

QUOTES FROM REFLECTIVE ESSAYS

At the end of every semester, I have students write a reflective, TOEFL essay about:

"What three things did you learn in this class this semester?" Below are selected quotes.

From these essays, I learned two things:

First, very many, maybe most students, have never spoken English in their 10-year English education. In response to this, my class is conversation-based learning.

Second, that students found improvements to many skills as a result of this conversation-focused class.

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My class is **Conversation-Based Learning**. The education goal is smoother speaking. Students do the book at home and speak in class. *Listening, reading, writing, vocabulary* and *pronunciation* are preparation for speaking, and they also improve. *Grammar* improves because students relax and self-correct, and the better speakers provide gentle language gain. When all those skills improve, so do TOEIC scores.

The conversation test completes the system. Students get personal feedback and error correction, and teachers get accurate grading and improvement data.

My claim is that conversation-based learning is a complete system. And the following quotes from students appear to support this.

ENGLISH EDUCATION BEFORE UNIVERSITY

1. I just studied English for reading. I didn't know that I can not speak in English because I had never had a chance to speak in English.
2. Before I took this class, I had no chance to speak English. Just I learned how to read text or listen.
3. In high school English class, I learned and solved English problem just as a problem.
4. What I have only learned in schools before university is how to read English text and translate it.
5. While attending middle and high school, I always studied and memorized words relevant to the exam.
6. When I was a high school student, we only read English text and memorized them in English.
7. In the last 12 years, I only learned reading, not speaking. So, I really hate speaking for English.
8. I have studied English with no sound. Korean education concentrate in reading and listening. It was first time that I speak with other student in English.
9. When I was high school student, I had studied only grammar in reading skills. So, I couldn't speak well. And I didn't know how can I speak well.
10. From elementary school to high school I have learned English reading but I didn't have chance to speak English.
11. Before this class English was hard and boring. Festival of long passages. I have to decode that to solve problems.
12. Before this class, I have learned reading, writing and grammar for entering university I haven't learned speaking English. So, I have a fear of speaking English.
13. I didn't speak English when I was high school student because English class concentrated grammar for entrance exam.

14. I always want to learn English speaking skill. But Korean education system focuses on reading and grammar.
15. I was educated English only for test. So I was not used to speaking English and I was afraid of English conversation.
16. First, I learned how to speak English. I did well reading in high school, but when I spoke English, I didn't do well than elementary children. I haven't learned how to speak English before.
17. English is for a test but not for a communication. I studied English only for Seu-neung. English education in Korea focused on reading and grammar.
18. Because when I was in middle and high school, there was no chance to speak in English. I just learned grammar and listening skills.
19. Because until high school, Korean students learned how to interpret English sentences. I wanted to take English conversation class. But public school didn't do that.
20. I don't have much experience about speaking in English. I just studied grammar and listening. And our Korean SAT is only grammar, listening and reading. So I don't have any opportunity to study speaking.
21. Before this class I have learned reading, writing, and grammar for entering university. I haven't learned speaking English. So, I have a fear of speaking English.
22. When I was studying in middle and high school, Grammar was very important. The obsession that I need perfect grammar made me take long time to prepare speaking. In this class I had many chances to speak English, and I lessened burden of that obsession.
23. Many students consider English as a study, no language. In this class, for the first time, I met the English as a language. When I studied English, every teacher always forced me to read and solve English text. However, this class made me have an interest in English again.
24. When I was a high school student, I couldn't have any opportunity to talk in English. English class dealt with only reading, sometimes listening. For the Soo Neung test. Every English time, I have to read many texts and solve the problems.
25. Actually, Korean students are really good at reading English because we have studied it for 12 years or more. But we don't have chance to speak in English. So we are bad at speaking English.
26. Before this class, I hate language itself. Especially I hate English. English was merely a mere test subjects to me.
27. From elementary school to high school, about 12 years, I have studied English for college entrance exam, not practical English like speaking or listening.
28. Until I had this class, what I learned was only theory and grammar to pass exams like TOEIC. Because of studying English under pressure, this subject was stressful for me and frankly I hated it.
29. I learn speaking smoothly. Because in Korean high school, that don't have curriculum for speaking English.
30. I learned many words for just SAT not for speaking. So I didn't know what kinds of words English speakers usually use.
31. First, what professor emphasized was that 'English is not reading or studying. It's a speaking ability. That was really shocking and fresh for me because I learned English by reading and writing since I was young.

