

J.F. OBERLIN
UNIVERSITY ELP
FOUNDATION ENGLISH
LEVEL 3
AUTUMN 2007

STUDENT NOTES

Textbook and Materials

	Classes per week	Textbook and materials
Eigo IIA: Listening and Speaking	2 classes per week	<i>Passages 1</i>
Eigo IIB: Reading	1 class per week	<i>Passages 1</i> An English novel which you choose
Eigo IIB: Writing	1 class per week	<i>Passages 1</i> Handouts from your writing teacher

Dictionary

In addition to a Japanese-English dictionary, Level 3 students need a monolingual (English only) dictionary. Monolingual dictionaries are often a better source of natural English examples than bilingual dictionaries. These days, many electronic dictionaries include both a bilingual and monolingual dictionary. If you prefer an electronic dictionary, we recommend:

- Ex-word Dataplus 2 A2-S9200

Or, if you prefer a paper dictionary, we recommend the *Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English*. You can buy either of these dictionaries at the *Seikyo*.

Student Package

We will continue to use the materials you bought at the *Seikyo* last term. This level three package included:

- *Passages 1* by Jack Richards and Chuck Sandy
- An A4 clear file
- A dictionary of your choice.

September Students

Each year, a number of students begin their university studies in the autumn term. If there are any new students in your class, this is a good chance for you to make a new friend and help someone out. If you are a new student—welcome! Your teacher will answer any questions you have about the course and ask you to complete a Student Personal Information Sheet, so that he or she can get to know you right away.

CASEC Test

All Level 3 students will take the CASEC test again this term. CASEC is a computer-based English test that you will take in a computer room between December 3rd and 7th. Your teacher will tell you the exact day. To pay for the test, your teacher will collect a fee of ¥1,600 from you during the first week of classes. The CASEC provides important diagnostic feedback about your English abilities.

FLSC

The Foreign Language Study Center (FLSC) is on the 3rd floor of the Gakujikan building. It's a great place to study, read, do homework assignments, search the Internet and watch a movie. You can borrow books for up to 2 weeks (please remember to return them!), and you can watch a DVD inside the FLSC. Please come and check it out some time!

Classrooms and Teachers

Classrooms and teachers do not usually change between the spring and autumn terms. However, you may want to use the chart below to remind yourself of your class schedule.

My Foundation English Class

	Teacher	Day	Time	Classroom
Eigo IIA: Listening and Speaking				
Eigo IIB: Reading				
Eigo IIB: Writing				

The next pages of the Student Notes give you information about each course.

Eigo IIA Listening and Speaking

Goals

The goals of the Listening and Speaking course are to:

- Improve your speaking fluency;
- Improve your speaking accuracy, especially with complex sentences and new vocabulary;
- Learn discussion language and how to manage a group discussion;
- Learn academic English skills which you will need as a 2nd, 3rd, and 4th year student;
- Improve your presentation skills and gain confidence in public speaking;
- Improve your listening skills.

Grades for Listening and Speaking

You will receive four grades from your Listening and Speaking teacher.

Listening Quizzes. Your teacher will give you at least two listening quizzes (short tests) during the semester. The quizzes may be listening comprehension, dictation, or based on an activity from the textbook. Each teacher will decide the quiz schedule and tell you when to expect one. The quizzes will be made into a single grade at the end of the semester.

Group Presentation. You will join a group of about 4 students to plan and create a multimedia presentation promoting a tourist region in Japan to an international audience. You are expected to use brochures, maps, and posters to support your talk, and groups may also request to borrow a digital projector to display PowerPoint files and/or photo slideshows enhancing their presentation. You will receive an individual grade (20%) and a group grade (10%) for the group presentation assignment.

Group Discussion. For the group discussion, you will join a group of 4 students to discuss a challenging topic. Some of the students will be from another class, so you will be discussing the topic with them for the first time. The group discussion will be observed and judged by two teachers, so at least one of the judges will not be your regular teacher.

Listening Test (Final Exam grade). Your teacher will give you a final listening test near the end of the semester. This test will be similar to the listening quizzes you take and may be listening comprehension, dictation, or based on an activity from the textbook. Each teacher will decide the date of the test and tell you what to study. This test will serve as the Final Examination for the course. Therefore, if you miss more than 1/3 of Eigo IIA (Listening and Speaking) classes, you will receive a U (=0 points) on this assessment (please review the ELP Student Policy section in your handbook).

