.

Textbook support: Interactions 2: Chapter 7 (*Language and Communication*)

WEEK 11: December 5 - December 9

Unit 10: EVERYBODY WANTS ME.

Listening: Listening for main ideas and for details. Making inferences. Recognizing the intonation of tag-questions. Recognizing sequence of events. Taking notes on causes and effects. Creating abbreviations. Taking notes on statistics.

Speaking: Talking about jobs and careers. Apologizing and reconciling. Role-playing a job interview. Talking about men's and women's jobs. Giving short oral reports.

Textbook support: Interactions 2: Chapter 4 (*Jobs and Professions*).

WEEK 12: December 12 - December 16

Unit 11: GLOBAL CONNECTIONS

Listening: Listening for main ideas and for details. Identifying blended consonants. Taking a trivia quiz. Taking notes on similarities and differences.

Speaking: Learning computer terms. Practicing intonation of questions. Interrupting politely. Talking about ways to stay in touch. Talking about customs. Generalizing. Talking about a reading. Using T-charts to discuss advantages and disadvantages.

Textbook support: Interactions 2: Chapter 6 (*Global Connections*).

WEEK 13: December 19 - December 23

Unit 12: LIFESTYLES.

Listening: Listening for main ideas and for details. Making inferences. Recognizing stress in two- or three-word verbs.

Speaking: Talking about single parents. Talking about changes in the traditional family. Asking for help and favors. Talking about numbers and percentages. Comparing lifestyles in different countries.

Textbook support: Interactions 2: Chapter 5 (*Lifestyles Around the World*).

WEEK 14: December 26 - December 30

Unit 13: BUSINESS AND MONEY

Listening: Listening for main ideas and for details. Distinguishing *can* and *can't*. Recognizing expressions of advice.

Speaking: Talking about managing money and about entrepreneurs. Talking about abilities. Using the verbs *to borrow* and *to lend*. Asking for, giving, and refusing advice.

Textbook support: Interactions 2: Chapter 3 (*Business and Money*).

WEEK 15: January 2 - January 6

Unit 14: CEREMONIES

Listening: Listening for main ideas and for details. Recognizing the meaning of affirmative and negative tag questions. Taking notes on wedding preferences.

Speaking: Using expressions to offer, accept, or decline help. Talking about ceremonies around the world. Asking and answering affirmative and negative tag questions. Offering congratulations and sympathy.

Textbook support: Interactions 2: Chapter 10 (Ceremonies).

WEEK 16: January 9 - January 13 - FINAL PRESENTATION PROJECT

Celebration of our successful semester!