

魅力英语 Speaking Beautif

Speaking Beautiful English

Building Successful Lives

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A Character & Skills-Based Approach for Communicating in a Global Society

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(Book 1)

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Character Corner (Part ||): Character traits: Timeless truths that transform by

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Culture Corner: Cultural awareness and understanding different ethnicities by Dr. Julie Tofilon

Career Corner: Principles for succeeding in the competitive marketplace by Peter Freund and Kim Orendor (Personal Stories)

Conversation Corner: Essential conversational skills for total life training by Tom Tofilon and Dr. Julie Tofilon

Connection Corner: Modern examples of what to say in different situations by Tom Tofilon and Dr. Julie Tofilon (Dialogues)

Construction Corner: Clear explanations of some of the most difficult grammar by

Tom Tofilon

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SBE Authors

Preface

This textbook will not only assist students in fulfilling their desire to "speak beautiful English," but the book is itself beautiful. When saying that something is "a beauty," it refers to the fact the object or person possesses attractive features. Speaking Beautiful English displays its beauty through its instructional attributes and its keys to living life successfully.

The ability to communicate effectively in English is a desire found among students around the world. It is estimated that over one billion people worldwide are learning to speak English. For most of these students, English will be used occasionally, but for some there is a desire to speak in such a way that they can regularly and effectively communicate as a vocational or career tool. To communicate effectively in English, a student must not only master vocabulary and grammar, but also understand the culture of English speakers, know how to use correct gestures, tone, and facial expressions. learn how to think in a variety of situations, and then practice regularly. This is most effectively done through immersion in the culture of the language. However, not everyone will have the opportunity to move to an English-speaking country. It is because of this that the language classroom must as nearly as possible simulate the immersion experience. Speaking Beautiful English, through its balanced and comprehensive design, provides learners with knowledge of English and its cultural foundations, the skills of effective cross-cultural communication, and the confidence needed to practice and use what is being learned. Through the modeling of instructors and practical classroom simulations, students will experience language learning that will transfer to the real world.

Beyond these beautiful instructional elements, there is something of even greater beauty within every lesson. It is this aspect of *Speaking Beautiful English* that is the foundation for success in all of life—wisdom. Whereas learning English is a relatively new worldwide desire, the pursuit for wisdom has characterized people from all cultures throughout history. Wisdom, the ability to live life rightly, should be the outcome of every student's education. Exemplary character and the truths of right living are woven throughout this textbook. The authors realize that without character and the ability to make ethical decisions, knowledge and skills, English included, will not lead to success. As students move through each lesson, they will be introduced to people who demonstrated wisdom and who can serve as a model for how to live life with integrity.

The SBE authors have diligently blended modern American English, effective language learning techniques, real world social contexts, and ethical dilemmas to produce a book that will provide the means for students to not only "speak beautiful English," but also use English as a means to fulfill their vision for the future.

Speaking Beautiful English is a unique textbook for adult/young adult English language learners. It integrates reading, listening, speaking, and cross-cultural communication skills throughout the whole book. It can be used in a variety of ways depending on the needs of the ESL/EFL students. Each unit has a topic that leads students to develop communicative competence in real-life situations as well as their interest in seeking truth and wisdom needed for successful living in all cultures.

Dr. Li Shuyin,
Resident Faculty,
TEFL Program,
College of Education,
Columbia International University

Introduction

Why another book on how to learn English? That's a great question! The best written and designed ESL books must accurately ask and answer these three main questions:

How can we get the students to like the material? How can we get the students to understand the material? How can we get the students to remember the material?

This book excels in all three. Through a multi-faceted approach to language learning, each student will have a great time learning it, an easier time comprehending it, and more effective way of retaining it. It is a communicative, values-based, integrated-skills (listening, reading, and speaking) approach to learning how to SPEAK the language. It is designed to guide the teacher in presenting interesting English and then gives the students a chance to practice and create with it.

The unique, straight-A features of this book are:

- A communicative, values-based, integrated-skills (listening, reading, and speaking) approach to learning how to speak the English language and understand C. U. L. T. U. B. E.
- A modern language book that teaches students how to speak contemporary English, including the sharpening of their listening, critical thinking, and problem solving skills.
- A unique student-centered approach that is easily received, understood, and remembered by using a presentation, practice and production format.
- A course that will develop character and leadership qualities and improve the pronunciation and conversational skills of each student, making them into successful, confident English speakers and young, world-class business professionals and educators.

