



## Conversation Topics I – Spring 2024 (Level: Intermediate to Advanced)

**Subject: Conversation Topics**

**Level: Intermediate to Advanced**

**Class Hours: 2x week**

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**Instructor: Dwaine Tinling**

**Classroom: 215**

**Phone: 010-6358-0996**

**Office: 312 Global Center Building**

### Course Description:

This course is designed for individuals seeking to enhance their English proficiency through interactive class discussions centered on various topics and current affairs. Delving into a wide array of news stories, both at the national and international levels, participants will explore themes such as lifestyle, politics, environment, technology, entertainment, crime, business, health, and more. The course will leverage materials from top Korean English language programs, including Pagoda, YBM, BCM, Wall Street, and others, providing students with a well-rounded and comprehensive learning experience.

### Course Objectives:

1. Develop and improve English language skills, including speaking, listening, and comprehension.
2. Enhance critical thinking abilities through the analysis of diverse topics.
3. Cultivate effective communication strategies in English.
4. Foster a multicultural perspective by engaging with stories from various regions.

### Course Structure:

The course will be organized around discussions, each focusing on a specific theme or current event. Students will actively participate in conversations, express their opinions, and engage in critical analysis. The class will encourage a supportive and inclusive environment to facilitate language development.

### Assessment:

Formal assessments are not included in the evaluation structure for this course. Instead, your progress and success will be gauged through instructor feedback. This feedback will be derived from your active participation, consistent contributions to discussions, and completion of periodic assignments aligned with the chosen topics. The overarching aim is to foster a dynamic and interactive learning environment, providing students with opportunities to apply language skills in authentic real-world contexts.

### Textbook:

Selected articles and materials will be provided throughout the course. Additionally, supplementary resources may be recommended to further enrich students' understanding of the discussed topics.

### Engagement Expectations:

To maximize your participation, it is essential to come prepared for discussions by fulfilling any assigned tasks beforehand. Anticipate engaging in proposing topics, formulating discussion questions, conducting brief group presentations, and actively facilitating discussions. Your active involvement in all class discussions is highly encouraged, and the use of English is expected throughout the entire class duration.

**Note: This syllabus is subject to modification based on the evolving needs and progress of the class. Any changes will be communicated in advance.**

## Class Schedule – Spring 2024\* ^

Class	Topic Headline	Teaching Content
1	English Gone Wrong (and Class Introduction)	English Education
2	A Matter of Taste	Restaurants, and Food
3	A Match Made in Heaven	Finding Mr. or Mrs. Right, Dating
4	Buying Beauty	Plastic Surgery, and The Beauty Myth
5	Getting Away	Travel, Korean Style
6	Nose to the Grindstone	Life, and Work
7	Shop 'til You Drop	Money, and Shopping
8	Are You Healthy?	Keeping Fit, Eating Right, and Sports
9	What a Rip-off!	Fashion, and Brands
10	One More for the Road	Nightlife, and Drinking Culture

\*The schedule is tentative and subject to change.

^Students with prior enrollment in the course will encounter different topics and materials for the sessions.