

*National Tsing Hua University*  
中高級選讀英文\_新聞英文 Journalistic English  
Fall 2023\_M56

**Course Information**

|                       |   |                |   |                  |                     |
|-----------------------|---|----------------|---|------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Course Number</b>  | LANG 2000_02_   | <b>Credits</b> | 2 | <b>Classroom</b> | GEN II R204 (綜 204) |
| <b>Class Hours</b>    | ■ Monday   □ Tuesday   □ Wednesday   □ Thursday   □ Friday<br>■ 1:20P.M. – 3:10P.M.   □ 3:30P.M. – 5:20P.M.   □ _____ P.M. – _____ P.M. |                |   |                  |                     |
| <b>Course Type</b>    | ■ EGP (English for general purposes)   □ EAP (English for academic purposes)<br>□ EOP (English for occupational purposes)               |                |   |                  |                     |
| <b>Language Level</b> | □ B1 (中級)   □ B1-B2   ■ B2 (中高級)   □ B2+   □ C1   |                |   |                  |                     |
| <b>Core Ability</b>   | ■ comprehension/reception   □ communication/interaction   □ production  |                |   |                  |                     |
| <b>可選課學生身分別</b>       | ■ 頂標生   ■ 前標生   □ 中級生   □ 初級生   |                |   |                  |                     |
| <b>Prerequisites</b>  | 本校必修英語課程  |                |   |                  |                     |

**Instructor & Contact Information**

| Name | Email                  | Office & Tel | Office Hour                                  |
|------|------------------------|--------------|--|
| 劉文貞  | wenchenl2013@gmail.com | 綜二 210       | Friday 1:30-3:30 pm<br>(By Appointment Only) |

**Extra Selection: Not Available** 本課程不開放加簽

This course does not allow for additional selections or enrollments. **However, if you are interested in taking this course, I encourage you to come to the first class and continue to check the school's course registration system frequently.** This course adopts a very strict attendance and participation policy, so some students might drop the course during the first 3 weeks.

**Course Aims / Description**

1. Primary aim

This course is designed to equip students with abilities to read English news articles and to express personal opinions on news and current issues in English. The teaching aims at stimulating students' interest, enriching their vocabulary in journalistic English and building up their background knowledge relating to different news topics in politics, social issues, finance, technology, medicine, environment, humanities, arts, leisure and sports, etc. through extensive exposure to reading news articles. When successfully completing the course, students will be able to:

- i. understand the structure and characteristics of news writing
- ii. extend and consolidate their vocabulary and reading ability in different fields
- iii. appreciate the satires, humor and metaphors used in news reports
- iv. be more familiar with the historical or cultural background information of current affairs

- v. develop critical thinking ability, discuss with others and express their own opinions on current issues

## 2. Subsidiary aim

Students will develop habits of reading, listening to, or watch news reports on a regular basis.

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### University Student Core Competency Indicators 英文核心能力指標

| No. | Core Competency Indicators  | %  |
|-----|---|----|
| 1.  | 英語溝通與表達能力 (ability to communicate and express oneself in English)   | 20 |
| 2.  | 深度分析與組織思考的能力 (ability to think critically and organize ideas logically in English)  | 25 |
| 3.  | 英語學習策略與技巧 (knowledge of English learning strategies and techniques)   | 20 |
| 4.  | 對英語與多元文化的國際視野 (global views of English and multicultural diversity)   | 25 |
| 5.  | 善用英語學習資源，培養獨立學習英語的習慣與能力 (ability to use existing English learning resources and development of independent self-learning habit) | 10 |

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### Teaching materials and References

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| Textbook(s) | <p><u>自編教材</u></p> <p><u>News articles from The New York Times, The Washington Post, Taipei Times, and Taiwan News etc.</u></p> <p><u>News broadcasts from CNN, BBC, FOX News, ICRT and FTV English edition, etc.</u></p> <p>CEFR Scale <input type="checkbox"/> B1 <input type="checkbox"/> B1-B2 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B2 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B2+ <input type="checkbox"/> C1</p> |
|-------------|---|

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### Regulations for Using AI (AI 使用原則)

Students are not allowed to use AI to generate any assignments. However, they are allowed to use AI to revise their assignments. When doing so, students need to provide their original version, the revised version by the AI, and a list of lessons or insights they have gained from the AI's revised version.

