

Fall 2021 Sophomore Politics &
PA: English Listening &
Speaking. Course website &
syllabus: [http://omnifoo.info/
pages/
Politics&PAL&SOnline.html](http://omnifoo.info/pages/Politics&PAL&SOnline.html)

Session 1 8-31: Course
Introduction

*Your instructor: Mr. Julian Lee,
currently in Thailand, near “The
Golden Triangle” (a location
between Thailand, Laos, &
Burma/Myanmar)

In-class expectations for online
learning

I prefer an active classroom (less lecturing from me & more of you talking).

Most class sessions will start with the news.

You are a big class, so it will be difficult to make sure everyone gets a chance to speak in

every session, but that is a goal.

I expect you to speak in English to me and to each other.

Stop me if you don't understand something.

Ask questions.

Make mistakes. Mistakes are OK because we want to practice.

I want you to be comfortable and confident speaking English.

*Session topics & grades
Midterm & Final Exams
(including written & oral exams).
Oral exams are 1-on-1 with the instructor.

National Week in China: 10-1.
After the holiday we will get more political. We will start with basic English.

*Why learn English? Tests Vs. Communication
Asking questions → improve

grammar, pronunciation, fluency

*Complete Sentences: 2 things
are needed

主语 谓语 Subject & Predicate
名词 动词 Complete sentences
need a noun and a verb.

*If you can't answer my
question, 3 responses

*Western names (on handout)

Full names

李小龙 Bruce Xiaolong Lee

Jackie Long Chan

Bruce's initials are BXL. Jackie's
initials are JLC.

My initials are JTL.

*Name Sign

Homework: Write three sentences...

1. My surname is...

2. My full name is...

3. My initials are...

*Thurs. Continue w/ names handout

Session 2 (9-2)

*News: China has enacted a law limiting the time children under 18 can play video games to 3hrs./

week (and only on weekends).

*Review

*Name Signs: Big = English
Name, hometown (city &
province), a place you want to
travel, Chinese name in 中国字
(Chinese characters), pinyin
(English letters)

*Location & Directions: Who
sits...?

On Sb.'s right/left. Next to Sb.

In front of Sb. Behind Sb.

Answer: ____ sits on my R/L.

____ & ____ sit next to me. ____

sits in front of/behind me.

*Line up alphabetically (from A to Z) by...

____ comes before ____.

____ comes after ____.

*Finish Names Handout

*Tues.: Introductions. Bring your name signs to class on Tues. and every class from now on.

Session 3 (8-7)

*News: Chinese astronaut Ni Haishou has lived in space for 100 day. In the USA, they are astronauts, from Russia they are cosmonauts, from China they are taikonauts.

Fumao yihui in China = An international fair for trade-in services was held in Beijing, highlighting artificial intelligence, smart furniture & appliances

A coup in the West African country of Guinea occurred and has been condemned by the USA, China, and others, with the president in custody.

A cease-fire has been called in Burma/Myanmar, after almost 600 soldiers and over 1000 civilians have died.

*Review

*Discuss with a partner: In terms of naming practices (use of maiden names, surnames for children, hyphenating both parents' surnames, children choosing their own names, etc.) and titles like “Ms.” mostly replacing “Miss”/“Mrs.”, do you think today's PRC or the USA is more feminist, and why?

*Really finish Names Handout
Zhongshan University is named after Dr. Sun Yat-sen.

*Introductions (using handout)

In class, you may call me Julian, Mr. Lee, or Professor. Please do not call me “Teacher.”

It sounds like you are in primary school.

After primary school, we always use our teachers' names.

Line up alphabetically by your hometown (city name)

I live on the the Jingyue campus of NENU in Changchun, Jilin, in Manchuria (in the northeast of China). Jingyue is in the

southeast of Changchun.

*Your major: specialization, focus, concentration

I specialize in... I focus on...

My concentration is in...

*Introduce your “new friend” to the class.

“This is my new friend...”

S/he is from CITY, PROVINCE and lives in the _____ part of the city, near _____.

She goes to school at NENU and majors in polt.,

FAMILY

Hobbies

Thurs.: Time & Punctuality

Session 4 (9-9)

*News: Sec. Blinken met w/ German counterpart to urge the Taliban to continue allowing evacuating, while the Taliban worry about a “brain drain”

China will continue its tradition of marking Teachers' Day. Landmarks will be given special lighting in observance of the holiday and honor educators.

