

Summary of lecture series on WE, Korean culture, and women's place in Korea

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The importance of the localization of English in this era of globalization is increasingly evident. Wherever we travel, we can hear English spoken by, not only Americans and the British, but also by Koreans, Japanese, Indians, Phillipinos, and Singaporeans. English is used as a means of global communication. Therefore, we must strive to understand diverse varieties of English. To ensure smooth and successful communication with people from different backgrounds, we should be aware of where their interlocutors are from and what variety of English they speak. In this sense, we feel that English education should emphasize the learner's communicative competence. Teachers should make an effort to expose learners to diverse varieties of English. And those who are engaged in language instruction should recognize that the goal of learning a second or foreign language is to communicate with people from different cultural backgrounds.

In order to engage in successful communication, one should have a foundation that is based on mutual understanding about situations, cultures, customs, traditions, and languages. In this light, non-native teachers know best what must be done to enhance their proficiency in the teaching of the second or foreign language. For instance, English teachers in Asian countries must consider their country's distinctive characteristics and features. The world is ever changing and so are people and the English education systems in each country. All of what I have just mentioned was the motivation for this lecture series on Korean English and culture.

This lecture series covers Korean culture, Woman's place in Korea, and Korean English. The lecture on Korean culture will review different aspects of Korean culture such as clothing, food, etiquette, and table manners. The lecture on Woman's place in Korea will discuss how the role of woman has been changing throughout Korean history. And finally, Korean English will be divided into three lectures.

There are two sets(Set A and Set B) for the lectures on Korean English. For the Set A, The first lecture will cover linguistic features of Korean English primarily phonetics, Phonology, intonation, grammatical features, and pragmatic features. The second lecture will address Korean English from a para-linguistics and socio-cultural point of view. The third lecture will offer an overview of Korean English in terms of culture, especially status, gender, and Korean which form the basis of how people encode and decode messages. Several distinctive features of Korean female language such as the use of more modifiers, tag questions, exclamations, and a special Korean world only for woman, *unni(sister)* are discussed.

For the Set B, the first lecture will cover an overview of the pronunciation of Korean Speakers of English. The second lecture will address Syntactic transfer by Korean learners of English. The third lecture will offer Korean English from paralinguistics and socio-cultural point of view.

Until now, it was taken for granted that, the best, and indeed, only road to smooth communication was for the NNS to learn to speak like a NS. That is, the burden was wholly on the NNS to learn to speak like a NS. However, today, with the NNS population outnumbering the NS population, we realize that the goal should be bi-directional. That is, while the NNS learns the NS's style, the NS should also learn the NNS' style.

For most presenters, it will be their first time to conduct this type of lecture. I hope every presenter enjoys his or her presentation, and once again I would sincerely like to express my deepest appreciation for all the people who have made this lecture series possible.

Thank you very much,

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