### Online Platform

<https://eeclass.nthu.edu.tw>

### RECOMMENDED ONLINE DICTIONARIES

1. Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English Online  
<https://www.ldoceonline.com/>
2. Cambridge Dictionary  
<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/>
3. The Free Dictionary  
<http://www.thefreedictionary.com/>

## Course Requirements

|                                    |      |
|------------------------------------|------|
| 1) Class Participation/ Attendance | 15 % |
| 2) Quizzes                         | 30 % |
| 3) News Presentation               | 20 % |
| 4) In-Class Tasks/ Worksheets      | 10 % |
| 5) Take-Home Assignments           | 15 % |
| 6) MOOC Videos                     | 10 % |

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## Class Participation/ Attendance

Students are expected to attend each class punctually and actively participate in pair, group and class discussions. When not able to come to class, students have to inform the teacher in advance and provide valid proof **within two weeks**. Students' attendance, punctuality, and class participation will be recorded for evaluation.

### Attendance and Participation Policy

- starting point: 9 (起始點: 9 分)
- lateness: -2 (遲到: 2 分)
- absence: -5 (缺席: 5 分)
- active participation in class discussion: 1 (踴躍參與課堂討論 1 分)

The starting point of your class participation/ attendance score is 9. Each late arrival will cost you 2 points, and absence, 5 points. In each class, when you actively participate in class discussion (i.e. volunteering to express your ideas or asking questions more than 3 times), you get 1 point. (Volunteering to speak just one time can still make a small but solid contribution--0.5 point--to your score.) The score accumulation or deduction does not stop at 15 or 0 but has an upper limit of 20. In other words, a strong positive attendance and class participation score will give you 5 extra points to your semester grade, but a negative attendance and participation score will be carried over to influence your semester grade.

**All these seemingly complicated and trivial attendance and class participation score calculations are to encourage you to speak English more and participate more in class. The more you are involved in each class, the more harvest you'll reap from this course.**

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## Quizzes

Two quizzes, as scheduled in the course outline, will test students on the vocabulary, the content of the news articles discussed in class and those presented by fellow students as well as some news reading strategies and news writing conventions. Before students' news presentations, pop quizzes may be held and will account for 1/3 of the 30 percent.

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## News Presentation

Students have to choose a news section (i.e. international news, national news, or opinion, etc.) to **give a group OR an individual presentation** on a news article in class. The presented article has to be printed out, copied and distributed to the class **one week before the presentation day. To fulfill this course**

**requirement, students need to begin the preparation work at least 3 weeks ahead, meet all the deadlines, memorize their speeches and be well-practiced. (Please see Appendices I and II.)**

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### **In-Class Tasks/ Worksheets**

In each class, there are pair or group tasks and discussions, which every class member is required to actively participate in and make contributions to. At the end of the class, the worksheets will be collected by the instructor, and 3 of them will be randomly chosen and graded. LATE SUBMISSIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

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### **Take-Home Assignments**

**All of the take-home assignments must be typed and turned in on time.** LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL NOT BE GRADED.

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### **MOOC Videos**

Students are required to watch assigned MOOC videos (<https://mooc.nthu.edu.tw/course/info/226>) and engage in or complete after-video discussions or exercises.

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### **Teacher's Suggestions**

- Attend the class punctually and actively participate in class discussion.
  - **PREVIEW EACH NEWS ARTICLE (including PRESENTATION ARTICLE) BEFORE CLASS.**
  - Ask questions whenever you don't understand.
  - Browse through news headlines and news stories every day.
  - Listen to or watch English news broadcasts every day.
  - Memorize vocabulary every day.
  - Come to the teacher for help if you feel you are falling behind.
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## Course Outline