Chinese National Games are being held, including good performance by divers.

20th Anniversary of the 9/11 incident & the beginning of the “Global War on Terrorism”

*Review

*Handout on time & punctuality

punctuality = being punctual = on time

Early Vs. Late

What's time? = What is the meaning of the word “time”?

Time difference = Thailand is one hour behind China.

Time Zones 时区 = 24 1-hour divisions, The International Dateline (180 degrees longitude)

How many time zones does China, The USA (5), Russia have (11)?

The Date: Today is Thurs., Sept. 9th,

2021.

The order is the opposite of Chinese.

*Telling time...The basics: What are the following times in English?

12:00AM = midnight (One minute after 11:59PM, it becomes 12:00AM)

12:00PM = noon

1:15 = quarter past/after 1

1:45 = quarter to 2

9:30 = half past 9, Nine thirty

What time did you go to sleep last night?

What time did you get up this morning? Get Vs. got

What time did you eat breakfast?

What time do you usually...?

How many...? There are #...

In what century was ___ founded?

The Qing Dynasty was founded in the 17th century.

The PRC was founded in the 20th century.

Qin Shihuang lived in the 2nd century BC.

Zheng He sailed to the Indian Ocean & Africa in the 15th Century.

Emperor Qianlong ruled China in the 18th century.

The USA began the “Global War on Terror” in this, the 21st century.

Decades 年代: We are now in the

twenties.

2010s = the teens (like a teenager)

2000s = the zeroes, the aughts

The Great Depression happened in the 1930s.

The Soviet Union/USSR broke up in the 90s.

a generation = how long it takes for a baby to have kids of his/her (20-25 years)

代沟 = generation gap

*Generations in the USA & in China
The Greatest Generation → fought in WWII, made the USA the strongest country in the world, established major political institutions in the USA
The Silent Generation
Baby Boomers

Generation X
Millennials
Generation Z

Generations in China...

The Old Revolutionaries (incl. Mao,
Zhou, Zhu De, etc.)

80 后 = Post-1980

90 后 = Post-1990

post-2000 generation

Tues.: Finish Time, Begin Likes &
Dislikes

Session 5 (9-14)

*News: A typhoon made landfall in
Zhejiang. Flood preparations are

being made in Shanghai as well. Hurricane season is also coming. More severe weather events are occurring worldwide.

59 cases of Covid-19 in Fujian, including Xiamen. The gov't is hopeful that this can be under control by Oct., before the National Week holiday. Why is an outbreak of this size so serious in China, while in other countries it is seen as inevitable? China has a “zero infection” /zero tolerance policy for Covid, which will be severely challenged by the more transmissible Delta variant.

A father took his son with ALS to the commencement of his university in Xi'an and is optimistic about the ability to pursue one's dreams despite

the disease. (Human interest news)
Cristiano Ronaldo scored two goals
for Manchester United. The NFL
season began in the USA (American
football).

Hard news (politics, economics, etc.)
Vs. Soft news (human interest stories,
entertainment, sports, etc.)

*Review

*Finish handout on Time &
Punctuality

Military Time

How often...?

How long does it take to...? on/by
foot, by air, train, bus, car, etc.

It takes Aviva 9 hours by bus and train

to go to Changchun from her hometown.

It takes Julian 13 hours to fly from California to Changchun.

It takes Julian four hours longer to get to Changchun.

Line up by how long it takes you to come to Changchun from your hometown.

Who lives the closest to Changchun?

Who lives the farthest from Changchun?

When will Sth./Sb. ____?

What will happen first in China?

A. Gay marriage will be legal.

B. Marijuana will be legal.

C. China will have a female president.

Discuss as a group whether you think any of these will happen within 10, 50, or 100 years, or never.

When was the last time Sth./Sb. ____?

Thursday: Likes & Dislikes

Session 6 (9-16)

*News: An earthquake occurred in Luzhou, Sichuan, with a 6 point magnitude on the Richter Scale, at 4:33AM.

Opening ceremony for China's 40th National Games was held with great splendor and success. “Working together with one heart.”

Zhejiang off-campus tutoring ban is

being put into practice in Hangzhou, with parents and college applicants unsure if they can proceed with tutoring activities.

Apple's iPhone 13 & 13 Mini were introduced w/ new high-tech camera. New phones in the USA are often bought on “installment plans” like cars, paid in small monthly portions.

