# English Conversation and Composition

# Dong-A University English

# Fall 2017

**Professor:** Joe Carrier

**Office Hours:** Rm. 1116 by appointment

**Course Website:** <http://www.joeteacher.org>

**Text:** McCarthy, Michael, et al. *Touchstone 2.* Second Edition. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2014.

**Course Description:**

**Speaking and Listening:** This course is designed to introduce conversation strategies, grammatical constructions, vocabulary, and common expressions that will allow students to speak English naturally in formal and informal settings. Objectives include: attaining basic fluency in specific common situations; becoming self-confident as a speaker in both small groups and oral presentations; obtaining the skills necessary to speak English in conversation on a given topic without rehearsed dialogue; building key word vocabulary skills.

**Composition:** Although the primary emphasis of this class is speaking and listening, a portion of this class will be dedicated to studying English writing skills. Students will be writing a daily journal to help improve their English writing skills. I will have regular tutorial appointments throughout the semester to check your journal and answer any questions that you might have.

**Standard of Assessment:**

* **Grading:** Final grades for this class based on the following: Attendance: 20%; Class Participation: 20%; Journal Project: 20%; Mid-term Examination: 20%; Final Examination: 20%. The university dictates the use of a curve to calculate the grades. The top 50% of the students will have an A+ or A, the second 40% of the students will have a B+ or B, and the bottom 10% will have a C, D, or F. Grades will not be changed after the grading period.
* **Attendance**: There will be a five-point deduction for each absence. Points will not be deducted for absence if the student presents suitable written explanatory documentation (ex. Doctor's note). Each student may be late once each semester. Second late is absent. If a student has five absences they will receive an F for the course.
* **Participation**: You are expected to show up on time, prepared, every day. The classroom is a community in which every member must participate. A major portion of your classroom participation grade will be based on your interaction with other students. Needless to say, respect and concern for the welfare of the individuals in this class and the class, as a whole, is paramount. Speaking Korean in class, passing notes, failure to participate in class activities, or chatting on your phone is strictly prohibited and will result in a deduction of class participation points.
* **Journal Project**: Students will be writing a daily journal on topics that I will provide. This project will account for 20% of your grade. Instructions are included in this syllabus.
* **Examinations** will be given in two formats, oral and written, over two periods during the course of the semester. The oral examination will be conducted in my office in pairs and will assess the student’s ability to use dialogue used in classroom. The written exam will cover grammar, syntax, vocabulary, and writing from the units we have studied.

**Course Calendar:**

This coursework schedule presented here is flexible. If changes are made to the schedule, I will inform you in class.

 **Week One**. Course Introduction. Unit 1 “Making Friends”

**Week Two** Unit 2 “Interests”

**Week Three** Unit 3 “Health”

**Week Four**. Unit 4 “Celebrations”

**Week Five**. Chuseok Week

**Week Six**. Review

**Week Seven**: Oral Midterm

**Week Eight:** Written Midterm

**Week Nine**. Unit 6 “Around Town”

**Week Ten**. Unit 7 “Going Away”

**Week Eleven**. Unit 8 “At Home”

**Week Twelve**. Unit 9 “Things Happen”

**Week Thirteen**. Unit 10 “Communication”

**Week Fourteen**. Review

**Week Fifteen.** Oral Final

**Week Sixteen**: Written Final

**Journal Instructions:**

* You will be using a Google Document to create your journal. If you do not have a Google Account you can create one at <https://accounts.google.com/SignUp>.
* When you have your Gmail account open on your computer, click on the “Apps” button in the top right hand corner of the screen (it looks like a waffle). In the dropdown menu, click on Google Drive. Click the “New” button and select “Google Docs.” Open a blank document.
* Rename your document in **exactly** this way: “Journal – C+C F17 – Your name – Your ID number”. For example: “Journal – C+C F17 – Lee Dae Ho – 8675309” (IMPORTANT: Do NOT put quotation marks around your document name.)
* Once your document is open click the share button and add me **as an editor** using this email: joeteacher.donga@gmail.com. You can add me as an editor by clicking the “pencil” icon next to the email and selecting “Can Edit.”
* Once you have your document opened, named, and shared you are ready to write. You should write 90-110 words every day. Begin each entry by writing the date. Then hit enter and begin writing. Try to eliminate distractions as much as possible. Write at the same time every day. Before you sleep or right after you wake up is best.
* Choose one of the writing topics from the lists on the course webpage. If you would prefer to write about your day or your life or something else that is fine, but please remember that I will be looking at your journal as well so don’t write anything too personal.
* Put all of your journal entries into one Google document. Do not make separate documents for each day, or week, or month. Just skip a line after yesterday’s entry, write the date, hit return, and begin writing. Do not separate your sentences by hitting return. Just keep writing without stopping. Try to write as quickly as possible with as few mistakes as possible. You are not being graded based on your grammar and spelling but do the best you can.
* You will be given a grade for your journal based on your consistency. Write every day, you will get an A. If you don’t write every day you will not get an A. If you copy any part of your journal from some other source and I catch you, you will get an F.