| Week | Date  | Content   | News Writing Features and News Reading Strategies  | News Presentations   | Quiz  |
|------|-------|---|--|--|-------|
| 1    | 9/11  | Course Orientation<br>Syllabus<br>Diagnostic Test |  |  |       |
| 2    | 9/18  | News English Basics                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Sources of News</li> <li>✓ 7 Characteristics of News Headlines</li> </ul>                         |  |       |
| 3    | 9/25  | News English Basics                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ How to Deal with Unknown Vocabulary</li> <li>✓ News Reading Strategies</li> </ul>                 |  |       |
| 4    | 10/2  | International News                                |  |  |       |
| 5    | 10/9  | <b>No Class (Double Ten Day Holiday)</b>          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Watch a video on 'International News'</b></li> </ul>   |  |       |
| 6    | 10/16 | International News                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Use of Pronouns in News</li> <li>✓ News Leads</li> <li>✓ Organization of News Articles</li> </ul> | ✓ Group Presentation: International News<br>_____<br>_____ |       |
| 7    | 10/23 | International News                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Headline Vocabulary</li> <li>✓ How to Read the News Critically (Parts I &amp; II)</li> </ul>      |  | Qz#1  |
| 8    | 10/30 | National News                                     |  |  |       |
| 9    | 11/6  | National News                                     |  | ✓ Group Presentation: National News<br>_____<br>_____      |       |
| 10   | 11/13 | Opinion   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Editorials</li> </ul>   |  |       |
| 11   | 11/20 | Opinion   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Political Cartoon</li> <li>✓ Letter to the Editor</li> </ul>                                      |  |       |
| 12   | 11/27 | Opinion   |  | ✓ Group Presentation: Opinion<br>_____<br>_____            |       |
| 13   | 12/4  | Business  |  |  |       |
| 14   | 12/11 | Business  |  | ✓ Group Presentation: Business<br>_____<br>_____           |       |
| 15   | 12/18 | Business  |  |  | Qz #2 |
| 16   | 12/25 | Individual Presentations                          |  | ✚ Individual Presentations (X7)                            |       |

|    |     |                             |  |   |  |
|----|-----|-----------------------------|--|---|--|
|    |     |                             |  | International News<br><hr/> National News<br><hr/> Opinion<br><hr/> Business<br><hr/> Science & Environment<br><hr/> Arts & Leisure<br><hr/> Sports<br><hr/>                                    |  |
| 17 | 1/1 | No Class (New Year Holiday) |  |   |  |
| 18 | 1/8 | Individual Presentations    |  | + Individual Presentations (X7)<br>International News<br><hr/> National News<br><hr/> Opinion<br><hr/> Business<br><hr/> Science & Environment<br><hr/> Arts & Leisure<br><hr/> Sports<br><hr/> |  |

# Guidelines for the News Article Presentation

Students have to choose a news section (i.e. international news, national news, or opinion, etc.) to **give a group OR an individual presentation** on a news article in class. The sign-up is to be completed **in week 3**, and the presentation list will be announced thereupon. To fulfill this course requirement, students need to **begin the preparation work about 3 weeks ahead, meet all the deadlines, memorize their speeches and be well-practiced.** The evaluation begins as early as two weeks prior to the presentation, so please read the following guidelines carefully.

## I. Three Weeks Before the Presentation Day

- a) Begin to browse through news headlines or listen to news broadcasts to find a news topic that interests you. **(Make sure it belongs to the news section you have signed up for the presentation.)**
- b) **Email Jennifer the link to the article (the webpage)** instead of an attachment.
- c) How to choose an article

Please choose your news article from the following sources:

### i. newspapers:

- English newspapers in Taiwan: Taipei Times, The China Post, Taiwan News (<https://www.taiwannews.com.tw/en/index>)
- Newspapers circulated in the U.S. (ex: The New York Times, Washington Post, Los Angeles Times, USA Today, etc.)
- Newspapers circulated in the UK (ex: The Times, The Guardian, etc.)

### ii. news agencies: AP, Reuters, CNA (<https://focustaiwan.tw/>), etc.

✚ If you have other preferences, please come to discuss your choices with me in advance.

- d) The article you choose should be posted after the first day of this semester, **\_\_Sep. 11<sup>th</sup>\_\_**.
- e) Remember to choose an article from the **news section** you have signed up for.
- f) **The length of the news article: between 470 and 1200 words**
- g) Don't wait until the last minute to email me.
- h) After we finalize the article, please don't change your mind but stick to the one you have chosen.

## II. Two Weeks Before the Presentation Day

- i) You should have finalized your article choice with Jennifer by now.
- j) **Post your article link on eclass.**
- k) **Post your questions on the headline as well as their answers on eclass.**

### **l) For Group Presentations Only:**

- ✓ **Show Jennifer a printed outline of your presentation.**
- ✓ **Please make an appointment with Jennifer to present in her office.**

## III. One Week Before the Presentation Day

- a) **Distribute the copies of your presentation article to your classmates in class.**
  - ✓ When making the original copy, please make sure it includes **the date, and the names of the newspaper, news agency, and journalist(s).** The font size should be at least 12 pt, and there is enough space in the margins for your classmates to take notes.

✓ DO NOT CHANGE THE ARTICLE'S LAYOUT, INCLUDING NUMBERING THE PARAGRAPHS OR HIGHLIGHTING THE VOCAB WORDS.

✓ Before you want to make copies, please email Jennifer the original file for her to see if it is okay.

