



METU • FACULTY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN LANGUAGE EDUCATION
COURSE POLICY SHEET

Academic Year/ Term	2003 – 2004, FALL
Course Code/Section/Title	FLE 127 (01) SPOKEN SKILLS I
Instructor	Res. Assist. Hale IŞIK
E-mail	hale@fedu.metu.edu.tr
Web site (URL)	http://www.metu.edu.tr/~hisik
Course Day/Hours	Wednesdays, 12.40 -15.30 (LAB); 15.40-17.30 (EF14)
Office Day/Hours	Thursdays, 13.40 -15.30 / Room 202

Aim(s) of the Course

- 1- To improve listening skills and strategies of students in academic and colloquial English.
- 2- To improve speaking skills and revise language needed to participate in discussions and to deliver efficient presentations.
- 3- To improve pronunciation skills with special emphasis on practice in the phonetic alphabet of English and the phonological principles of articulation.
- 4- To make students analyse input in view of phonetic properties and raise their consciousness for the use of correct pronunciation of words.
- 5- To make students aware of the importance of employing effective communication strategies.

Course materials

Selected authentic audio-visual materials: Radio/TV shows, documentaries, films, poetry, songs, short stories, etc.

Procedure & Requirements

❖ **Mini Personal Speeches (10):**

With the intention of getting you accustomed to preparing and presenting information orally in front of an audience, a mini personal speech task has been set.

You will share a personal experience on the following topics with your classmates through the mini speeches. For the mini presentations, you will prepare and present a personal narrative or descriptive speech one of the following topics:

1. A Childhood Memory
2. The Happiest Moment of Your Life
3. The Worst Day of Your Life
4. An Unforgettable Day you Spent with Your Best Friend(s)
5. Your Best Holiday
6. One of Your Personal Discoveries

The length of your interactive personal speeches will be 3-4 min. maximum. You will prepare your presentations according to the Speech Critique Form. Note that it is expected of you to consult your instructor on your choice/outline/materials at least one week before your presentation date when you also need to hand in your typed speech for feedback. The mini individual presentation sessions will take place on October 15, 22 and November 5.

❖ **Culture Presentations (20):**

Working individually, you will prepare a presentation on a subject relating to British/American Culture. The list of possible presentation topics will be posted on my door for you to make a choice on September 24. The interactive speech you will be presenting may have the properties of both informative and persuasive speeches as well as having the purpose of entertainment. Presenters will prepare a 10-15 min. presentation as well as a sheet of listening questions to be distributed to class members. The culture presentations will take place on November 12, 19, December 3, 10, 17, 24, and January 7.

You will prepare your presentations according to the Speech Critique Form. It is obligatory that you show your outline and materials (i.e. visuals, realia, power points) and also hand-in a typed transcript of your full speech to your instructor at least one week before your presentation. If you fail to do so, you will not be allowed to perform your presentation and will lose points allotted to them in grading.

❖ **Film Group Discussion (10):**

We will be viewing 5 films of different genres during our course this term. Working with a group of 5-6 members, you will be responsible for organizing and leading 30-35 min. discussions on one of these films (concerning major characters, plot incidents, cultural-input, etc) right after viewing. You will also be responsible for preparing a during-listening activity for your classmates. The group will get their copy of the film 2 weeks in advance to work together and determine the outline of the film discussion session with major and sub-questions the discussion will be based on. It is a necessity that during these sessions each group member has equal share in leading the discussion and that the group involves/draws each and every class member into the discussion. The groups will consult the course instructor and show their listening activity, discussion outline and questions one week in advance. The group-led film discussion sessions will be held every two weeks: on November 19, December 10, 17, and January 7.

❖ **Film Response Journals (10):**

While viewing the films (alongside other tasks to be given to you) you will be given a Film Response Journal Entry Sheet. For the Journal you are expected to note down answers to ten questions relating to (a) Plot Summary, (b) Theme, (c) Affect, (d) Characters (e) Audio & Visual Events Imagery. A single journal entry should be 3-4 pages maximum. The Film Response Journal Entries for a film will be collected one week after the final viewing/discussion session.

❖ **Phonetics Notebook (5):**

Throughout the term, you will keep a notebook for your phonetics studies. This notebook will be composed of two parts:

1. On one side of your notebook, you will keep track of the pronunciation mistakes of each presenter with the words' mispronounced and correct forms. You will share your findings with the presenters, and the presenters will take notes of the mistakes based on the feedback received from you.

2. On the other side of the notebook, you will keep track of the new words you learn along with their phonetic transcriptions (i.e. the words you learn through the films we will watch; and all the new words you learn in esp. your Reading and Short Story courses).

Due date for returning your notebooks is January 8; however, please note that the instructor may collect your notebook at any time throughout the semester. Thus, make sure you bring your phonetics notebook to each and every class!

❖ **Quizzes (40):**

You will sit for at least seven quizzes throughout the term. Quizzes will not be announced, thus, participation to each class hour is strongly encouraged!

The questions on a single quiz may concern one or more of the following:

- (a) Listening, (b) Phonetics, (c) Classroom presentations, and (d) Films.

❖ **Attendance/ Participation (5):**

Students are required to attend every single class hour and actively participate in all class activities. Do not forget that only meaningful participation is valued.

Participation will be evaluated in two aspects: process and product. *Process* refers to your interest, active participation, effort, and preparation in class activities. *Product* refers to your language use: accuracy in pronunciation, fluency of your speech, grammar, vocabulary, and organization of your thoughts and content.

❖ **Competitive Bonus Tasks (6):**

You will be given three additional tasks in form of a single short question on British/American culture which could bring you extra credits! The questions will be announced through my office door on (1) October 15, (2) November 19, and (3) December 24. The first pair to do research and hand-in the most complete and accurate answer will earn themselves 2 extra credits for each question...so watch out!

Evaluation and Grading:	Percentage %
Mini Personal Presentation	10
Culture Presentation	20
Film Group Discussion	10
Film Response Journal	10
Phonetics Notebook	5
7 Quizzes	40
Attendance/Participation	5

FORMAT to follow for any typed document you hand-in:

- Word processed (and spell checked) on A4 size paper
- Page setup= Spacing: 1,5 lines; Font : Arial (11) or Times Roman (12); Margins: Top, bottom, left, right 2,5.
- Your Name=Top left hand corner. Title of Document = Centered
- Use **bold** for headings and labels; *italics*/underline for emphasis