CONFIDENCE

1. I attended the forum with my family. And the instructor was a foreigner. At the break of the forum, the instructor asked me about some questions. My major, my passions, my campus life. I was able to answer confidently because it was what I already dealt with in this class. I first use English in real life. I was so satisfied. And my family looked at me so proudly. That was a wonderful experience.
2. First of all, the confidence I got from this class is priceless. The most important thing is 'confidence'. After realize this truth, I try hard to just speak English not Korean. This is the first thing I learned from this class.
3. First, I learned confidence in this class. For me, speaking English was hard and shameful thing.
4. First, English is not scary language anymore.
5. Second, I was a shy korean boy. But thanks to this class, now I communicate to new people pretty well. Now I'm not shy korean boy. I'm gutsy korean boy.
6. Second, in this class I learned confidence. Professor Gunther always emphasized "Speak loud and proud". And he recalled us that we are elite university students and can be someone's role models. When I got this email from him, I decided to be student who has proud and try harder with confidence.
7. Before this class I always focused on reducing grammatical mistakes, so my speech was not brave. So I mumbled during speaking and my confidence keep decreased. However, after this class, I realized that regardless of grammatical error, the most important think is to speak loudly and confidently and say clearly what I have to say.
8. Third, I lacked experience of talking with foreigner in English. I have few opportunities to have conversations with foreigners. However, in this class, I could have conversations with various friends twice a week. It was good experience for me to grow my speaking ability. Thanks to this experience, now, I am not embraced when I meet foreigners.
9. First, it fixed my shyness into cheerful. During the speaking lesson, we should introduce ourselves and quickly find a mutual interest. The mutual interest helps easy to get closer, and sharing the mutual interest makes the conversation delightful. At that time, I was wondering why time is in a hurry. Anyway, several conversations got rid of my shyness so now I can have a conversation with anyone friendly.
10. At first, I was afraid speaking English because I have never spoken English before (though I have learned English for 10 years). This class was my turning point. I'm turning my useless English skill into use and practical English skill. Freely talking with partners I became to have confidence and to know that I have sufficient potential.
11. So now, I am not scared of English! I can upgrade my English ability if I apply myself.
12. Last I learned most of all confidence is most important. Before time I was afraid of speak English. But these days I speak too much English in this class so naturally I get the confidence about English. One day played basketball alone in court, and American come to me said let's play together. If I was my old self I maybe afraid. But I was not because through too many experiences I get the confidence about English speaking.
13. Third, now I can say hello to strangers. In other words, my confidence about English grewed up. Doing three times of speaking test, I felt that I have less trouble speaking English. As a result, I was shocked that my progress in speaking test. 3rd was much better than 1st of it. Every class we spoke with many other students and it helped me very much.
14. Third, I learned confidence. To be honest, my English ability doesn't grow dramatically. But, my confidence grows a lot. I think most important skill for use foreign language is confidence. Now I can talk with foreigners in English.
15. First, I learned to speak confidently in English. To speak English in class was so difficult to me because I have to consider grammar and pronunciation. However, because the professor always encouraged us to speak confidently. We had 'Speed dating' which is spending time by conversation in English with friends. It was so fun that I can converse conveniently and confidently.

16. Finally, I learn confidence in speaking English. I am not good at English. So I didn't have confidence in speaking English and was shameful. But this class let me have confidence. But professor said, 'This is preparation for life, and life is not a grammar test.' 'confidence is important.' So I speak with confidence. Even though I make a grammar mistake, I am more confident to speak.
17. First, this class gave a confidence that I can speak English at other place. In October, I saw a Chinese family who came to Korea for touring at the subway. They got a trouble about passing the ticket barrier. So I called the subway station and helped them to pass the ticket barrier. All this confidence resulted from this class. If I don't take this class, I were not help them.
18. First, I can have a confidence. In speaking test I have to talk with a stranger. Actually I have a confident on reading and writing English. I have a high Korean SAT score. But speaking English was difficult, especially with stranger. When foreigner asked me something, I had many things to answer in my mind but speaking it was difficult. Because of speaking test, I experienced speaking English with stranger. It makes me have a confident.
19. Second, I got confidence in speaking English. Many students are very passive in their English-speaking skills because they only learn how to solve the exam in high school. Not only did I have little experience in spoken English, but I was accustomed to accepting English, so my confidence was at its lowest. In particular, I was afraid of making grammatical mistakes. However, in this class, the fear of mistakes gradually decreased and the self-confidence increased.
20. First and most important thing is, I recovered my confidence. Before taking this class, I was afraid about speaking English. To me, it was too shameful to speak English in front of other people not perfectly. But in the class, I talked a lot with a lot of people, and I repeated that process. The process installed confidence in me. Before the class, I was very shy when I have to talk with foreigners. However, when I was asked how to go to Dongdae-moon by a stranger, I could tell him how to go after the several class.
21. First, I learn courage. In usually, I don't use English. I use English just in GB's English class. At first, I think GB is little strange professor. He made us speak English more and more. But nowadays, I have courage. So I can speak confidently. Now I have a friend who is Malaysian, using English. I can understand and talk with her. I learn courage .For me, it was a very worthy experience.