Gen. Mark Milley, U.S.

Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (highest-ranking military officer in the U.S. gov't)

published a book claiming that he reassured China twice that Pres. Trump would not launch a strike against it to stay in office after losing to Biden in 2020.

GOP lawmakers are calling for his resignation.

*Review

What will happen first in China?

A. Gay marriage will be legal.

B. Marijuana will be legal.

C. China will have a female president.

Discuss as a group (in English)

whether you think any of these will happen within 10, 50, or 100 years, or never. Give reasons for your opinion.

Translate for animals: 我喜欢狗。

I like dog. = I like to eat dog meat.

I like dogs. = Dogs are my friends. I like them.

3 basic forms.

我很喜欢音乐。 I very like music.
(Chinglish = Not OK, speaking
English with Chinese grammar,
combining English & Chinese).
I like to listen to music a lot.
I like music very much.

Aurora likes all kinds of games, but
she especially likes video games. Her
favorite game is Wangzhe Rongyao.
Daisy likes likes all kinds of Chinese
food, but she especially likes
Sichuanese food. Her favorite dish is
Maoxuewang.

Other Expressions & Adverbs

With a partner, find 1. Something both

of you like. 2. Two things one of you likes and the other doesn't. 3. Something neither of you likes.

Present to the class:

_____ and I both like _____. I like _____, but s/he doesn't. Neither of us likes _____.

Favorites...

I like many kinds of _____, but I especially like _____.

Liking Sth. most.

*Preferences. A or B Questions: Listen carefully for an “or” in the question. It's easier to miss than a 还是.

Would you prefer...

Would you rather...

Vivian would rather be rich and ugly than beautiful and poor. She would rather watch than play basketball and drink tea instead of coffee.

Would you rather kill or be killed? I prefer neither.

*Experiences 经历

Q: Have you ever 过去分词 (past participle)?

A: Yes, I have. No, I haven't.

With a partner, find 1. Something you have both done before. 2 & 3. Something one of you has done but the other hasn't. 4. Something neither of you has done.

P r e s e n t : Both of us have...

I have ..., but s/he hasn't ...

Neither of us has...

Line up alphabetically by your favorite...

10-5

*News: Japan's 100th prime minister, from the LDP, was elected.

The Battle at Lake Changjing set box office records on Nat'l Day

Windows 11 was launched worldwide

*Big Review & Your Military

Training, Vacation

With a partner, ask his/her favorite and least favorite courses at NENU.

*Did everything go as planned?

Regrets: What do you wish you had done differently?

I wish I had 过去分词 (more/less).

Everything went as planned. I have no regrets. I regret nothing.

Vacation Vs. Vocation = one's job

*Handout on American Greetings & Informal Spoken English

*Contractions (written with ' =

apostrophe)

can't we've they're

shouldn't've ain't

Would've is a contraction of would & have.

construction 建设 Vs. contraction

*Handout: College in the USA & “The world of work”

*Your major in politics & PA

How much choice did you have in your major?
If you could choose any major, would you still choose politics?

What larger discipline does political science fit in? (i.e. Colleges are divided into several disciplines/fields)

Disciplines (Divisions in Western universities)

The Humanities (incl. Literature, foreign languages, philosophy, etc.) Vs. The Sciences: Social Sciences (IR, economics, psychology, sociology) = the soft sciences & Natural

Sciences (physics, chemistry, geology, biology)
= the hard sciences

Are the “hard sciences” more difficult than the
“soft sciences”?

The famous physicist Albert Einstein said,
“Politics is more difficult than physics.” Often
these are all within the school of arts & sciences
at U.S. universities.

系 = The politics & PA major is within the Dept.
of Law & Politics at NENU. This is different
from the USA because Law is usually a topic of
graduate school.

*How do U.S. scholars study politics?

In the USA, Political Science is a
field in the social sciences.

Academic fields are divided into
“subfields.”

What are the subfields of political
science?

IR (int'l relations), Political Theory,
American Politics, Comparative

Politics, Political Psychology, PA.
Which is most/least interesting to you,
and why?s

What does (abbreviation PA) stand
for? ____ stands for ____.

PRC stands for the People's Republic
of China.

CCP (or CPC) stands for the Chinese
Communist Party.

The CCP stands for socialism with
Chinese characteristics.

USA stands for the United States of
America.

Americans say they stand for truth,
justice, freedom, and “the American
way.”

