Jayne’s English Survey

Name: _______________  Student #: _______________  Class: Conversation 1 Mon/Wed _____

English Background

1. Personal Information
   a) When is your birthday? _____________________ Western age: ______
   b) Where did you grow up? (city, province) __________________________________________
   c) What is your major? ________________________ This is your ____ at Ajou?
   d) Have you in the past or currently study other languages? ___________________________
   e) Have you ever traveled/studied in another country? ________________________________

2. English in Korean School System
   a) How old were you when you first started to study English? _____ years old
   b) What grade? Elementary ______  Middle School ______  High school _______
   c) On average, how many hours/week did you study? ______________________________
   d) Did you ever have a foreign teacher? __________________
   e) What kind of English did you study? (ex. Reading, grammar, conversation, writing)
      ____________________________________________________________________________

3. English Academy (Hawgwons)
   a) How old were you when you began going to English Hawgwon? _____ years old
   b) What grade? Elementary ______  Middle School ______  High school ______
   c) On average, how many hours/week did you study? ______________________________
   d) Did you ever have a foreign teacher? __________________
   e) What kind of English did you study? (ex. Reading, grammar, conversation, writing)
      ____________________________________________________________________________
4. **English Motivation** (*Please explain all your answers thoroughly*)

a) What interested you to study English?

b) What is the *easiest* thing in English for you? (ex. Writing, reading, speaking)

c) What is the *most difficult* thing in English for you?

d) *Why* did you take this class?

e) How do you feel when speaking English and why? (a little scared, nervous,)

f) Do you have the chance to speak English outside of the class? Where? How often?

g) *What is your ultimate goal related to English, let’s say 5 years in the future?*

5. **English Conversation 1 Class** … *This class!!*

a) What specific part of conversation do you want to improve on (where? With who? Purpose?)

b) What kind of activities will you do outside of this class to improve your English skills?

c) What is your level (from 1–10) of English conversation ability? **1-low**  **10-high**

d) What is your *realistic* expectation level after this class?

e) What other English classes have you taken at Ajou University?
Needs Assessment – Results from Survey

I gave the above questionnaire to my Conversation 1 class. I teach at Ajou University in Suwon, a city of 1 million people about 1 hours south of Seoul. This class is held twice/week for 75 minutes of instruction per class. This class is optional for students and as you will see from the below needs assessment, they have different backgrounds and reasons for taking this class.

CLASS HISTORY

Average age: 23 years old
Student's origin: 35% grew up in city over 5 million people
Major: 55% are majoring in Engineering
        45% are majoring in English
Other languages: 55% have studied other languages
Travel: 55% traveled outside of Korea
Study overseas: 30% have studied English for less than 1 year overseas

ENGLISH IN THE KOREAN SCHOOL SYSTEM

Start age: All students began at 12 years old, the first year of middle school
Time: Average 3 hours of English instruction/week
Teacher origin: Mostly taught by Korean instructors, although a few students had 1 year instruction with a native English instructor
Content: Reading comprehension, grammar, & listening (majority), some writing

ENGLISH IN ACADEMY/INSTITUTE (after school lessons)

Start age: 80% of students studies in an academy in middles school for average 2.5 years, 10% never attended an academy, 10% went for 1 year in high school
Time: Average 3 hours of English instruction/week
Teacher origin: Mostly taught by Korean instructors, although more students had instruction with a native English speaker (40% for at least 1 year)
Content: A wide array of content including conversation & grammar as the most popular, then reading, listening, and some writing
ENGLISH MOTIVATION

Main interest:
7 students - want to get a good job in Korea (which requires English)
6 students - want to meet & talk with foreign people (mostly outside of Korea)
2 students - want to be an international business person
1 student – wants to be an English teacher
1 student – wants to be a flight attendant
1 student – wants to be an international referee
1 student – wants to learn more about foreign culture
1 student – wants to look smart to women and his friends

Easiest part of English:
16 students – reading is the easiest
3 students – listening
1 student - listening to music

Hardest part of English:
14 students - speaking (conversation)
4 students - writing
2 students - listening (especially to fast speech)

Feelings related to speaking English:
5 - scared to look stupid or look like a fool
5 - nervous because of limited vocabulary and difficult to express their feelings
3 - fun and interesting, good
3 - difficult, frustrated to express feelings
3 – neutral, neither good nor bad
1 - shy

Ultimate goal in 5 years related to English
8 – be able to speak fluently like a native English speaker
4 – talk with foreigners easily
2 – have a good job, able to translate Korean to English
2 – work overseas/have a company overseas
1 – be a confident English teacher
1 – travel whenever I want
ENGLISH IN CONVERSATION 1 (The name of this class)

**Certain area of conversation to improve on:**
- 13 students – want to learn common expressions used in everyday English
- 3 – want to learn business English to use at work one day
- 2 – business & everyday English
- 2 – all kind of English

**Activities outside of this class to improve English:**
- 5 – watch English movies but without subtitles
- 5 – read novels or watch American TV
- 5 – speak to foreigners
- 2 – attend English clubs at Ajou
- 1 – memorize new vocabulary
- 1 – email foreign friends
- 1 – study English in academy

**Current level:** 4.1 (out of 10)

**Expected level:** 7 (out of 10)

**Classes taken at Ajou:**
- 100% - English 1 & 2
  - Most students – have taken a writing class, grammar class
  - A few students taking English literature classes (not all given in English)
Project Proposal

The students of my Conversation 1 E class will be able to use everyday common English questions and expressions to communicate comfortably amongst other English speakers within the classroom and amongst native English speakers outside of the class.

After performing a needs assessment with my class, I discovered the biggest need of specific areas of English communication to focus on. Most students want to be able to communicate with foreign people, whether that be in another country or within Korea, focusing on casual everyday English.

I believe instruction is the best way to solve the instructional goal because conversing in English is not a regular occurrence for the students so they do not know common expressions like myself, a native English speaker. I can model for the students and share my experience with the language. Also 30% of the class have lived and studied outside of Korea so students can also learn by practicing English with them.

There are 20 Korean students ranging in age from 19 – 26 years of age with the average age being 23 years old. The majority of the students are majoring in English and the other group is studying engineering.

Once the skills are learned they will be used in the class over the 16 week semester and also in other English classes some students are taking. There are foreign students studying at Ajou university so students will be able to use their English skills when speaking to these students. Also many students express an interesting in traveling or studying abroad so they will definitely use their English conversation skills in an international setting.

The classroom in which the students are learning is equipped with a large overhead screen which is connected to a computer with internet access. Sometimes we can watch a video clip online to listen to and observe native English speakers in different settings. Learning English is also about understanding gestures and other important body movements (hugging to greet friends, kissing on the cheek) which play a big role in communication just as much as the spoken language.

There is one mandatory component in this class and that is to attend English Café at least one time. This is a gathering one evening each month where students socialize in English with the graduate students studying at Ajou, the English professors (11 of us), and also with other Korean students and professors. Snacks and beverages are free and there are often games and prizes to entice students to come and have fun in a relaxed setting while speaking English. It would be great to have these gatherings more often, once or twice/month, however this would require money because professors probably would not volunteer their time that often. You would also need money for snacks for the students and also to attract other students to come as well.