**b) Post your subheadings of the article on eclass.**

1. Please remember to number all the paragraphs first.
2. Try to group the paragraphs and give each group of paragraphs a subheading.
3. Your subheadings should be phrases rather than sentences.

**c) Post your vocab list of the article on eclass.**

✓ The vocabulary list is different from 'word sharing.' There should be around 15 or more vocabulary words on the list, depending on the length and difficulty level of the article you choose.

✓ **How to make the vocabulary list**

i. For the presentation, you have to make a vocabulary list of the words you don't know from this article. Each entry on the vocabulary list should include the word, its part of speech, (i.e. noun, verb, or adjective, etc.) the English definition used this article, and an example sentence.

ii. Please number your vocabulary words and list the words according to the order of appearance in the article.

iii. If not being able to find a word's example sentence from dictionaries, you can use the sentence from your article. Please do not make your own sentence.

iv. When making the vocabulary list, use the following dictionaries to look up definitions and example sentences:

1. Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English

<http://www.ldoceonline.com/dictionary/epidemic>

2. Cambridge Dictionary

<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/>

3. TheFreeDictionary

<http://www.thefreedictionary.com/innumerable>

◆ **Note: Please consult Longman or Cambridge first. The definitions I give you in class are mostly from these two dictionaries because their definitions are easier to be understood and memorized.** If you cannot find a suitable definition in Longman or Cambridge, then try the third option, TheFreeDictionary.

d) Don't email me your vocab list. I'll leave the responsibility to you of the proof-reading work. However, if you have trouble finding a suitable definition for a word, you are welcome to ask Jennifer.

e) Please compose your speech as early as possible.

f) You will have to memorize your speech and rehearse it well before your presentation day.

**g) For Group Presentation Only:**

✓ Please have your ppt slides 100% ready for the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeint.

✓ Bring your own laptop, presentation article and vocab list.

✓ Come to Jennifer's office on time and present from the beginning to the end.

✓ Revise your presentation based on Jennifer's feedback.



#### IV. On the Presentation Day

- a) Distribute copies of the vocabulary list to your classmates, and submit one copy of the vocabulary list to the teacher during the class recess.
- b) **[For Individual Presentation]** Turn in your written report to the teacher **before** you step up to the podium to present.
- c) Content of the Presentation & Time Limit

##### ✓ **Individual News Presentation (7 mins.) (With NO ppt slides)**

- 1) **News summary (3 mins.)** : summarize the news story.

(A tip for summarizing a news article is to list some **key words** first. Then, organize the key words/main ideas with your own logic and with your own words.)

- 2) **Vocabulary word sharing (2 mins.)** : choose **one or two new words** you have learned from the article and explain why the words have left a deep impression on you. You may also share a sentence that you find interesting in the article if time permits.
- 3) **Your response to the news story (2 mins.)** : Tell the audience your thoughts after reading the article.

✚ **Q&A:** After your presentation, your classmates and I will ask you questions on the article or your presentation. (People who ask questions can get extra points to their class participation that day.)

##### ❖ **Group News Presentation (25 mins.) (WITH ppt slides)**

- 1) **Warm-Up Activity (5 mins.)**
- 2) **Comprehension of the News Article (10 mins.)**
- 3) **Extension Discussion (8 mins.)**
- 4) **Conclusion (2 mins.)**

✚ Please make sure you complete your speech within the time limit. Otherwise, once the time is up, you will have to stop immediately whether you finish the presentation or not.

##### d) **Written Report (For Individual Presentations Only)**

1. Please type a written report of your presentation and give it to the teacher **before your presentation on the presentation day.**
2. Content of the written report: Summary, word sharing and personal response/ thoughts after reading the article.
3. Make sure you post your written report on eclass no later than the presentation day.

##### e) **PPT Slides (For Group Presentations Only)**

1. Post your ppt slides on eclass instead of the written report.
2. Make sure your last slide includes the **work allocations** of your group members (for both the preparation work backstage and the presentation on stage.)