PASSION

1. I did not have any passion in English before attending this class. Moreover, I hate English before. However, after this class, I learned lots of passion from students and also from professor. From them, I learned lots of passion and I change my mind. I like English now!
2. I realized what we do when we have passion. Whenever professor showed us some English music videos and movies, I watched them with interest. I remembered them and searched for the stuffs I like. Before I hardly searched for English movie, drama, and songs, but now I do.
3. Finally, we watched movie, it was very impressive, because that movie emphasizes passion is important, so I think, if I do everything, I'll have passion about it.
4. Finally, I find that learning English could be fun and interesting. I was happy when I came to this class which makes me love English again. I loved English when I was little students. But when I become a high school students, I realize that English is not a funny language any more. It is a significant subject that I have to be good at. From that moment, I lost my interest and passion about English. But thanks to this class, I find that English is still a funny language.

WRITING

1. First, the most important thing, I learned how to write English essay. Actually, I have never learned about English essay before took this class.
2. Third, just as this class's purpose was, I could learn practical English in this class. Writing an essay about real life, I could learn many words which is especially useful in conversation. And the more essay I write, my English composition got better and it also helped my to speak English faster.
3. First thing that I learned in this class is writing skills. This is what I improved mostly through this class.
4. Third, my writing ability have improved remarkably. Only a few years ago, I even couldn't write my introduction. Now I am not afraid of writing something in English. Expressing my thought and opinion in English is very interesting!
5. I knew how to write essays for the first time in this semester. I didn't write English essays before. I didn't like writing for English, but my first essay was not difficult. And as I wrote several essays, I now the way to write essays and now I don't worry about writing that much.
6. Second, is importance of format. In the first class, Professor Gunther said that Bill Gates won't check our essays if we don't use organized format. So every class, we should have an essay with the organized format.
7. I learn how I write essay well in good form. Because of essay, there are so many homework. But I can learn essay skill. In essay skill, I learn two. How I can express what I want to say. And how I match the formation of the essay. I think that matching the form is as important as expressing my thought.
8. In the class there is unique theme writing homework. And it demands TOEFL writings. Writings have to be logical and well organized. All these things make my English writing skills grow.
9. Second, I learn how to write correct form of English essay to use Microsoft Word. I wrote very many essay and transcription in this class. I wasn't skilled at writing English essay and using Word before I take this class. However, now, I have confidence about it.
10. I learned how to write essay with right form. Actually, it is not relevant with speaking, but professor Gunther Breaux always emphasized to write essay with right form. At first, I thought he was so stern. But I realized that documents which have perfect form is basic needs to adult, and professor wanted to teach that to me.
11. I learned about writing format. We wrote about 4-5 essays this semester in a very strict writing format. This was very helpful in improving my awareness when writing essays because when entering a company sticking to a strict writing format is very important.
12. I learned about the importance of format. When the professor gave us assignments, he always sent us the format file together. At first, we didn't consider the format important, but the professor pointed out the problem from our assignment's format and taught us how to improve it. We learned how important it is in society.
13. Second, importance about form is what professor emphasized. He said us form makes us more skillful and when other people see us we can look more professional.
14. First, I learned how to write. Writing was really hard work to me. But, Gunther give us specific form. It help to decide a direction of writing. Also, the form which he gave us was vital thing on our life. The essay always be required to anyone. So, knowing how to write is good standard to divide people. Now, I know what is good writing and what is not. Writing shows the person who write
15. When I write something I can organize my think in ABC. It it not always ABC but it doesn't matter. Anyway I can organize my think one more time with I talk or write something.
16. Third, I learn that specific example. Now I use specific example a lot when I persuade someone. And I experience that it is very effective.