Academic fields & subfields

Most universities have a Dept. of

PoliSci, Politics, or Government.

What are the subfields of Political Science?

What's the difference between A & B?

A... &/but B...

Thurs. continue College in the USA
& “The world of work”

10-7

*News: Nobel Prize in chemistry
were awarded to bio-chemistry
experimentation on catalysts.

Xi & Biden met virtually to reassure
one another to avoid conflict, such as
the continuing agreement on “One
China”. Pres. Biden, however, has
indicated that the U.S. will keep Pres.
Trump's tariffs in place & expects

China to meet its commitments to purchase U.S. goods.

Yang Jiechi & a U.S. representative met in Zurich, Switzerland, for a third high-level meeting.

*Review

*College in the USA handout

Levels of schooling. Where did you go to _____ school? Kindergarten in the USA is the lowest level of primary school: K-4 = elementary

幼儿园 = pre-school (ages 2-4) Vs. daycare

After-school programs & tutoring: recently banned in China? Piano lessons, English lessons etc.

Rich people tend to do better on the test than poor people. Tests show what one has already learned. Tests may not show one's

potential to learn.

班 In the USA we don't stay with the same class. Staying in the same class, you can get to know your classmates well. Changing classmates means meeting more new people.

What factors determine college admissions in China?

The most important is the college entrance examination (a standardized test).

What factors matter in the USA?

The entrance examination is not the most important (some colleges don't require it). Rec letters, extracurricular activities (such as volunteering), high school grades, ethnicity, admissions essay.

Discuss w/ a partner or as a table: 1. Should students w/ lower test scores (for being poor or ethnic minorities) be allowed to get into the same universities as wealthy Han students w/ higher scores? Why/why not? 2. Should factors other than the college entrance exam be considered in Chinese college admissions? Why/why not? If so, what other factors should be considered (such as in those in the USA)? 3. To what extent is the Chinese entrance exam fair/unfair & “meritocratic” for college admissions?

*The World of Work & Jobs
worksheet

Tues. give the correct answers for the worksheet, Yes or No Questions (based on handout forthcoming)

10-13

*News: UN Convention on Biological Diversity opened in Kunming on Oct. 11th

Young Chinese citizens “no longer see marriage as a certainty”, according to surveys.

Meilanfan in Taizhou, Jiangsu, robots are making art.

*Review

What does it mean for an organization to be “public” or “private”?

2 factors: 1. Ownership 2. Funding

State Grid = public KFC = private

The WTO is an international organization, specifically an IGO inter-governmental org.

国内 domestic 国外/国际 international

*World of Work & Jobs worksheet

A 单位 is called a work unit. To leave one's work unit and 下海 is to “jump into the sea”. It is less common for employees to have work units since the “Reform & Opening” of the Chinese economy.

*Question Types (based on handout):
Yes or No Questions

Practice asking & answering questions w/ different “helping verbs”

Change from FORM 1 to FORM 2 to FORM 3, paying attention to one's rising tone.

Q&A chains through the classroom
(ask a yes/no question in FORM 1,
the next student changes it to FORM
2, the next student changes it to
FORM 3, the next student answers the
question, followed by another
question)

Thurs. The Yes-Maybe-No continuum
& dialogs of disagreement

10-14

*News: Harvard University will move
its Chinese language program from
Beijing to Taipei.

Thailand will open to vaccinated
tourists on Nov. 1st.

Floods in Shanxi have damaged the ancient wall in Pingyao. This may also make the energy shortage worse, as many coal mines are flooded.

*Review: Discuss with a partner:
Which of the political jobs on pg. 2 of the worksheet would you most like to have, and why? Which would you most want to quit or resign from if you had it?

*Finish Yes or No Questions
Q&A chains through the classroom
(ask a yes/no question in FORM 1, the next student changes it to FORM 2, the next student changes it to FORM 3, the next student answers the question, followed by another

question)

*Yes-Maybe-No Continuum
(handout)

*Dialogs of disagreement
(Not) see eye-to-eye

We may have to agree to disagree. (I give up.)

Try to persuade/convince your partner.

Debate/argument is OK, but not forever.

Make an argument (support your opinion with evidence such as facts & examples).

A bigot is an unreasonable person who will never change his/her mind, no matter how much evidence you give. S/he ignores facts. You can

never convince a bigoted person that s/he is wrong.

