

ENGLISH EDUCATION CENTER, EHIME UNIVERSITY

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English Learning Materials of English Education Center

Are you looking for English learning materials? We have plenty of English readers, study reference books, grammar books, workbooks of TOEIC, TOEFL, Eiken, or other English exams, and listening materials.

If you are interested, visit the EEC office and ask office staff (when the alert level is lowered and you are allowed to enter the campus).

Studying English Online/Abroad Reports

What I Got from Online Lesson

Yuna Sawada (Faculty of Law & Letters)

Hello, my name is Yuna Sawada. I joined the online studying abroad program during this summer vacation. I will talk about my experience.

First, the contents of this course were suitable for me. I had three classes in a day and each day has one interesting topic. I gained bountiful knowledge of British culture and systems such as history, entertainment, and education. Discussions related to the topics were also extremely fascinating. Especially, we have big difference as regards the medical system. There is NHS (National Health Service) in England and they have to go registered hospital having no choice to decide hospital freely like Japan.

Also, I had many opportunities to speak in English with the volunteers and it was really

enjoyable. One of them is as old as me, so, we could share our future careers and dreams. When I asked one of the volunteers why she could understand my English, she told me that I should have confidence because my skills were high enough. Since then, I became much more confident.

Before this program, I wanted to study abroad twice, it was unsuccessful. However, this program gave me the opportunity to get that experience. I think some of you are frustrated because you can't study abroad during the pandemic, however, there is always another way.



Me (upper right) having discussion with volunteers

My Days in the UK -Episode 1-

Tatsuya Kobayashi (Graduate of Faculty of Law & Letters)



Leicester Square, London

I have always wanted to go to the UK since I was little. Finally, it came true 10 years later as a university student. I chose Liverpool where it is famous for the Beatles and Liverpool F.C. This was the best choice for me. Although the stay was only for 2 months, this

memorable experience motivated me to go back to Liverpool again.

After graduating from Ehime University in 2019, I started working in a hotel, with a purpose of saving up enough money to go to the UK again. Everything was going as planned until COVID-19 changed everything. I was still getting paid. In my spare time since I had plenty of time, I researched meticulously what exactly I would need for getting a VISA and deal with other paper work. Needless to say, it gave me more time to study English, too.

In February this year, an email was in my inbox. When I opened it, it was as if I had won

the lottery. It said, "This email confirms that you have been successfully chosen to apply for the 2021 Youth Mobility Scheme." With this VISA, one can stay in the UK for up to 2 years and do almost whatever he/she wants. Because of its flexibility, it is so competitive that in 2021 only 1000 people in Japan are eligible. I was overjoyed that I was chosen.

Things got trickier due to the pandemic, including my flight being canceled in the last minute. Yet I was rather surprised how calm I was. Probably deep down I knew that anything could happen under any circumstances.

Not everything was a piece of cake, but I managed to work out everything in the end. Having eaten *okonomiyaki* at the airport, I stepped into the plane off to London.



King's Cross Station, London

To my surprise, what welcomed me there was NOT the gloomy and dark sky, but the sun.
(To be continued...)

Upcoming Events

School Festival

Nov 12 - 15

Winter School Holiday

Dec 25 - Jan 6

University Entrance Exam

Jan 15 - 16

GTEC Academic (Online)
for 1st year students

Jan 24 - 28

**English Education Center
Ehime University**

2nd floor, Aidai Muse,
3 Bunkyo-cho,
Matsuyama, Ehime
790-8577

Phone & FAX
(089)927-8340

E-mail
eec@stu.ehime-u.ac.jp

Webpage
<http://web.eec.ehime-u.ac.jp/>



[Eng. Page] <http://web.eec.ehime-u.ac.jp/english/>



5 Speaking Strategies

Ian Downer (Assistant Professor)

Becoming a more fluent speaker of English does not have to involve spending lots of time or money. The following strategies can help you to improve your speaking skills, while also fitting into your schedule and budget.

1.) Set aside time each day for speaking practice

You can improve your English speaking with as little as 15 minutes per-day. Start by making speaking practice a part of your daily routine. For example, you may wish to listen to podcasts and silently shadow the speaker (silently repeat exactly what the speaker says) when travelling on a bus or train, or speak to yourself in English while doing your daily chores.



2.) Talk to yourself in English

This technique is useful when you do not have easy access to an English conversation partner. To do this, you simply ask yourself a question in English and say your answers out loud. If you want to improve your speaking fluency, choose practice topics that are familiar and of interest to you.

3.) Record yourself speaking in English

Recording yourself on your cell phone is a great way get feedback on your speaking. One popular technique is to record a one-minute speech on your phone on a topic of interest. After recording your speech, listen back to the recording and try to eliminate

any unnatural pauses or expressions. You may also want to write down alternative words and phrases to improve your speaking for next time. Finally, repeat the task with the same or different questions for another minute.



4.) Read aloud

Reading books aloud is a very good way to review vocabulary and grammar. First, choose a book that is at an appropriate level and looks interesting to you. Then, read a few pages from the book out loud every day and record and review the results.

5.) Find a teacher online

There are many good speaking resources available online at reasonable prices. One reasonably priced and popular way to connect with professional teachers is via the website *Italki*. On this website, you can schedule lessons with teachers at your level and choose times that fit in with your schedule.



In summary, the key to success in all of the techniques above is frequent and thoughtful practice. With time and a little bit of effort, you should start to notice an improvement in your English speaking abilities.

You can do it!

Beware of Japanese-made English Words!

With the progress of globalization, many foreign-language words come into Japanese language. It is quite common to see *katakana* words in the texts, or hear English-sound words in our Japanese conversation. However, some of the words and phrases which appear to be English are actually Japanese-made, and are sometimes incomprehensible for native English speakers. Let's take a look at a few examples.

If you have used those *katakana* words in English conversations and your listener seemed not to understand you, it is not your pronunciation problem!

<i>Katakana</i> word	Correct English
モーニングコール	wake-up call
ベビーカー	stroller / pushchair
マグカップ	mug
フライドポテト	french fries
ソフトクリーム	soft-serve ice cream
ドクターストップ	doctor's order
ノースリーブ	sleeveless