PRONUNCIATION

1. First, I learned that good pronunciation is important. Once I had a conversation with someone who uses very splendid words and vocabulary, but has bad pronunciation. I used "Pardon"? the most ever the rest of my life during that conversation.
2. Third, pronouncing was the most hard to learn in Korea. Through this class, however, my pronunciation got so much better than before.
3. Not only speaking ability but also listening ability improved. Actually, I am not sure now I can guess right the words after listening to certain word and choose among the similar pronunciation, words such as seat, sat, set, sit. But I am sure that now I notice the different pronunciation.
4. Pronunciation is very important part of his lecture. We were trained primarily to pronounce pronunciation at the beginning of the semester. When the professor pronounced English words, we pronounced them along. And we often took tests that matched words similar to those of pronunciation. I didn't chose correct things well at first, but later I could choose the word correctly. The professor's lecture was a great help to my pronunciation.
5. Especially in pronunciation, I am not doing good. The letter L and R is too hard for me to distinguish in listening rapidly. But in class, we practice pronunciation a lot with professor. It makes me change. Because I can find the different point with letter L and R.
6. My pronunciation needs a lot of practice. In this class I should record my essay reading or conversation test. At first I couldn't understand and that was bothering. When I have a conversation test with my partners I thought my pronunciation was not bad. But every time I listened my recordings, knew my pronunciation didn't sound smoothly. I recorded my essays a lot of time and I know that as I practice my English, my pronunciation gets more smooth little by little.
7. I learned how to practice pronunciations. I could practice pronunciation through homework or many activities. Sometimes, I think it is difficult to pronounce between 'L' and 'R' and 'A' and 'AE' sounds. So I especially pronounce them carefully during class or conversation time.
8. Professor sent e-mails which include pronunciation files. So, I could listen the audio file wherever. I usually played these on the way to school and practiced.
9. Third, pronounce is the thing that I must practice. I have never learned pronounce. Since I was a kid, I spoke pronounce badly. Correcting the pronounce is hard to me.
10. Third, I learn good pronunciation. My pronunciation is worst before. But, we have many activity of speaking perfectly. And we have a lot of pronunciation games. So, I can have better pronunciation. I'm so thankful of that.
11. Finally, thanks to professor's education way, my English pronounce is changed. I still remember the viking [pronunciation] game. Because of this game, and also my professor, now I know what is good pronunciation and bad pronunciation.

VOCABULARY

1. I learned a lot of vocabulary [sp]. I have telephone English class and talk with teacher who are American. When I used 'couch potato' she was surprised and told me it's really good vocabulary. I was very proud and used more word I learned in this class!
2. I learned many useful words and expressions which I can use in real life. While attending middle and high school, I always studied and memorized words relevant to the exam. But in this class, we learn many words from each topic, and also learn how to pronounce it.
3. Second is useful word in real life. Until high school, I always memorized strange words for CSAT. These are very useless. But, in this class I could learn useful word that can use ordinarily.
4. Second, vocabulary is necessary thing that make sentences enriched. I learned that the more vocabulary I can use, the longer sentences I can make.
5. The new words from the word buffet attributed to my rich expressions. Before this class, I just speak English with little words. For this reason, I only expressed my opinions in small range. During this class, I add up my new words in the three conversation tests. When I knew the feeling of using many words, I can enjoy speaking with English.
6. Second is importance of vocabulary. I felt the vocabulary ability is index of English skill. The vocabulary makes us sophisticated because competent English skills make polished sentences.
7. First, my vocabulary using skill was increased. I learned many vocabulary in gold book because of repeating many time.
8. First, I learned vocabulary. We check vocabulary every test and homework. I almost remember vocabulary in gold because of repeating many time.
9. In each topic of the gold book. there are a lot of new vocabularies in the first page. The students in this class should use them in their essays and conversation.
10. I learned may vocabularies wrote in gold book, and by having many conversations in class and, and also taking three conversation tests, I became more skilled, and fluent speaker.
11. The professor made vocabulary list with is very helpful in speaking English conversation.
12. I could master lots of words related to one certain topic. Throughout the class, I thought the 'Word buffet' in the gold book really nice because I could know lots of new words which is really useful in the conversation and also use common but important words that I was not really using often. I already knew the meaning of 'picky' but I never used it when I was talking about food. So, after I learned that word again in the class, I considerably used it. Also, when I was talking about Korean food, I always used 'tradition' instead of the word 'ethnic'. It was my first time to learn this word and it was quite suitable to describe Korean foods.
13. I was surprised when I was drink soju with foreign friend in my major. At that time, one of my friend said to another friend that "you are a cheap date." If I didn't take your class, I may not know the meaning, but I could laugh because I know the meaning of 'cheap date.' It that sense, the words you taught us were very useful.
14. Third, being confident. When I drank with some foreigners, one of them can't speak Korean well. So we had to use English sometimes to talk with her. And I remembered some words I learned at the Chapter Socializing and University. I asked her about her hangover first, and we talked a short time. It was really cool! This class really helped me.
15. For KSAT, I memorized over 10,000 words, including idioms and specific expressions. But can I use them? NO. I just memorized, not absorbed. The words just passed through my brain and didn't remain. I could not use them. However, preparing conversation, I learned how to absorb words. I learned how to express my ideas using new words and that is the way I can absorb them.