With a partner, find a topic about which you disagree (political topics are highly recommended). Write a dialog of 10-15 lines about your topic, explaining/debating your reasons for the disagreement. Use at least 5 expressions from the handout to “spice it up” & make it more colorful.

You will perform your dialog in the next session of class, on Tues.

10-19

*News: A student trying to get into a top Shenzhen middle school has gone viral (become very famous as a result

of an online video, meme, etc. shared on social media by millions), with regard to the educational backgrounds of the teachers.

A girl in Xinjiang returned her life savings to people who donated to her to address her medical condition.

Gofundme & Kickstarter are used in the West for fundraising online.

*Review

*Perform dialogs of disagreement, starting w/ volunteers

There will be no one to accompany you during SF. When you die you will be alone. [Concerned tone]

cram school Vs. crime schools

You are wrong. [convinced & angry}

Yasukuni Shrine

Uh-huh Vs. Uh-uh (better to use longer expressions)

* “Once more, with feeling!”

Focus on emphasis & intonation. Be a convincing actor/actress.

*Handout on Basic Terms in Politics

Tues. finish handout

10-26

*News: AE Dialog for Cultural heritage conversation will be held in Beijing, including 18 eastern countries.

Preparations for the 2022 Winter Olympic Games are proceeding according to schedule.

The PLA ground force have stated requirements for female recruits. Family education promotion law was passed by the NPC, stating that parents are responsible for its implementation, after-school training & homework burdens will be the key points as well as balancing entertainment.

50th anniversary of the UN's recognition of the PRC as China was observed.

*Review

*Finish handout on basic political terms

*Political regimes in history & their

governance of territorial states
Exercise w/ example political
regimes.

Look at your example regime and
note its founding date and size of
territory in sq. km (square
kilometers). Compare both to your
neighbor, in English.

Without showing your strip of paper,
line up by your regime from the oldest
to the newest.

Speak to each other only in English!

& by largest to smallest territory.

*Thurs. comparisons between China
& the USA, using handout
forthcoming

10-28

*News: Following Canada & Europe, the U.S. state of Rhode Island will offer safe injection sites for drug users, following a philosophy of “harm reduction” & decriminalization. This will reduce overdoses & unsanitary conditions.

*Review- succession (transfer of power from one head of state to the next)

Eras & Regimes in the PRC: 1.

Maoist/Revolutionary 2. Reform 3?.

Xi Jinping

territory = land under control of a regime

Territory is measured in square

kilometers (or sq. miles)

*Very large numbers (#s)

1,000,000 = one million

1,000,000,000 = one billion

1,000,000,000,000 = one trillion

If you have \$1 million, you are a millionaire.

If you have \$1 billion, you are a billionaire.

Jeff Bezos, of Amazon.com, may someday be the world's first trillionaire, but he has a long way to go.

The U.S. national debt in July 2020 was \$20,510,000,000, or a little less than 100% of 2020's GDP of

\$20,940,000,000.

China's 2020 GDP was

\$14,720,000,000. Its 2020 debt-to-GDP ratio has not yet been announced officially online.

*Without showing your strip of paper, line up by your regime from the largest to smallest territory..

Speak to each other only in English!

*Really finish the basic political terms handout

*Comparisons handout (grammar)

Tues. comparisons between China & the USA

11-2

*News: Xi Jinping called on all countries to make ambitious pledges to counter climate change, as part of the summit in Glasgow, Scotland. Currently the world is predicted to warm by 2.7 degrees, over the target of 1.5 degrees.

Restaurant restrictions will take new “lantern” policies to prevent the spread of Covid-19, in Tokyo, Japan. World death totals from Covid have now reached 5 million.

16th G20 Summit was held in Rome, mainly focused on global warming, economic cooperation, etc.

Newly released movies are gaining attention, such as one in black & white w/ a feminist message on

WWII, Saturday Fiction (???)

*Review

*Compare China & The USA in a Venn Diagram

similar, similarities Vs. different, differences

facts Vs. opinions stereotypes

= generalization which judges its subject (in a good or bad way), such as a value judgment

Consider people, culture, territory, etc.

Thurs. meet in small conversation groups. Check your group's "color" & meeting time, be prepared to review what we've studied so far this semester.

11-9

(No news today...)

Vocabulary Game (Set up separate computer, divide evenly into two teams.)

*Round 1: Say as much as you need (in English only) to get your team to guess the word on the card (but no gestures!)

*Round 2: Gestures only (& no talking!)