At the same time, one must remember that the secret to learning a language is not learning a lot and practicing a little, but learning a little and practicing a lot! Like learning how to play ping pong, one must not only watch good players, but also pick up the paddle and start to play. Learning a language is more like playing a sport than

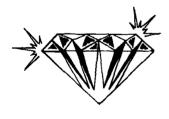
studying history. A Chinese proverb says, "Tell me, I'll forget. Show me, I may remember. But involve me, and I'll understand." It doesn't mean one shouldn't be diligent in his * study; only that YOU have to DO IT to be good at it! Like learning how to play a sport with the coach explaining, demonstrating, and then watching the players do it, so should language be taught.

Moreover, like being an excellent athlete, the language learner must be intrinsically motivated with constant attention to improving his skill. Be careful, however, not to think that experience is the best teacher. Like a coach with his team, guided experience is the best teacher. One must do the right thing in the right way over a long period of time. This is the best chance for success in ESL acquisition and in any field for that matter.

Finally, as necessary for all great education (knowledge, skill, and character), this book is also about how to grow in our understanding of the basis of all successful living, in our personal or corporate life. This foundational and primary principle on which all others build is this character trait called *integrity*:

Consistently making righteous choices, based on the right moral and ethical principles. Complete or "whole," not divided — holding firm to what you believe is right, and acting upon it. Making your behavior consistent with your beliefs, even when nobody is looking.

In order to meet this goal, with this book you will find a well-organized, guided structure, yet, at the same time, one that allows you the freedom to have fun with it. It consists of 26 topics with each topic divided into seven sections. The seven sections are as follows:



Character Corner (Part 1): Values-based reading section, introducing the reader to great men and women throughout world history that have proven themselves to be outstanding citizens, improving the daily lives of their countrymen and beyond. Who doesn't want good character? This section gives readers a chance to practice their listening, reading.

and fluency skills. Using a subject that they're highly interested in, they will also have many opportunities to develop critical thinking skills through the insightful questions at the end of each section.

Please remember, however, that all human beings are flawed. No one lives up to the

^{* &}quot;He" is usually used in English to refer to both male and femal.

expectations of others. No one even lives up to the expectations they set for themselves.

Many of the greatest people in history have had some of the greatest character flaws. In this book we have tried to choose people who exhibit a high level of character. We have tried to give examples of people who might serve as role models. In one sense, this is an impossible task. A careful study of the lives of these role models will reveal flaws. Each person we have presented as a role model has failed at one time or another. This is the human condition. We cannot find a perfect person because perfect people do not exist in the real world.

But this does not mean that we cannot find good role models. There really are heroes in the world. The heroes are generally ordinary people who have overcome great challenges. They have struggled with the same temptations and failings as the rest of us. But they persevered. They refused to be defeated, and in the end, they did something which made the world a better place.

Most of us will never be mentioned in the history books. But all of us have the opportunity to influence the course of history. Every day we make choices. These choices make us the people we are. These choices determine our character. We will affect the lives of others. When our choices are good, we will benefit others and make the world a better place. It is our hope to encourage each of you to begin by thinking good thoughts. These thoughts will lead to good words. These good thoughts and words will lead to good actions. These actions will become habits. These habits will become our character. Our character will be the most important legacy we leave to our descendants, and to all of humankind. This section will help us learn from history. This is because one thing we learn from history is that humankind doesn't learn from history; therefore, we repeatedly make the same mistakes. Let us benefit from the lessons of history.



Character Corner (Part II): A section to teach timeless truths that transform people into becoming responsible and respected citizens. This book not only will define the meaning of real integrity, but also explain how to become people of solid virtue by providing easy-to-follow action steps. There's another Chinese proverb that says, "It takes ten years to grow a tree, but a hundred years to bring up a generation of good men."

Integrating character into learning will "grow" a strong generation that will bring honor to family and country for years to come. Speaking Beautiful English is about creating beautiful speakers — from the inside out. In order to achieve this we have added a "Living It Out" section that gives real-life examples of college and career men and women that have lived by these virtues and have succeeded. For further conversation

practice in this section and other ones we have also pasted in a "Let's Talk About It" component, which allows the students to talk about what they had just learned from the traits and human interest stories.



Culture Corner: A section to teach students the importance of cultural awareness and understanding other's cultural "grids" in both social and business interaction. We define culture as:

Communication(shared/passed down) within a Unified group of people — the Language,
Traditions, and
Underlying beliefs and values within
Relationships/behavior and the
Environment(social institutions).

Language is best learned within the framework of culture in order for it to be accurately understood and effective. We call this language usage. Also, language reflects culture. For example, in one language, the same word means "thin," "weak," and "sickly." This is because the people of this culture equate thinness with weakness and lack of good health!



