

Miyazaki International College  
Course Syllabus  
Fall 2020

Course Title	Reading 2 (RDG 2-2) (2 credits)
Course Designation for TC	
<u>Language Teacher</u>	
Instructor	Craig Yamamoto
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Office hours	Tuesday 13:00-16:00

**Course Description:**

This second semester course continues to challenge students to develop their reading skills through the use of in-class timed readings and comprehension questions, intensive readings with comprehension and vocabulary building activities, and extensive reading conducted mostly outside of class time. Homework consists of reading for meaning, for pleasure, and for the purpose of vocabulary building. Students also engage with software to work on extensive reading, to develop critical reading skills, and to build and practice vocabulary.

**Course Objectives:**

- To increase reading fluency through timed reading practice
- To increase interest in reading for pleasure
- To use dictionaries for learning definitions, collates and parts of speech
- To improve understanding of grammar forms encountered in written text
- To gain working knowledge up to and including band four of the New General Service List
- To gain skills and strategies for improved reading accuracy, such as previewing, goal awareness, predicting, text annotation, structural awareness, scanning, knowledge consolidation and self-monitoring of comprehension
- To improve inductive critical thinking skills through text analysis
- To develop oral and written paraphrasing skills
- To improve reading speed

<b>Course Schedule (subject to change):</b>		
<b>Day</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Content/Activities</b>
1	Course introduction	Introductions; Course outline and objectives; Expectations; Syllabus
2	Intensive Reading 1	The Real Effect of Household Consumers"; RFSF Book 1-31
3	Intensive Reading 1	The Real Effect of Household Consumers"; RFSF Book 1-32
4	Intensive Reading 1	The Real Effect of Household Consumers"; RFSF Book 1-33
<b>5</b>	<b>Intensive Reading 1</b>	<b>Review and Quiz; RFSF Book 1-34</b>
6	Intensive Reading 2	Rethinking the Good Life; RFSF Book 1-35
7	Intensive Reading 2	Rethinking the Good Life; RFSF Book 1-36
8	Intensive Reading 2	Rethinking the Good Life; RFSF Book 1-37
<b>9</b>	<b>Intensive Reading 2</b>	<b>Review and Quiz; RFSF Book 1-38</b>
10	Intensive Reading 3	Global Warming; RFSF Book 1-39
11	Intensive Reading 3	Global Warming; RFSF Book 1-40
12	Intensive Reading 3	Global Warming; RFSF Book 2-1
<b>13</b>	<b>Intensive Reading 3</b>	<b>Review and Quiz; RFSF Book 2-2</b>
14	Intensive Reading 4	William Kankwamba; RFSF Book 2-3
15	Intensive Reading 4	William Kankwamba; RFSF Book 2-4
16	Intensive Reading 4	William Kankwamba; RFSF Book 2-5
<b>17</b>	<b>Intensive Reading 4</b>	<b>Review and Quiz; RFSF Book 2-6</b>
18	Intensive Reading 5	Habitat Destruction; RFSF Book 2-7
19	Intensive Reading 5	Habitat Destruction; RFSF Book 2-8
20	Intensive Reading 5	Habitat Destruction; RFSF Book 2-9
<b>21</b>	<b>Intensive Reading 5</b>	<b>Review and Quiz; RFSF Book 2-10</b>
22	Intensive Reading 6	Swimming through Garbage; RFSF Book 2-11
23	Intensive Reading 6	Swimming through Garbage; RFSF Book 2-12
24	Intensive Reading 6	Swimming through Garbage; RFSF Book 2-13
<b>25</b>	<b>Intensive Reading 6</b>	<b>Review and Quiz; RFSF Book 2-14</b>
26	Intensive Reading 7	Air Pollution; RFSF Book 2-15
27	Intensive Reading 7	Air Pollution; RFSF Book 2-16
28	Intensive Reading 7	Air Pollution; RFSF Book 2-17
<b>29</b>	<b>Intensive Reading 7</b>	<b>Review and Quiz; RFSF Book 2-18</b>
30	Final Exam Review	Review for Vocabulary and Reading Comprehension exams; RFSF Book 2-19
	<b>Final Exam</b>	

## Required Materials:

- A4 writing paper, pens, pencils
- Handouts provided by teacher/ downloaded by students as necessary
- Binder for handouts
- Textbook as prescribed by the teacher

## Course Policies (Attendance, etc.)

### Attendance

You will not get any points for attendance because it is expected that you will attend 100% of classes. If you are absent for any reason you need to 1) contact your teacher and 2) ask a classmate for class notes and homework assignment information. Participation is required at all classes. *If you have four or more 'unexcused absences' you may be asked to withdraw from the class.* An 'unexcused absence' is any absence for which you do not have permission. Medical reasons, family emergencies and so on are **NOT** counted as unexcused absences and will **NOT** influence your grade.