*Thurs. we'll play the review game and hand out the oral exam questions. Expect the written midterm exam on

Tues. and the oral exams throughout next week.

11-11 Midterm Review Game

(no news today...) Please sit with your team.

Game Categories: *Give an Example
*Answer in a Complete Sentence
(Oral Exam Questions) *What Did S/
he Say? *Yes/No Question Chain
*Word Scramble *Once More, With
Feeling! *Dictation

Word Scramble Example:

government

What other words can you spell with the letters in this word? i.e. govern
teen on go meet over mete rent

no

Each team take out one piece of paper, and write your team number on it.

In 3 minutes, without using your phones, the internet, or dictionaries, write as many words as you can using the letters in this word: bureaucrat

Once More, With Feeling!

Each team selects one representative to say the following, with proper intonation & a tone of disbelief.

“You think you're gonna get a perfect score on the exam? Yeah, right!

You've gotta be kidding. There's no way that's gonna happen!”

Example oral exam

11-23

*News: Former RoK president Chun Doo Hwan died; he was known for the 1980s term in office in which pro-democracy protesters were active.

China successfully launched a satellite from the Jiuquan launch site in Gansu.

A packaging machine sent university students boxes of tangerines to promote good health & nutrition?

They are for scientific research, and the farmers who grew them sent them as a show of thanks.

*Midterm exam debriefing: Average

= 86 , High = 95, Low = 78.

Oral High = 63, Low = 48. Written
High = 35, Low = 23.

Any questions about the exam?

*Handout on Political Geography

Note the difference with cartography
(the study of maps)

3 levels of government (from high to
medium to low): 1. national/central
or federal 2. provincial/state 3. local
(county, city, district, neighborhood,
etc.)

Federal (some rights & policy-making
decisions are left to the middle level
of gov't such as states) Vs. Unitary
(all lower levels of gov't must follow
the central government's national

policies, by law *de jure* but *de facto* may not) states

Capital punishment = the death penalty

Thurs. finish political geography handout. Next week: music & politics.

11-25

*News: China successfully launched a new satellite from Jiuquan.

Beijing's subway construction will make this year its largest-scale connection for the Olympics.

“The Battle at Lake Changjin” broke the Chinese box office record of Wolf Warriors II. The film has been

banned in Malaysia for promoting communism.

*Review

*With a partner, discuss: who has been to more places in China? (compare which provinces, cities, and SARs you have been to or not been to) Who in your class has traveled to *all or almost all* of China's provinces (incl. City prefectures/ municipalities like Chongqing, Tianjin, “Autonomous Regions”, Special Administrative Regions) or the highest # of them? Has anyone from Jilin never left the province before?

*Finish geography handout

*Instructions & questions for political song presentation. Fill in your song's details on the sign-up sheet by Sunday (so that we all have time to listen to

them before you present).

*Handouts on Music

Tues. Pronunciation (& I'll give an example song presentation)

Thurs. Present your political song to the class for about 1-3 minutes.

11-30: Pronunciation & accents

Your accents are Chinese & mine is American.

Different places in China may have strong accents, dialects, & local expressions.

*News: New policies are going to aid in child-raising in China (such as restrictions on video games for

children & private tutoring, reduction of homework). Many developed countries & China face a demographic problem of low birth/fertility rates.

30+ middle school students in Henan got sick after eating school lunch provided by a private company.

Regulation of school lunches in the USA is done by the FDA (Food & Drug Administration, under the Dept. of Agriculture)

Chief Executive of SAR of HK, Carrie Lam, visited Wuhan, Hubei.

The new Omicron variant of Covid-19 is raising concerns about its mutations, high transmissibility, & the possibility that it may be resistant to vaccines.

*Review

*Example song presentation on “The Anatomy of Hate” by Soweto Kinch (2020). In your presentation, give some background information on the artist, talk about the topic & lyrics of the song, & explain why you like it.

*Letters in the alphabet: Two kinds of letters = consonants & vowels (5: AEIOU)

Sing the ABCs

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
XYZ

“Now I sang my ABCs. Next time won't you sing with me?”

antidisestablishmentarianism

*Phonics: The letter ____ makes a ____ sound (or a ____ sound). Phonics let

us “sound out” new words or even
Nonsense:

erkopl[pefsdklfjpwefjwepo wfpi

[Use the sound of the consonant plus
a schwa ə]

Combinations form syllables.