Eigo IIB Reading and Writing

Reading

Goals

The goals of the Reading class are to:

- Increase your vocabulary and reading comprehension skills;
- Experience reading English for pleasure;
- Learn to share and discuss reactions to your reading.

Grades for Reading

You will receive two grades for the reading class.

Reading Quizzes (Final Exam grade). Your teacher will give you at least three quizzes (short tests) during the autumn semester. These reading quizzes will test vocabulary you have studied in *Passages* and your skill at understanding new readings. The quizzes will be added together to make one grade at the end of the semester. These quizzes will serve as the Final Examination for the course. Therefore, if you miss more than 1/3 of Eigo IIB Reading and Writing classes, you will receive a U (=0 points) on this assessment (please review the ELP Student Policy section in your handbook).

Reading Discussion Forum. Reading an English novel for pleasure is a fun and natural way to improve vocabulary and reading speed. For the reading class, you must borrow one or more English novels from the FLSC and read them during semester. You will share your reactions to your book and other readings from *Passages* in a discussion forum. You will receive a grade for your participation in this forum, including reactions your own book and responses you make to your classmates' reactions.

Writing

Goals

The goals of the Writing class are to:

- Practice research skills and use the 5-paragraph essay format;
- Expand the range of grammar and vocabulary you can use in your writing;
- Improve your writing by planning, revising, and correcting your own errors;
- Reflect on the content of your writing by sharing it with your teacher and classmates;
- Learn how to use summarizing, paraphrasing, and quoting in your writing.

Grades for Writing

You will receive three grades for the writing class.

Persuasive essay reference list. First, you will turn in a typed, formatted list of books, newspaper articles, websites, or other material that documents the primary sources you plan to paraphrase, summarize, or quote in your essay.

Persuasive essay 1st draft. Your next assignment is to complete a typed 1st draft of the essay, including an introductory paragraph with a clear thesis, 3 body paragraphs that develop your opinions, and a conclusion summarizing your argument.

Persuasive essay final draft. Later, you will submit a typed, proofread final draft, incorporating revisions based on feedback from the teacher and your classmates, containing examples of indirect and direct quotations, persuasive language, and transitions.

Here We Go Again

In your second semester, you should be comfortable working together with your classmates, asking questions of your teachers, and performing to the highest level of your ability. This term we will tackle some interesting, yet challenging, new topics. While you are learning about personal values, exchanges across cultures, and controversial issues, please keep in mind that these themes come up in both courses, so you'll have chances to use the vocabulary and grammar you study in all of your English lessons. In addition, many of the tasks you will do this semester, for example reading a novel, having a group discussion, and writing in paragraph form are already familiar to you. We hope this gives you confidence to use the English you already know and encouragement to try out some new English grammar and vocabulary, too. Good luck and enjoy the semester!

Final Grades

Altogether, you must complete at least 12 graded assignments. These assignment grades will be added together for one final grade for Eigo IIA and one final grade for Eigo IIB. These tables show exactly how much each assignment counts for your final grade.

Eigo IIA Listening and Speaking			
Small Group Discussion	Group Presentation	Listening Quizzes	Listening Test (Final Exam grade)
30%	30%	20%	20%
Discussion of a randomly selected topic related to <i>Passages</i> in a group of four students	A 20-minute multimedia group presentation promoting a tourist region in Japan to an international audience	At least 2 listening quizzes based on material from <i>Passages</i>	One final listening test based on material from <i>Passages</i>

Eigo IIA Reading and Writing				
Persuasive essay reference list	Persuasive essay 1 st draft	Persuasive essay final draft	Reading Discussion	Vocabulary / Reading Quizzes (Final Exam grade)
10%	20%	25%	25%	20%
A typed, formatted list of references in alphabetical order, demonstrating that appropriate source material has been located	A typed first draft of the 5 paragraph essay, containing an introductory paragraph with a clear thesis, 3 body paragraphs that develop the writer's argument, and a conclusion summarizing the essay	A typed, proofread final draft incorporating revisions based on feedback from the teacher and classmates, containing examples of indirect and direct quotation of sources, persuasive language, and transitions	Responses to discussion prompts about self-selected readers and other readings	At least 3 quizzes based on vocabulary and reading skills introduced in <i>Passages</i>