

Temporary Syllabus

Course: College English (I) (Fall 2010)

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Office Hour: By Appointment (Please make an appointment in advance.)

Course Description

This course is the first semester of the one-year general English classes for intermediate learners of English. It aims to cultivate students' four skills of English through a task-based and content-based design of the curriculum. Specific goals for the four skills are listed below:

Specific Goals:

1. Listening skills: Students can understand short dialogues, casual conversations, mini-lectures, public announcements, and short local and international news, especially those related to the class.
2. Speaking skills: Students can carry on self-introduction and narrate an event and a story. They can initiate, continue and close a conversation. They can also participate in group discussions, ask questions, interview, and express opinions on materials, especially those related to the class.
3. Reading skills: Students can learn reading strategies and apply them to authentic materials. These strategies include vocabulary building, scanning, skimming, analyzing structures, main ideas, supporting details, identifying facts vs. opinions, and inference.
4. Writing skills: Students can write a well-organized paragraph. They can also analyze the structures of reading, summarize and write a short reading report.

These skills will be taught in a cooperative learning environment where students' active participation and cooperation with peers are required. Through mastering these skills, students are expected to become autonomous, active and critical learners of English.

At all times, students are encouraged to think of English as a means of communication, rather than as a school subject.

Textbook

1. Reading Explorer 3 (RE) (政大書城)
2. Refining Composition Skills, 5th edition (RCS)
3. Supplementary Handouts

Recommended Dictionaries & Grammar Books

1. Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary (with CD-ROM); Collins Cobuild English Dictionary
2. Dictionary of Contemporary English (with CD-ROM), Longman; Language Activator
3. The BBI Dictionary of English Word Combinations (BBI 英語搭配詞典)
4. Longman Common Errors (朗文常用英語正誤辭典)

Temporary Schedule (Subject to change according to learners' needs)

Week	Date	Topic
1	09/14	Introduction to the course -Diagnostic test -Self-introduction -Labs & writing tutorial service
2	09/21	Unit 1: Sport and Fitness (RE, 9-14)
3	09/28	Unit 1: Sport and Fitness (RE, 15-20)
4	10/05	Problem-solving & Group Discussion (TBA)

5	10/12	Unit 2: Skin Deep (RE: 21-26)
6	10/19	Unit 2: Skin Deep (RE: 27-32)
7	10/26	Writing Process (RSC: 1): Audience & Purpose
8	11/02	Introduction to the Paragraph Topic and topic sentences (RCS 2: 13-28)
9	11/09	Mid-Term Exam & Oral Report (I)
10	11/16	Unity and Coherence: (RCS 2: 28-35) Paragraph #1
11	11/23	Peer Review
12	11/30	Unit 4: Violent Earth (RE: 51-56)
13	12/07	Unit 4: Violent Earth (RE: 57-62)
14	12/14	Unit 9: Stories of Survival (RE: 117-122)
15	12/21	Unit 9: Stories of Survival (RE: 123-128) Paragraph #2
16	12/28	Peer Review
17	01/04	Oral Report (II)
18	01/11	Final Exam & Oral Report (I)

Grading

1. Participation & attendance 10%
2. Mid-term + Final Exams 20%
3. Paragraph Writing (2 times) 20%
4. Oral Report (2 times) 10%
5. Reading Journals & In-Class Discussion (10 times) 30%
6. Bonus: Attending at least one writing tutorial session or one workshop or lecture about English learning

Important Notes

1. **Attendance & Participation:** Your attendance, participation, and contribution are highly valued by all of us. **So, please take a leave in advance of the class. Also, please attend class ON TIME. You will NOT pass the course if you are absent over THREE times.**
 2. **No make-up for assignments or exams is allowed.**
 3. **Assignments:** All homework must be **due on time**. Late work will not count.
 4. **Plagiarism:** No plagiarism is allowed in this class. **If you plagiarize others' texts and/or ideas, you will not pass the course.**
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