The letters ____ & ____ make a ____
sound (or a ____ sound)

br cr str sh sl sq spl spr
ch scr

The dreaded “th” sounds θ ð

Examples: This is the thistle. 蓟

Also tongue twisters like this: She
sells sea shells by the sea shore.

Toy boat

Unique New York

*Vowels: Long & Short

Ā Ē Ī Ō Ū

ǎ ě ĭ ǒ

ů

*Song: I Like to Eat, Eat, Eat Apples
and Bananas.

There will be a pronunciation section
on the final oral exam.

Next Session: Music & Politics
(Students' 1-3 minute song
presentations). You are welcome to
attend the guest talk on US foreign
policy from 11:45-1:15 on Fri.

12-2

Song presentations in the order listed on the sign-up sheet. If we don't finish today, we'll continue on Tues.

Be prepared to answer a question after your presentation.

After all presentations are finished, send me your ranking of your Top 5 favorite songs from the list & one you don't like. After receiving everyone's personal Top 5, you will vote on your class's favorite political song.

Example: 1. "Queen's Road East" 2. "Iron Sky" 3. "Quiet" 4. "Requiem" 5. "Let Life Be Beautiful Like Summer Flowers." I don't like "The

Man” by Taylor Swift.

(Don't include any of the 3 songs I wrote in by Asian Dub Foundation, The Gregory Brothers, or Soweto Kinch.)

You are welcome to attend the guest lecture on U.S. foreign policy by my classmate, Prof. Peter Beattie, from the University of Hong Kong. It will be from 11:45-1:15 tomorrow (Fri., Dec. 3rd). Contact the juniors for details.

Tues. Pronunciation 2 (team games: Rhyme Battle & Tic-Tac-Toe) & sign up for “State” presentations

11-7

*News

*Finish song presentations (& please send your Top5 song list if you haven't)

*Finish Minimal Triplets 1 . bait 2.

beat 3bit 4. bet

Ē	ĩ	Ā	ă
Ā	ĩ		
eat	it	ate	bat
bait	bit		
heat	hit	hate	sack
sake	sick		

ă	ĩ	ě	
bat	bit	bet	beat
ham	him	hem	

*Rhyme Battle. What is a rhyme?
When do two or more words rhyme?
Rhyming words have a different
beginning sound but the same vowel
& ending sound.

*Do these words rhyme or not?
rhyme & time rhyme & roam
rhyme & right rhyme & ring
rhyme & sublime rhyme & rind
rhyme & Rhine rhyme & rye
new few view mew review

*Rhymes are the basis of poetry诗
and rap music (说唱音乐) . In hip-
hop culture, two MCs may compete
against one another in a rap-battle to
build themselves up and “diss” their
opponent. See, for examples, the
movie “8 Mile,” starring the hip-hop

star Eminem.

*A Rhyme Battle is a simpler version of a rap battle you can play with a friend (or two teams in class). We begin with a word, any word that rhymes with at least a few other words. Each team takes turns rhyming with it until one team can't think of a rhyming word. The team that gave the last example wins, and the team that can't think of another one (within five seconds) loses. Please don't use your phones for this (that would be cheating).

Phone rhymes with: lone bone zone
moan

Bad: sad rad dad had mad add
(In your six teams from the midterm oral exam, the winners, will carry

these points over to the final review
game before the final exams.)

Vote: boat coat moat note
(Team 7 wins > 3) throat zygote
tote goat

State: date eight/ate fate late hate
weight/wait gate mate great plate
slate freight crate (Team 2 > 6)

Poll: hole roll toll bowl soul
goal mole foal (Team 1 > 5)

Trump: hump thump jump dump
pump lump grump ump stump
rump slump bump (Team 4 > 3)

Sign up for a presentation on “state”
term relevant to your major. I will
give an example for “traditional state

Vs. virtual state”. You will present yours next Tues., Dec. 14th.

Thurs.: Describing a person (handout will be sent after this session). We will need an extra laptop computer for Thursday's session.

12-9

*News: Chinese table tennis champion defeated a Japanese rival.

*Review

*Handout on describing a person

*Practice describing a classmate (as will be on your final oral exam)

*With a partner, take turns drawing his/her

description of people in a photograph.

RULES: Speak in English to one another.

Only one partner gets to see the photo. Do not take a picture of the photo! If you are drawing, do not try to look at the photo.

