

ENGLISH CONVERSATION CLASS SYLLABUS

Rob Whyte

Outline

This intermediate level conversation class gives you an opportunity to improve your English speaking skills. Your success will depend on your effort and participation. In this class you will learn the basic tools you need to express simple and complex ideas. By the end of this course students will be able to:

- Produce common conversational styles, forms, and sounds;
- Make/respond to requests and follow/give directions;
- Start and maintain a general conversation in many social situations.

Pair work and small group activities will consume most of our class time. The purpose of this format is to help students learn, remember and practice the words, sentence patterns and concepts presented in class. Students will be given many types of activities, including puzzles, pair work questions and topic sentences. To rapidly improve your speaking skills, we will use a tool called the *sentence block*.

What You Need

Four things: a pen/pencil, notebook, dictionary and the textbook. These are your learning tools. Come to class without the proper tools and you will be disappointed with the end result.

English Know How Student Book 1

by Angela Blackwell & Therese Naber, Oxford University Press.

Assessment

The final exam will be a speaking test: one to one with the teacher. The mid-term exam will be a written assessment of your ability to remember and use the material we studied during the first half of the semester. There will also be two quizzes.

- Attendance: 10%
- Participation: 10%
- Midterm: 30%
- Final exam: 30%
- Quizzes: 20% (two x 10%)

I will strictly follow the school's attendance policy. If you are often absent or late, your final grade will reflect your time management skills. Also, please note: two lates will equal one absence.

Two points about grades. First, the final grade will follow the university's grading policy. Second, at the end of the semester, please do not ask me to change your grade because you have a special situation. You need a scholarship? You want to get a job? You want to go to graduate school? These are all important things. But, if you need a high score, work hard, study and come to every class on time and ready to learn. Unless I made an error, I will not change your final score.

If you have any questions about the class work, feel free to email me at robbusan@yahoo.com. International Building, room 203 (opposite the GLE office). Office hours Tues 12pm-2pm, Wed 10am-12pm.