

Everyday English - 1

Offered under: All Bachelor's/IM degree programs

Course Category: Proficiency

Schedule of Offering: Semester I

Course Credit Structure: 3

Course Code: LL133

- **Lecture: 3**
- **Tutorial: 1**
- **Practical: 0**

Contact Hours per week: 4

Instructor: Neethu S Kumar

1. Introduction

Why do we start to learn a language that is not our mother tongue? Usually, it is because we see some value in that language as a means of transaction and communication, that is, as something that we can use in our day-to-day lives to communicate with others and to make ourselves understood by the people around us. English has become an important transactional language in today's world, and hence there is value in learning it. The objective of this course is to enable learners to progressively become confident and articulate communicators in English. We will approach the English language from a communicative and functional perspective, such that students can become familiar with the reading, writing, listening and speaking of English within the contexts most relevant to them. This course is the first of two on learning the functional aspects of the English language, and will primarily focus on oral communication.

2. Course Objective

This course aims to provide learners with the basic skills they need to become comfortable when communicating in English, in everyday contexts.

3. Course Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course, learners will be able to:

- Use the English language to carry out a number of regular spoken communicative functions of day-to-day life
- Understand and participate in non-technical discussions and conversations in English on general day-to-day topics
- Read and understand non-technical texts in English on general topics

4. Pre-requisites

This course is an entry-level course that introduces the English language, and therefore has no prerequisites.

5. Readings

There are no textbooks for this course. Classroom practice materials will be created or adapted from a number of sources, depending on student needs. However, learners may refer to a number of books for practice and independent learning.

Primary Reference:

1. Pillai, S. (2016). *Spoken English for My World*. Oxford University Press.

Subsidiary Reading:

1. Altenberg, Evelyn P. and Robert M. Vago. (2010). *English Grammar – understanding the basics*. Cambridge University Press: Cambridge.
2. Allen, W. S. (2009). *Living English Structure*. Pearson Education.
3. Swan, Michael. (2005). *Practical English Usage*. Oxford University Press.
4. Turton, Nigel D. (1995). *ABC of Common Grammatical Errors*. Macmillan.
5. Doff, A., Thaine, C., Puchta, H., Stranks, J., and Lewis-Jones, P. (2015). *Cambridge English Empower: Elementary A1 level Student's Book*. Cambridge University Press.

5. Module-wise topics

Module 1: Getting used to English (5 sessions)

Objectives:

- To discuss the need for English in today's world
- To introduce basic concepts

Topics:

- Why learn English?
- The English alphabet; The sounds of English - vowels
- The sounds of English - consonants
- Things around us - Nouns and key verbs (Basic Vocabulary)
- Key phrases to navigate an English-speaking world

Module 2: Meeting new people (8 sessions)

Objectives:

- To learn how to perform basic day-to-day spoken communicative functions in English (introductions, asking for and receiving basic information)

Topics:

- Greeting someone; Introducing oneself

- Presenting Others
- Talking about family
- Talking about friends and peers
- Asking questions for information
- Interrupting; Asking for clarification; Clarifying
- Asking for and offering help
- Initiating and sustaining small talk

Module 3: Settling in (8 sessions)

Objectives:

- To learn the general spoken communicative functions needed for conversing regularly in English (agreeing, disagreeing, asking for help, talking about people and events)

Topics:

- Talking about routines, health, habits and hobbies
- Talking about likes, dislikes, and preferences
- Asking for and giving directions
- Telling the time
- Talking on the phone
- Planning
- Inviting, Accepting/Declining an invitation
- Wishing someone on special occasions, paying and accepting compliments, expressing gratitude

Module 4: Learning to be accurate (8 sessions)

Objectives:

- To learn key aspects of English grammar

Topics:

- Nouns and Pronouns
- Articles
- Adjectives
- Determiners
- Verbs and Adverbs
- Prepositions and Conjunctions
- Introduction to tenses
- Sentence Structure in English (Word order); Types of Sentences

Module 5: Navigating formal situations (8 sessions)**Objectives:**

- To learn how to express oneself in formal situations, and how to give instructions and make requests

Topics:

- Giving instructions
- Making requests
- Making an appointment; Cancelling or rescheduling an appointment
- Expressing opinions; Agreeing and Disagreeing
- Offering advice; Giving suggestions
- Explaining
- Comparing
- Reporting what someone else said

Module 6: Sharing experiences (8 sessions)**Objectives:**

- To learn how to describe things, narrate incidents, read and tell stories.

Topics:

- Describing people and places
- Describing things, events, and situations
- Narrating stories and anecdotes
- Using Figurative Language
- Reading notices
- Reading the news and weather reports
- Talking about travel, transport, holidays, and entertainment
- Talking about food and culture

6. Pedagogy

This course will follow a task-based teaching methodology. After the introduction of concepts, the students will be required to practise by way of language games, role plays, discussions and drama techniques. Enough time has been allotted within each class session for practising various skills.

7. Evaluation Pattern

- Mid-semester oral exam (30%)
- Individual tasks (20%)
- Role-play presentations (3) (30%)
- Skit (20%)