Take about 10 minutes to describe the photo for your partner to draw. Start with the

basics: How many people are in the picture?

What do they look like? What are they doing (sitting, standing, etc.)? What's in the

background? Are they holding anything?

What are their facial expressions?

After 5-10 minutes, artists walk around the room and share the drawings with your classmates.

Then switch roles from drawing to describing for a second picture. Draw for 5-10 minutes and share again.

Tues. "Dreams for the Future"

12-14

*News: A rocket satellite was launched into space to support the Chinese space station.

The governor of Kentucky noted the tornadoes which caused 74 deaths, widespread property damage.

Omicron variant was reported in Mainland China for the first time.

PM Johnson says it is spreading quickly in Britain.

*Review

*Your class's favorite political song is now subject to a “runoff” poll on DingTalk. Please answer by next Tues. The process has been similar to a “ranked choice election”, followed by a “simple majority” vote among the top choices. This two-round system is similar to how some democratic theorists propose to “narrow a crowded field” of

candidates for elected office, or even replace the system for electing the president/PM of the country.

*Opening question: To be successful in your career & life, is your appearance (incl. physical strength) or personality (incl. intelligence) more important? Are men & women held to the same standards (i.e. can an ugly woman be as “successful” as an ugly man in China)? Why?

*Handout: Dreams for the Future
Outlooks on life & the world interpreted in a glass of water. Which are you, and how do you know?
Japanese collaborators were the worst kind of opportunists because they betrayed China for their own personal

gain.

Ranking of values: What is a value, and what is a specific goal? Rank yours, then compare with classmates. What is most/least important to you in life, and why? Which will you pursue more than others? The key to happiness is to “be present.”

Your “bucket list”: What are five things you want to do before you “kick the bucket”? Compare & share with your classmates. Which do you think you will or won't accomplish? Someday, I'd like to...
If I ever get the chance, (I'd like to...)
I'd be disappointed if I never (got to...)

Thurs. “State” terms & concepts
individual presentations

12-16

*News: A more than 2000 year old
tomb in Xi'an was found for the
Western Han Dynasty.

*Review

*Share something from your “bucket
list” with your neighbor. How likely
(or when) do you think you will be
able to do it?

*Individual presentations on “state”
terms & concepts: volunteers to go
first?

Tues. final regular session, based on forthcoming handout about love & relationships. Next Thurs. will be the final review game (w/ the oral final exam questions). Prof. Gellers will give a guest lecture on Mon. night at 9pm: his topic will be giving (human) rights to robots.

12-21

*News: The pop band Westlife performed a concert & had a large social media event also.

A U.S. Senator released his “hold” on the nomination for the next U.S. ambassador to China, Nicholas Burns. Sen. Marco Rubio is a Florida

Republican and a “China hawk”
(Foreign policy positions are often
described in terms of two birds:
hawks Vs. doves)

*Review (Does anyone we didn't get
to on Thurs. want to give their state
presentation?)

*Poll results: Your class's favorite
political song is “The Man” by Taylor
Swift. Runoffs could also continue
until the winner gets a majority (51%
or greater) of the votes, but since the
stakes are low, we will stop with the
plurality of 27%, with four abstaining.

*Love & Relationships: Why are they
political?

1. All relationships involve power.
(i.e. feminism deals with the relative
power/equality between the sexes and

genders)

2. Households are made by the institution of marriage.

1.3. Rights of some people to have loving relationships is subject to government policies & social acceptance or denial of them.

Consider LGBTQ rights around the world.

(Map of where being LGBTQ is criminalized, also consider countries like Russia, where same-sex marriage is illegal). Is being LGBTQ a choice or determined by biology? Science has basically concluded that it is biologically determined. “Conversion therapy” is not based in science and is not effective.

*Handout

What should you say if someone asks you a personal question you don't want to answer?

That's none of your business!

Mind your own business.

Thurs. final review game with the same teams from the Rhyme Battle.

Oral exam questions & a sign-up sheet will be made available before Thurs.

12-23

Written exam time? Jan. 2nd at noon?

Oral exam times look mostly filled.

Final Review Game

- *Give an example
- *Oral Exam Questions
- *Description Pageant (for best vocabulary & accuracy on the appearance & personality of Donald Trump in 3 sentences)
- *Pronunciation Sets
- *Dictation

This is our last session for the course. I hope you feel more comfortable and confident listening to & speaking English. Good luck on your exams.