Career Corner: A section to teach students some fundamental principles of succeeding with colleagues and supervisors on the job. Students will learn how to work together with others in the job culture and overcome the challenges that await them in the marketplace. How will they be able to persist in

reaching the zenith of their career? This section offers much proven advice from the experts in the field including real-life examples of these principles and leadership qualities necessary for successful work.

In this section and others there are many opportunities to practice this useful and modern language through fun and effective activities(partner work, group work, games, music, drama, discussion, debate and other activities). As mentioned already above, after most of the corners there are the "Talking About It" and "Living It Out" sections. These real-to-life anecdotes and activities act as great conversation starters, touching both the mind and heart of the student. These essential components will help each student to use his imagination, solidifying what he learns into long-term memory, paying heavy attention to building fluency with functional English.

Connection Corner: A section to help students to understand what is the most



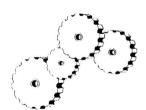
appropriate thing to say in a particular situation, for example: How to show sympathy; Share your opinion; Disagree; Get to know others better. Also, telephone etiquette, how to lead a business meeting, and improve your listening skills, are just a few of the many different and practical tips on having a great conversation with someone from *any* culture. In this part you'll find the most common, modern and thorough examples of what to say in many different situations in your work or recreation. This up-to-date

section will give anyone the best view of how things are said TODAY!



Conversation Corner: A section to improve students' conversational skills in contemporary, everyday speech on the street, at home, in school and the workplace. Since motivation is a major key to learning, we must design a curriculum that meets felt needs. This activity contains relevant topics based on the everyday life of a college student. It also uses other real-life dialogue from the business world. In this way the students will be able to remember more of what they learn because of it

being directly applicable to their lives. There is a Chinese proverb that says, "An oil lamp becomes brighter after trimming, a truth becomes clearer after being discussed." This corner will give much opportunity for discussion, producing greater understanding and fluency. These essential 25 communication skills are needed to improve your "serve" on the "court" of your business platform. We communicate in only four ways: By what we do; How we look; What we say; And how we say it. This section will focus on developing the latter two.



Construction Corner: This section attempts to cover some of the most basic grammar structures that one should know to be a fluent English speaker. Although the primary purpose of this book is not to focus heavily on grammar (there are already many good books written on the subject), it does help the speaker review

and remember the basics. In this part we have combined some of the best ESL drills and skills to help students understand and REMEMBER some essential grammar. Here you'll find some clear and simple explanations of some of the most difficult tenses, phrasal verbs, prepositions, etc.

Keep in mind that the goal of language is communication. One university student was asked why she liked studying English. She said, "Because I can communicate with foreigners in their own language." We talk and listen (along with non-verbal cues) in order to share our thoughts and feelings and hear the thoughts and feelings of others from their heart language. Effective communication means that everyone involved will understand and be understood, receive and be received, remember and be

remembered. What, then, is the ultimate goal of communication? Although communication involves a cognitive process, its goal and context are primarily social. We communicate to develop a relationship with someone through an exchange of information between the messenger and the receiver. Even conducting business or doing research with another person involves some level of relationship.

Relationship, or the interest in one, directly affects our motivation for learning a language. For example, a boy who never had any desire to learn English can suddenly become very motivated when he meets an English-speaking girl he likes who can't speak his language! Or, a student wanting to study abroad in France will do all he can to learn enough French to pass the required exam and live there. Likewise, even those who haven't met someone yet or don't have any particular plans will still be motivated to learn the language(s) of (a) culture(s) they enjoy and admire.

Moreover, as we have seen, greater motivation leads to greater and more effective language learning. This in turn leads to better communication, then relationships (social, business, etc.), and so on, until we've come full-circle. The means and methods of this book help to keep these wheels of the learning cycle moving smoothly. This cycle will not only develop better knowledge and skill, but also character, which must go hand in hand with the best educational experience.

Learning a foreign language within one's own country can be a daunting task. Many don't have the opportunity to travel to the country where the native language is spoken. It's easy to become discouraged and give up, disappointing those who want you to succeed. However, as Einstein once said, "Try not to become a man of success but rather try to become a man of value." The authors hope this book will make it easier and more effective for those who wish to become competent men and women equipped with a good mind and heart, ready to serve and improve the lives of their families, country, and the world.

