

Academic Reading 1

Course Description

In this course, students will improve their academic reading skills through study and discussion of newspaper, magazine, and journal articles of varying lengths related to important issues in science and engineering. Emphasis will be placed on developing a deep understanding of sentence and text structure, and on developing micro- and macro-reading skills, so that relevant information can be found quickly and effectively, without the need for translation into the native language. In particular, students will be urged to start understanding written English in English. They will also be encouraged to read beyond the target texts to gain a deeper understanding of the topics covered and to express their reaction to readings in both oral and in written reports. In addition, students are required to master 300 academic words including their meaning and collocations by studying the Academic Word Lists (AWLs) 1a – 5b provided by CELESE. Students are expected to spend an average of 1.5 hours out of class on weekly assignments.

Course Goals

- G1: Develop knowledge of 300 academic words.
- G2: Recognize and comprehend common linguistic features of academic texts.
- G3: Read and comprehend the gist of both short and long academic texts.
- G4: Develop strategies and higher-level cognitive skills related to academic reading.
- G5: Manage academic references sufficiently.
- G6: Be familiar with a variety of recent topics in science and engineering.

Textbook and other materials

- *“Academic Reading in Science and Engineering, Book 1 (Revised Edition)”* (2020) by R. Rose. DTP Publishing: Tokyo, Japan.
- Academic Word Lists (AWLs), available at CELESE web site
- Suggested reading materials, available at CELESE web site
- List of recent science news; available at CELESE web site
- Supplementary materials, provided by teachers

Learning Activities

Classroom

Classroom activities will include textbook-based activities, extensive reading reports and discussion, intensive reading, and quizzes. During each lesson, students will sometimes work alone, sometimes in pairs, and sometimes in groups. Students are expected to use English in the classroom with the teacher and with each other.

Homework

Outside of class, students will be engaged in four kinds of main study activities.

Academic Word List study

Students should download the Academic Word Lists (AWLs) available on the CELESE web site and study them on their own before they take AWL quizzes.

Science news study

Students should access the list of recent science news on the CELESE web site and read the linked articles there. The list will be updated weekly, so students should access the list regularly to read the latest news. They should be familiar with the basic facts of each article.

Extensive reading and reports

Students should select some extensive reading material (or the teacher may select a material and provide

it) and read it. Some suggested readings and links to science and engineering-oriented archives are available on the CELESE web site. Students should read their selected material and then prepare a written report consisting of a summary of the reading material and their reaction to the content. These reports will be submitted digitally via Moodle and presented orally in the classroom.

Supplemental videos and confirmation quizzes

Videos that supplement the main learning points of the textbook will be provided by Moodle. It is recommended that students watch these videos and complete the accompanying comprehension quizzes to deepen their understanding of important concepts and skills in academic reading.

Grading (see AR1 Student Performance Record Sheet)

Grading is criterion-referenced and the final grade is based on five components:

- (20%) In-class AWL quizzes (5 biweekly) (4 pts x 5)
- (16%) In-class science news quizzes (2 quizzes) (8 pts x 2)
- (5%) Intensive reading exercises (5 exercises) (1pt x 5)
- (25%) Extensive reading reports (3 reports) (pt value varies: total 25 pts)
- (34%) Final test (unified, comprehensive) (34 pts)

To pass the course, the student must (a) meet attendance requirement of the course (attendance of 2/3 of classes) and (b) meet the pass criteria (60%) in at least four of the six course goals. The final grade is then determined by the total point score as follows.

A+ = [90 < score < 100]	A = [80 < score < 90]	B = [70 < score < 80]	C = [score < 70]	F = [failed (a) or (b)]
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Students who wish to question their final grades should make inquiries directly to their course teacher who will consider each case based on the student's performance record. Inquiries of this nature can be made until the end of the 7th full day (1 week) after the final grades are made public by the Education Office. Once these 7 days have expired, no further grade inquiries will be considered.

Academic Honesty

Students are expected to maintain high standards of academic honesty in all aspects of their work in this course. Students must take quizzes and tests on their own and submit original homework assignments and reports prepared by themselves. The following sample cases are NOT considered honest acts.

- Submitting a report without acknowledging the sources through the use of citations or references.
- Assembling a report by copying (without acknowledgment) from several different sources.
- Submitting an assignment that has been partly or wholly copied from another student.
- Submitting an assignment that was received from a former student.
- Doing an assignment on behalf of another student.
- Using automatic translation or text generation services for quizzes, tests, and reports (unless explicitly allowed by the teacher).

Suspected violations of academic honesty will be challenged and appropriate action will be taken. Serious cases will be reported to the university for further handling.