

**ESL 024  
(CRN 20749)  
Imperial Valley College  
Spring 2014**

**Instructor: John D. Clarkson, M.A., J.D.  
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**Class time: F 12:00 p.m. – 3:10 p.m.  
Room: Bldg. 200, Room 205**

**Course Description:**

This course is designed assist high-intermediate ESL students in developing reading skills and reading efficiency in English. Focus will be placed understanding text structure and overall comprehension of a variety of texts. Further development of reading skills will also be emphasized.

**Course Textbooks and Required Reading or Software:**

- Longman (2012). Advanced Dictionary on American English. Pearson Longman. ISBN: 9781405820295
- Nici Mare, Nancy., Lorraine. Smith. (2010). Concepts for today 4 (3rd /e). Heinle. ISBN: 1-111-03305-6
- Barall, Irene (2010). Long road to Lucca. Heinle. ISBN: 1-133-30564-4
- Brennan, Frank. (2011). Joe Faust. Heinle. ISBN-13: 9781133305507

**Disability Information:**

Any students with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSP& S) office as soon as possible. DSP& S Room 2117  
Health Sciences Building  
(760) 355- 6312

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

*Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to:*

- Distinguish between main ideas and major/minor details in a reading.
- Select appropriate vocabulary based on the readings' context clues to aid in overall comprehension.
- Identify the correct definition of a vocabulary word using an English-only dictionary.

**Measurable Course Objectives And Minimum Standards For Grade Of "C":**

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate competency in using reading skills such as skimming, scanning, vocabulary in context, making inferences, previewing and making predictions to aid in overall comprehension.
2. Demonstrate competency in identifying topics of readings, main ideas (both implicit and explicit), and major/minor details.
3. Demonstrate ability to summarize short text and reading selections.
4. Identify text structures - listing, time order, comparison/contrast, cause/effect, sequencing, problem/solution, and extended definition - for the purpose of drawing a conclusion;
5. Demonstrate mastery in interpreting charts and graphs;
6. Demonstrate ability to choose a book of an appropriate level, read independently and provide supporting documentation such as a reading log and report.
7. Correctly use an English-only dictionary to locate and decode words, identify parts of speech and antonyms and synonyms in order to understand texts.

**Attendance:** Class attendance will be taken at the beginning of class meetings. If you come late, see me to check in during the break. If you miss 2 consecutive class sessions, you may be dropped from the course. If you are going to miss a class, it is your responsibility to get the assignments and turn them in on time. Sometimes, our work on one day depends on work done the previous day. If you miss the first day, then you may find it difficult to perform the tasks on the following day. Also, we often work in groups. If you miss a class, you may disappoint your colleagues.

**The official policy of the college is as follows:** “Attendance Policy/Tardiness: A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class MAY be dropped by the instructor immediately following the class. Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students enrolled. A student may be excluded from further attendance in a class during any semester when absences after the close of registration have exceeded the number of class hours which the class meets per week.”

### **Grades:**

This course must be taken for a letter grade. You will be assigned a final grade based on your homework, quizzes, classroom performance, the mid-term exam, and the final exam. You may be given an opportunity to earn extra credit at my discretion, but I don't give many opportunities to earn extra credit. It's important, therefore, that you complete the regular assignments and do your best on quizzes and the final exam. In order to pass the course, **you must pass the final exam.** Assuming you pass the final exam, the following components will contribute to your final grade in the percentage listed next to each:

Homework and Oral Presentations: 15%; Quizzes: 20%; Book reports: 10%; “Language Journal: 10%; Midterm Exam: 20%; Final Exam:25%. The grading scale is as follows: 90-100% = A; 80-89% = B; 70-79% = C; 60-69% = D; 0-59% = F.

*Homework:* All homework assignments must be handed in on the date they are due. I will accept homework that is turned in late, but will reduce the grade by a full letter grade as a penalty.

*Quizzes:* I will give you quizzes throughout the semester, usually the day after we complete each unit in the textbook. These quizzes will cover reading material, class discussion and lecture material. Sometimes, I will give a “pop quiz.” A pop quiz is not announced beforehand. I will give several pop quizzes during the semester. Since they are a surprise, you should be prepared for a pop quiz at every class meeting. **No makeup quizzes will be given.**

*Final Exam:* There will be only one final exam, administered on the date listed in the class schedule. **To pass the course, you must pass the final exam.**

### **Success:**

Acquiring another language requires focused effort. Sitting in class is simply not sufficient for you to succeed. You must study, speak, read, and listen to English as much as you possibly can outside of class. College guidelines suggest that you study two hours for every hour of class. Since this is a three-hour class, this would mean that you are expected to study or participate in some other learning activity for an additional six hours every week.

### **Cell Phone Policy:**

As a courtesy to classmates and the professor, please ensure that your cell phone is silenced or in “vibrate mode” during class. If it is necessary to receive a phone call, you do not need to interrupt the class by asking for permission; you should simply leave as quietly as possible and begin your conversation after you have left the classroom.