SPEAKING

1. At first, I was afraid speaking English because I have never spoken in English before (though I have learned English for 10 years). This class is my turning point. I'm turning my useless English skill into useful and practical English skill.
2. During lots of conversations with many partners, I learned natural conversation patterns, and how to keep conversation. For example, I learned that listening and sympathizing is important. Thanks to English class, my conversation skill was developed not only in English but also in Korean.
3. The advanced speaking is also the element that I am mad [crazy about?] at this class. I can express my opinions or thinking in Korea, but it is difficult to do it in English. After this class, I can gradually speak my thoughts with English.
4. I did learn how to speak academic conversation that speak my opinion persuasively by using A, B, C or First, Second, Third.
5. I improved my ability to speak English fluently. Before I took this class, I used to stutter when I spoke in English. Because when I was in middle school and high school, there was no chance to speak in English. I just learned grammar and listening skills. But I could speak English freely in this class. For this reason, I could improve my ability to speak English fluently.
6. I learned to converse naturally with strangers. Originally I couldn't talk to anyone I didn't know. But now I can talk to stranger very well. I can assure that it's due to this class which guarantee free conversation.
7. The best thing with professor was I can see my speaking ability improving.
8. First, my speaking ability is improved. I can see that objectively because I expressed the ability visually.
9. First, my speaking has improved. Previously, sentences that I spoke were too short. For example, "Oh really?" or "Aha" was the all that I spoke. However, I tried to practice speaking various words and sentences for my exam. As a result, when I took the final exam, I was able to make whole sentences and speak a lot with other students.
10. Third, I can now speak various topics with any other. After practicing various topics, I can now talk without pause.
11. First, I could learn how to speak well. I had chance to speak English twice a week, three hours a week. I improved conversation ability before [after] take this class. My third conversation test prove it because I spoke 100 more words than first conversation test.
12. For more than 10 years, I had taken English education focused on reading skills. . . . With this class, I could check my speaking ability, increase it, and get confidence about it!
13. Speaking English is what expresses me. Through speaking, and in English, I learned how to express myself.
14. Finally, despite some mistakes I improved speaking ability much. In comparison to first test and third test the word sum increased 47%. And I saw more surprising thing. Last semester when I took same class, the word sum of first speaking test was only 237. However, at final test in this semester I spoke 564 words. I am pleased with the increase and I become more confident in speaking and speak longer than first time.
15. Third, the pleasure coming from visible improvement. I could see my development by doing my reflection homework [conversation transcript]. Now I rarely stammer in speaking time. I also could overcome the fear of speaking because I know I can speak in English.
16. First, my English speaking ability was improved. Through this class for 4 months I could speak with partners in English for three hours a week. At first, it was very difficult to speak in English 1 on 1 for 5 minutes but now I can do it even for more than 20 minutes.