### Academic Honesty

are not allowed to use translation software or Internet translation sites in this or any course at MIC. Although it is fine to work with classmates on homework assignments together, **copying homework from classmates is unacceptable and will result in 0% on that assignment for both parties.**

### Assignment Submission

- Any assigned written work (not in the textbook or on the handouts) should be submitted in typed format. Keeping backups is strongly recommended! Name, student number, teacher's name, date, title, and page number(s) and exercise(s) of such assignment as appropriate should be written. Failure to do so may affect one's grade.
- Be sure to write your full name in English, your student number, the teacher's name, the date, a title, and the page number and exercise of the assignment if appropriate.
- Late assignments (drafts to the teacher) may result in a lower score, so please submit your writing on time.

## Class Preparation and Review:

- Students are expected to spend at least one hour reviewing and doing homework and one hour preparing for every hour of lesson time. This means you should expect to spend six hours each week outside of class time on this course.
- "I was absent" is not an excuse for not completing assignments or being prepared for class. If absent, be sure to talk with your classmates first to find out what was missed. Contact the teacher after trying to consult with your classmates.
- If you do not understand anything at any time, it is your responsibility to ask questions. If you do not ask questions, the teacher may assume you understand everything.

## Grades and Grading Standards:

### Extensive Reading – 20%

In class, and sometimes as homework, we will work on *intensive reading* (see below). *Extensive reading*, however, refers to reading a large amount of longer, easier texts, focusing on the meaning. Although some class time will be used for extensive reading, most of it will be done on your own time, and you can decide what you read. You will be required to read a certain total number of words by the end of each month, and complete "quizzes" to prove that you have completed and understood the reading.

### Timed Reading – 10%

During timed reading sessions in class, you will be required to read a short and relatively easy passage as quickly as you can while still understanding the main points. Your timed reading score will be based on later assignments in which you performed well.

## Grades and Grading Standards (*continued*):

### Participation, Homework & Course Activities – 50%

(Participation 10% - Praxis Ed 10% - ReadTheory 10% - Course Activities 20%)

In class, and sometimes as homework, we will work on *intensive reading*, which is slow, careful reading of a small amount of difficult text, focusing on the language.

Assignments consist of reading, preparing for discussion, and completing text or handout exercises. We will typically go over previously assigned homework in class. As such, if you do not complete the assignment(s), you will not only get 0 points, but you will also not be able to actively participate in class activities, in turn affecting your participation score as well. It is therefore essential that you complete the assignments to the best of your ability on time.

There will be activities and quizzes based on the main readings throughout the semester. You may also be required to record video summaries on a video platform.

Continuing from Reading 1, you will be working almost daily on your vocabulary skills and critical reading skills using the online systems provided to you.

### Final Exam – 20%

The final exam will take place during exam week. Information on the content of the exam will be given in class, but you can expect a reading comprehension test, and a vocabulary test. These will test your vocabulary knowledge and reading skills.

## Methods of Feedback:

In principle, work will be evaluated and returned within one week of submission. Feedback will be provided in the form of:

- Written comments on quizzes and assignments;
- Oral feedback both in class and during office hours;
- Model answers made available on Moodle and/or class handouts;
- Automatic feedback provided by online systems used in the course;

Peer review and peer evaluation of oral paraphrases

## Diploma Policy Objectives:

Work completed in this course helps students achieve the following Diploma Policy objective(s):

1. Advanced thinking skills (comparison, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation) based on critical thinking (critical and analytic thought)
2. The ability to understand and accept different cultures developed through acquisition of a broad knowledge and comparison of the cultures of Japan and other nations
3. The ability to identify and solve problems
4. Advanced communicative proficiency in both Japanese and English
5. Proficiency in the use of information technology

## Notes:

It is your responsibility to seek help if you need it. Please visit during the teacher's office hours if you need study advice, and feel free to contact your teacher via email. You will be given information for certain apps to help in your studies for this course, in addition to MIC Moodle (if used) in class. Several online platforms in this course will be used, such as the following:

- <http://praxised.com/> (used for online vocabulary practice)
- <http://www.xreading.com> (used for extensive reading)
- <http://www.readtheory.org> (used for short reading passage practice)

In addition to handouts and the timed reading text, please bring your tablet and/or smart phone to all classes.