Appendix II

**Rubric for Individual News Article Presentation**

| Category   | Description  | Point Value |
|--|--|-------------|
| <b>Volume, Articulation, &amp; Pronunciation</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• speaks loudly and clearly</li> <li>• articulates his/her words</li> <li>• uses correct pronunciation</li> </ul>   | 20          |
| <b>Preparation</b>                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• two weeks prior to the presentation day <b>(10 pts)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ has finalized the presentation article with Jennifer</li> <li>✓ posts the article link, title Qs &amp; Ans. on eeclass</li> </ul> </li> <li>• one week prior to the presentation day <b>(5 pts)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ distributes copies of the presentation article to classmates</li> <li>✓ posts the finalized version of <b>article subheadings</b> and <b>word list</b> on eeclass</li> </ul> </li> <li>• on the presentation day <b>(5 pts)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ distributes the copies the vocabulary list to classmates</li> <li>✓ hands in to Jennifer a hard copy of the word list and written report</li> <li>✓ answers questions from the audience well</li> <li>✓ posts the written report on eeclass</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | 20          |
| <b>Delivery</b>                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• no long pauses</li> <li>• well-organized</li> <li>• adopts a proper speed, intonation, and suitable pauses</li> <li>• has enough eye contact</li> <li>• doesn't read notes</li> <li>• has good time control</li> </ul>  | 20          |
| <b>Content</b>                                   | <p>Summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• includes the key points</li> <li>• does not copy sentences from the article</li> <li>• organized</li> </ul> <p>Word sharing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• explain the reason for choosing the words</li> <li>• explain the meanings of the words used in the article</li> </ul> <p>Response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• meaningful reflection</li> </ul>  | 20          |
| <b>Vocabulary List &amp; Written Report</b>      | <p>Vocabulary list:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• includes all important new words</li> <li>• chooses correct meanings used in the article</li> <li>• few errors</li> <li>• a complete list</li> <li>• numbers and lists the words according to their order of appearance in the article</li> </ul> <p>Written report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• typed</li> <li>• few grammatical errors</li> <li>• organized</li> </ul>   | 20          |
| <b>Total</b>                                     |  | 100         |

## Rubric for **Group** News Article Presentation

| Category   | Description  | Point Value |
|--|--|-------------|
| <b>Volume, Articulation, &amp; Pronunciation</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>speaks loudly and clearly</li> <li>articulates his/her words</li> <li>uses correct pronunciation</li> </ul>   | 20          |
| <b>Preparation</b>                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>two weeks prior to the presentation day <b>(8 pts)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Has finalized</b> the presentation article with Jennifer</li> <li>✓ presentation outline ready</li> <li>✓ posts the article link, title Qs &amp; Ans. on eeclass</li> </ul> </li> <li>one week prior to the presentation day <b>(4 pts)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ distributes copies of the presentation article to classmates</li> <li>✓ posts the finalized version of <b>article subheadings</b> and <b>word list</b> on eeclass</li> </ul> </li> <li>appointment with Jennifer <b>(4 pts)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ shows up on time</li> <li>✓ laptop and ppt slides 100% ready</li> <li>✓ presents fluently</li> <li>✓ revises the content and slides according to the meeting</li> </ul> </li> <li>on the presentation day <b>(4 pts)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ distributes the copies the vocabulary list to classmates</li> <li>✓ hands in to Jennifer a hard copy of the word list</li> <li>✓ minimal technical problem on the presentation day</li> <li>✓ answers questions from the audience well</li> <li>✓ posts the ppt slides on eeclass</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | 20          |
| <b>Delivery</b>                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>no long pauses</li> <li>well-organized</li> <li>adopts a proper speed, intonation, and suitable pauses</li> <li>has enough eye contact</li> <li>doesn't read notes</li> <li>has good time control</li> </ul>  | 20          |
| <b>Content &amp; Interaction with the Audience</b> | <p>Warm-Up Activity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interesting warm-up questions or activity</li> <li>Nice lead-in to the news article</li> </ul> <p>Comprehension of the News Article</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understands the news article well</li> <li>Difficult words/ sentences/ paragraphs explained</li> <li>Answers questions from the audience well</li> </ul> <p>Discussion of the News Article</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meaningful discussion question or activity of the issue</li> <li>Audience involved</li> </ul> <p>Conclusion or Prospect of the Issue</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meaningful conclusion/ insightful prospect</li> </ul>  | 20          |
| <b>PPT slides &amp; Vocabulary List</b>            | <p>PPT slides</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proper word size</li> </ul>   | 20          |

|              |  |     |
|--------------|--|-----|
|              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proper proportion of images and words</li> <li>• Few grammar and spelling errors</li> <li>• Include group members' work allocations on the last slide</li> </ul> <p>Vocabulary list:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• includes all important new words</li> <li>• chooses correct meanings used in the article</li> <li>• few errors</li> <li>• a complete list</li> <li>• numbers and lists the words according to their order of appearance in the article</li> </ul> |     |
| <b>Total</b> |  | 100 |