LISTENING

1. Third, I could learn good listening skill. When I listen to other people they like me.
2. Third, also my listening is upgrade. Professor is foreigner so I had to listen content he said. Honestly I didn't understand perfectly that he said. Even though I don't fully understand now, I'm much better off than before. A movie watched on last week is my first movie without Korean subtitles. I proud of myself to watch movie without subtitles.
3. Third, now I can watch the movie without subtitles. I learn English 10 years, but I was afraid that if there is no subtitle, I can't understand the meaning. But last class I understand them well!! It was really fun! After that class I try to watch movie without subtitles. Even there are some words that I can't understand but I believe that I can make it.
4. Second, my listening skill is high too. In this class we speak with many people. After practice many time, So I learned speaking skill and I can listen smoothly. Last time we watch an English movie, I feel my that my listening skill is better.
5. Now I can watch the movie without the subtitles. I learn English for 10 years, but I was afraid if there was no subtitle, I can't understand the meaning. But last class I understand them well!!
6. First, listening skill is the most prominent improvement I made this semester. Our professor let us listen many conversations from native speakers. It helped me get a sense of english. In specific situation, I can inference what one is going to say. By learning some phrases and words spoken in real life, I have been getting more like a native speaker.
7. Third, it helps listening and pronunciation ability, at first time my listening ability was bad as I could not distinguish V and B. As you see, it was awful and I was hard to understand the sentences while I speak with foreigner. Now I can easily understand the speaks of foreigner so I am not afraid to chat with foreigner. Rather now I want to speak with foreigner friends.
8. Second, my listening ability improved too. It's very natural phenomenon. In conversation, we both speak and listen. So I can improve my listening ability.
9. Finally, I learned how to listen. We had a 3 speaking tests by this class. At the first time, I was hurried about speaking my speaking. I didn't consider other's saying. But next time, I found that listening is more important than speaking. Listening is vital thing in conversation. We have to listen to other's saying to participate the conversation. So, at the final test, I tried to listen to other's saying and react to others.

READING

Third, I learned writing about ABC. At first time I am curious about why have to use ABC format. But in this time, I realize ABC format is really good at writing essay. Also, it helps me to read an another English essay. Like professor said, many essay got their own ABC. So, if I find it, it is more easy to read. In this term of exam, i was surprised one more time by this method. This is nice tip of reading. Really glad to know this tip.

SPEED DATING

1. First, the power of repetition. I've always heard the great effect and power of repetition but I've never experienced it before because I'm kind of a lazy person. I talked with every student in this class with same subjects like "What was your best vacation?" or "What did you do last weekend?" and I became more fluent at that subjects or at one sentence.
2. First I can learn smother speaking. Before every class we must prepare we use conversation material at speaking partner. And we change partner each ten minute so speak same sentence about five time. It can make me smoother speaker.
3. Second, I learned that the smooth speaking is important on conversation. Though taking your class, I found that when I speak about topic again and again, I could find what words I should use to make clear understanding to my friends. After that I intended to make simple but clear sentences with smoother speaking.
4. First, I could know 'how to express my thought to other people'. In almost class of this English lecture, I practiced this by changing partners. At first, my expressions were difficult for my partners to understand. Because there were many sentences which can only be understood by me. However, our professor changed partners in every 5~15 minutes. And then, I could use my expressions again and again. So, as time went by, I could correct my mistakes and think about how to express my thought more understandably.
The more mistakes I made, the better chances my speaking could be progress. For example, I often thought about my mistakes in this process and said to me 'how about using various words as possible as I can?' or 'There was grammatically mistake, so let's fix it.' So, I could learn from these mistakes which I made and I could develop my communication ability. If there wasn't this class, I wouldn't find my mistakes and receive any opportunities to improve my English speaking skill.
5. To begin with, from this English class, I could learn how to use English as a communication tool. Almost in every class, I had to talk with two or three different students. By repeating topics of conversation, it was becoming comfortable for me to have a talk and my speaking became smoother. For example, when the talk's topic was 'my favorite vacation', I could not fully explain why it was my favorite. However, as I had lots of talks with other students and listened to their favorites, it was easy for me to arrange my talk again and make it better. So finally it was possible to perfectly explain why that vacation is my favorite with three definite reasons.
6. Second, it is obvious thing to say, it really helps mistakes prevention ability and it let me repeat again. Actually the best solution to develop speaking ability is several repetitions. In this course, we had many times to repeat, and during the repetition the brain naturally arrange our sentences and prevent mistakes. So, the tasks which should write about mistakes help later repetition. [listing mistakes on their transcript]
7. My conversation abilities at the beginning of the semester were terrible. It was really embarrassing to ask my friend 'Are you live alone?' I could check my problems directly in the Conversation test. I could see exactly what my problem was in conversation, if I misused the verb tenses or if grammar sentences were used incorrectly. I think I can speak
8. English more naturally than the beginning of the semester by repeating practice and feedback.
9. In every class, all of students had conversation practice with at least five people. So I could better learn speaking skills in more interactive way, not alone myself. For example, sometimes I couldn't understand others' saying, they explained to me again and again and I also did like that to others. And this kind of repetition made me able to speak more fluently and confidently.