Classroom Decorum:

**Your Responsibilities:** You will be responsible for using your best effort to attend class and to learn and for letting me know if there is something I can do to help.

**My Responsibilities:** I will give you assignments to help you improve, and I will guide you as you learn. I will assign a grade to your work. It is our class and we will share responsibility for its success.

**Helping Others or Helping Yourself (Cheating):** Although you will often be asked to work together in class, you will take your exams and quizzes by yourself. In this culture, it is not considered appropriate to help another person or receive help from another person during an exam or quiz. In fact, it is considered cheating and it is a serious offense. Anyone caught cheating by asking someone else for help, giving someone else help, looking at someone else's paper, using unauthorized sources such as notes, translators, dictionaries, etc., will receive a zero (0) for the test or quiz. When you are not taking quizzes or exams, it is wonderful to help your classmates. Just be sure your classmate wants your help!

**Using Other People's Work (Plagiarism):** Plagiarism means presenting other people's work as though it were your own. It includes, but is not limited to, the use of paraphrased or directly quoted published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment. It also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials. Information gathered from the internet and not properly identified is also considered plagiarism. If you plagiarize, the policy of IVC is that I must give you a grade of zero (0) on the assignment and refer you to Sergio Lopez, Dean of Student Development and Campus Events.

**Proper Conduct:** We are here to learn and help each other learn. That requires that we conduct ourselves politely and that we not disrupt the class. If you are disruptive or disrespectful, I may remove you for that class period and for the next class period. During the period of removal, you may not return to class without my permission. A student who engages consistently in disruptive conduct will be referred to Mr. Sergio Lopez, Dean of Student Development and Campus Events for determination as to whether he or she will be dropped from the class.

**The official policy of the college is as follows:**

“Academic Misconduct Policy: Academic misconduct includes misconduct associated with the classroom, laboratory or clinical learning process. Some examples of academic misconduct are cheating and plagiarism.

Cheating includes, but is not limited to, (a) use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, assessment tests or examinations; (b) dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the faculty member in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; or (c) the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a member of the college faculty or staff.

Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, the use of paraphrased or directly quoted published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment. It also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials. Information gathered from the internet and not properly identified is also considered plagiarism.

Any student found by a faculty member to have committed academic misconduct may be subject to sanctions as determined by the faculty member. Sanctions MAY include a warning, grade adjustment, and course failure. Consequences for plagiarism include a zero on the assignment and a referral to Sergio Lopez, Dean of Student Development and Campus Events.”

**Mistakes are a sign that you are taking risks and learning; it's OK to make lots of them!**

**Tentative 16-Week Schedule** (*Schedule subject to change based on class discussions*)

Week	Date	Material to Cover	Text
1	01/24/14	Introduction to the Course, Needs Assessment, Introductions, Vocabulary: Roots, Prefixes and Suffixes; Guessing from Context	Handouts
2	01/31/14	Living in Society: The Paradox of Happiness. Start “Road to Lucca”)	Ch 1
3	02/07/14	Living in Society: Junior Status: Sharing Dad’s Name a Mixed Bag (“Road to Lucca”)	Ch 2
4	02/14/14	NO CLASS (Valentine’s Day)	
5	02/21/14	Living in Society: The Birth-Order Myth (Continue “Road to Lucca”)	Ch 3
6	02/28/14	Quiz on Chapters 1 -3; Group work Summarize first half of “Road to Lucca”; Oral Presentations (Any topic from Chapter 1 – 3)	
7	03/07/14	Health and Well-Being: Acupuncture: The New Old Medicine (Continue “Road to Lucca”)	Ch 5
8	03/14/14	Health and Well-Being: Highs and Lows in Self Esteem	Ch 6
9	03/21/14	Quiz on “Road to Lucca;” Quiz on Chapters 5 – 6; Oral Presentations (Any topic from Chapters 5 – 6) Review “Language Journals”	
10	03/28/14	MID-TERM EXAM: Chapters 1 – 6 and “Road to Lucca”; Book Report on “Road to Lucca”	
11	04/04/14	Government and Education: Federal System of Government. Start “Joe Faust”	Ch 7
12	04/11/14	Government and Education: Teachers Are Key for Students (Continue “Joe Faust”)	Ch 8
13	04/18/14	Government and Education: The Pursuit of Excellence (Continue “Joe Faust”). Group Work: Summarize first half of “Joe Faust.”	Ch 9
14	04/25/14	NO CLASS (Spring Recess) but HOMEWORK: prepare book report, both due on 12/06	
15	05/02/14	Science and Technology: Antarctica: Whose Continent Is It Anyway?	Ch 10
16	05/09/14	Science and Technology: Is Time Travel Possible? Summarize second half of “Joe Faust”	Ch 12
17	05/16/14	FINAL EXAM: Will cover entire text book, “Long Road to Lucca” and “Joe Faust.”	

Reference to the text is for convenience only; not all material is presented in the textbook.

**Note: Generally, there will be a quiz on the day following completion of each unit in the textbook. A unit consists of three chapters.**