SBE Authors

Table of Contents

TOPIC/PAGE NUMBER	ROLE MODELS	CHARACTER TRAITS	CROSS- CULTURAL PRINCIPLES	CAREER PRINCIPLES	LEADERSHIP TRAITS	CONNECTION	COMMUNICATION	CONSTRUCTION
Achievement Pages 1 – 12	Willerforce	Integrity	Different Is Not Necessarily Wrong	Commitment/ Honesty	Integrity Leaders Are Promise Keepers	Asking for a Favor Responding to a Request	What Is Your Dream?	Simple Past with the Past Progressive
Brothers/Sisters Teresa Pages 13 – 26	Mother Teresa	Kindness	Belief Leads to Behavior	The Customer Is Always Right	Networker Leaders Are Team Players	Expressing Anxious Thoughts and Consoling Others	Giving Full Attention/ Affirmation	Simple Present Tense
Communication Pages 27 -42	Ramon Magsaysay	Gentleness	Awareness Assists Adaptation	Understanding/ Participation Before Giving Opinion	Communicator Leaders Are Communicators	Making Sugges- tions and Responding Telephone Skills	Speaking the Truth/ Positioning	Articles "a" and "the"
Dad/Fathers Pages 43 – 55	Edmund Morel	Courage	Core Values Leads to Attributes	A Calculated Risk Is an Opportunity	Prudent Leaders Are Researchers	Asking for Information or Help	Direct/Diagnostic Questions/ Expecting the Best	Simple Past
Events Pages 56 – 68	Moses	Responsibility	Direct vs. Indirect Communication	Learn to Prioritize Your Time	Responsible Leaders Are Burden-Bearers	Giving Some Good Advice	Answering to Correct/Helping to Remember	Present Progressive

TOPIC/PAGE NUMBER	ROLE	CHARACTER TRAITS	CROSS- CULTURAL PRINCIPLES	CAREER	LEADERSHIP TRAITS	CONNECTION	COMMUNICATION	CONSTRUCTION
Friendship Pages 69 -82	Joseph	Forgiveness	Speaking the Truth/ Preserving the Unity	Don' t Risk Friendships over Business	Relational Leaders Are Listeners	Apologizing	Diagnostic Questions/ Answering with Actions	Present Perfect and Present Perfect Progressive
Groups of People — Cutures Pages 83 –95	Mahatma Gandhi	Peace	High Context vs. Low Context Cultures (Part One)	Listen to Correction and Criticism	Submissive Leaders Are Followers	Asking Sensitive Review Questions	Review	Past Perfect
Health Pages 96 – 109	Robert E.	Self-Control	High Context vs. Low Context Cultures (Part Two)	Be Punctual	Punctual Leaders Are On-Timers	Making a Purchase	Correction Using the Same Vocabulary	Conjunctions: but; and
Interests Pages 110 –123	Eric Liddell	yov	Communal Cultures vs. Individualistic Cultures (Part One)	Keep a Positive Attitude	Positive Encouraging Leaders Are Encouragers	Being Invited	Starting a Conversation with a Question/ Humor	Comparing Descriptive Adjectives
J ob Pages 124 – 135	Lin Zexu	Honesty	Communal Cultures vs. Individualistic Cultures (Part Two)	Be Consistently Accountable Honest and Fair Leaders Are Receivers	Accountable Leaders Are Receivers	Confronting Someone	Compassionate Confrontation	The Use of the Dash
Kinship Pages 136 – 150	Esther	Loyalty	Shame-Based Cultures vs. Guilt-Based Cultures	Sincerity: Be Honest with Your Boss	Exhorter Leaders Are Exhorters	Asking for Someone's Opinion/Express- ing your Opinion	Answering Directly	Conjunctive Adverbs

TOPIC/PAGE NUMBER	ROLE MODELS	CHARACTER TRAITS	CROSS- CULTURAL PRINCIPLES	CAREER	LEADERSHIP TRAITS	CONNECTION	COMMUNICATION CONSTRUCTION SKILLS CORNER	CONSTRUCTION
Leadership	George Washington	Diligence	High Power- Thor Distance vs. Low and	Thoroughness	Manager	Talking to the Doctor/Ending a	Servanthood	Question Words
Pages 151 – 165	Carver		Power-Distance Dependability	Dependability	Leaders Are Managers	Conversation		
Mom/Mothers	Florence Nightingale	Compassion	High-Structure Societies vs.	Treat Others as You Would	Nurturing	Expressing Your Feelings	Compassion Precedes	Prepositions: Place
Pages 166 – 183			Low-Structure Societies	Have Them Treat You	Leaders Are Nurturers		Conversation	

Chapter 1

Achievement: Your Dream!

Dare to dream. Dare to believe. Soar above your fears. Help others fulfill their dreams and then watch yours come true.

Anonymous



Integrity

It is his nature, not his standing that makes the good man.

Publius Syrus