CONVERSATION TEST

1. Second, we listened to audio and made a transcript of each test. That was very useful. Now I know that I usually say 'uh. . .' or 'um . . .' in speaking. There was some grammar mistakes and wrong pronunciation, too. After the first test, I tried to make it better on the second test, and on the final speaking test, I assure that I did a better job.
2. Second, writing a transcript was helpful to correct my conversation. When I was in the conversation test, I usually made some mistakes like grammar, pronunciation mistakes. If I didn't record and transcript my conversation, I wouldn't have known my mistakes. I think that doing well at conversation test well is important to, but correcting one's mistakes is more important for future. I will not make these mistakes that I did at test again. This is my last goal of class.
3. Last, I can feel 'Happiness of Growth.' In my first conversation test, I had normal grade. And second conversation test I got minus point. So, I prepared my last test harder. In last conversation test, I got 178% increase point. When I write transcript, I surprised. And I feel happy. I knew that what is 'happiness of growth' that time. After that, I have more interesting to study.
4. Third, I learned how to speak longer. I didn't know the exact reason why I became more fluent than before, but the data says I became more fluent. I recorded about 9 words per utterance on first conversation test, but I recorded about 25 words per utterance on the last conversation test. Maybe continuous English speaking made it better.
5. Second, speaking fast. I'm not good at speaking. Even in Korean, my family members often tell me that my pronunciation is NOT good. This problem is same in English. The easiest and fastest solution is speaking slower. But when I have a conversation test, I speak fast. Too fast that sometimes the listener misunderstand my talking. This makes me really tired when I was typing my conversation log.
6. Third, I did learn patient for English in this class. Because in conversation test I have to talk more. That make me spoken for far longer than I expected.
7. After 3 times of conversations tests, I improved more than 100%. In 1st test, I heard other friends speaking and I couldn't speak well. But my final test, I spoke so much so I felt proud of myself. My English speaking skills improved 175% !!
8. Second, my pronunciation was better than before. I readied for conversation test to pronounce better. I used Dictionary.com to practice proper pronunciation. It was so effective that i feel better when I take conversation test.
9. Second, I learned fluent speaking. When the first time that I listened in first conversation test, I am really surprised. Because I stammered a lot. But when I had listened next test's speaking I realized my speaking become more better. I can use more long sentences more than October. Also, I can question more fluently than previous test. This is the practical improvement of my ability, and I really thankful to this class.
10. First, through the exams, especially final test that I watched the video, I can realize my attitude when I speaking. Such as gestures, habits and my voice tone. It was first time that I watch myself objectively. It was shocking and so meaningful experience. Because I realize how I look.
11. I learned from these tests is who am I. During speaking times I can think and speak about myself. It was very helpful to think about me. When I talked about Love, I just thought and said what I felt. And that process makes my thinking more specific. This speaking test makes me reflect who I am.
12. When I take first conversation test, me and my partners prepared to myself and themselves. Understandably, I can't speak well and my test scores are not good. However, when I take second test, I prepared with my partners. At that time, my test got better and I receive higher scores too.

GRAMMAR

1. First, my grammar has improved. I used to make several mistakes such as tense, third person singular and so on. It is difficult to say that it has 100% improved and fixed but I am sure the number of mistakes are decreased.
2. After listening this class, I realized grammar is not important than sending my words properly to another person. As a result, I get rid of my obsession about grammar made me speak English better than before.
3. I can modify my grammatical error very much. For example, I always forget to use past tense, but now I use past tens half and half. "You know", this such word is my big grammatical problem with I talk with someone, but now I try hard not to use this.
4. I know I'm not perfect in English. So I hesitate to talk in English until I make perfect sentence in my brain. But in this class, I didn't have to talk in English perfectly. The most important thing is just to talk. It's our practice time. We need to enjoy our English class. While talking with friends, I enjoyed conversation and I gain confidence.
5. Before I attend this class I didn't like English. Because I knew I have a bad habit which I can never overcome. The bad habit is that I never open my mouth until I make a complete sentence with correct grammar in my head. But now I can open my mouth without hesitation. Although I make mistakes. Because it is effective in real circumstances than reading English books or speaking alone.
6. I chose this class because of a manner of lecturing in class syllabus. It said "A university education is preparation for life, and life is not a grammar test." I really agree with those words. I have already learned and practiced English grammar for a long time and I know it's hard to come up with grammars in real conversations without continuous practicing.
7. Consequently, Fear of English has gone away a little bit. Although there is insufficient grammatical knowledge, speaking ability has improved. Too much emphasis on grammatical knowledge makes me unable to speak.
8. I can modify my grammatical error very much. For example, I always forget to use past tense, but now I used past tense half and half. "You know," this such word is my big grammatical problem when I talk with somebody, but now I try hard not to use this.
9. Third, my grammatical sense has also improved. One of the reasons why I only spoke short was I did not have confidence on my grammar. But in this course professor gave advice about preposition and article. This was a great help for me. For instance, when I am speaking in English I sometimes said unnecessary article in the same sentence such as 'the'. However, as I listen to the recording o f my speaking of the exam, I realized that I use too much articles. Thus, I got better sense with articles.
10. Third, our class's purpose for students is not enhancing the grammer. But I think I can more excellent grammartical expressions. Because I am very shy person. So I very hate about that I use the incorrect expression. So I bother about my grammar when I talk my partner, so I can enhance my grammartical ability.

PHONES (Students do not have their phones in class. The phones are used for attendance.)

Third, I learned how to come up with myself. Because using cellphone is not possible during class, I have to send out my phone. So I have to come up with myself without using the dictionary when talking with others. At first, speak without dictionary was very hard to me, but after several classes, I learned how to come up with myself.

FEEDBACK

1. After each conversation test, I listened to the record what I said during the test and write down it as a transcript. So I could know my overall speaking style, mistakes and weakness in speaking English. Therefore, I could improve that for the next test. For example, after the last conversation test, the professor showed us video of the test. I could check my overall gesture and the fact that I laugh quite much when speaking. So I think I should correct it.
2. Third, after tests we listened to the audio files and wrote a transcript and found our mistakes that we have to fix. It's very good practice, cause you listen to yourself and hear your mistakes. And after you do that you can fix it and never do the same mistakes. I like this because everybody makes mistakes but it's much more important to fix those mistakes. And transcripts help a lot.
3. I've thought that my voice is deep but never thought that my voice is small. However, after recording my voice for the conversation test, I was surprised that I sound like a timid boy.
4. I learned correcting. I had many conversations and essay in this class. Every homework and class work had collecting [correcting] process. Through this process, I could collect [r] myself and I could recognize my weak part. So I can improve myself every test collecting [r] myself. After knowing my weakness, I have to care my weakness.
5. Second, I learned that my speaking is fast. I did not know my speaking is fast. But when I tried to write transcript, I realized my speaking is fast. It was difficult to write down my words. So now, I try to speak more slowly. And I try to speak more exactly.

FRIENDS

1. Third, I can know about my classmates. I had total 3 tests with all different partners. So every time I met new friends and talked about us. I can know the deep part about them. Although we met almost first time, during the test all people can talk about ourselves freely like a friends. It is a special experience for me.
2. Second, I can reduce fear for English and I can get confidence. Because partners help me when I couldn't response well, and if I make a mistake, they smile with me and encourage to say more. And I can also help my partners. I become to say my opinion even daily stuff, academically, and confidently.
3. I could meet many good friends in this class including same major and other major class. I am very shy to strange person, that's why I can't speak easily to any person at first. But in this class we have to talk with every student to practice our English speaking. It makes me feel comfortable to classmates. So I can have good talking time with them and be a good friends.
4. Professor tell us grammar study is finish and conversation is very important so he would teach us only conversation. He makes us talk each other every class. By his favor we could be good friends and improve us conversation skills.
5. Finally, I made new friends while talking! I came to this class to talk with other people not to hear only what the professor says. And from this way, while talking about different topics, we exchanged our opinions and ideas. Our ability has increased together. And what's more, we told our private things we made friends naturally.
6. Class can be enjoyed. The style of processing class was amazing. I met many conversation partners every class and that is enjoyable. I just had fun with conversation.
7. It was a great time to think about myself. Writing gold book and essay, I think what I like, what I don't like. Actually, I don't deeply think about myself in everyday life. And through conversations, I could listen other people's thoughts. So it was also good to have a talk with various type of people.