



INSIDE THIS

The Combined Classes 1

Reflection on ESL 111 2

3

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

An Interview with

My Interesting Life

The Motivation of My

Prof. Curtis

Educational

Autobiography

My Role Model

Distinguished Alum-

nus "David Rust"

Solvang

Puzzle Game

**Book Review** 

Life

ISSUE:

## The Globe

Class: ESL 033A Prof.: Carol Curtis Student: Rong Pu

#### The Combined Classes

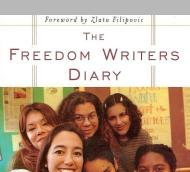
Language obstacles generally are a problem for most new immigrants such as myself. As a new resident in California, learning English is very important, an especially, English reading and writing directly influence my education. Hence, this semester I attended two English classes at Pasadena City College. One is the ESL 33A English grammar and writing class. Another one is the ESL 111, academic reading class. After two months of study, I thought that ESL 33A and ESL 111 are the perfect combination of classes that deserves to be promoted to all students. Firstly, taking English writing class can reduce the difficulty of English reading study. For example, the English grammar I learned in writing class helped me to analyze sentence structures and comprehend their meaning. Meanwhile, studying how to write paragraphs has been assisting me to write a Reader Response Journal (RRJ) easily. Secondly, taking the English reading class can improve my writing ability. For instance, some vocabulary and phrases I learned from the reading class can be used for writing summaries and essays. Also, writing RRJs is good writing practice. Last but not least, taking combined English classes can maximize English learning effects. In the writing class, I studied the Holocaust and the Civil Rights Movements in the 1930s and 1960s. Coincidentally, in the reading class, I learned about tolerance and community violence in the 1990s. Consequently, it is undeniable that the ESL 33A and ESL111 combined classes are beneficial programs that not only improve my English skills, but also enhance my historical knowledge. Therefore, combined writing and reading classes should be highly recommended to every student who studies at PCC and in all other colleges.



First day of the class : 01/12/2015 Martin Luther King. Jr Day: 01/19/2015 Rose Bowl Parade : 01/01/2015 Colorado Blvd from 8:00 AM — 11:00 AM

Bhante Usgoda Dhammagaru ESL 111 Professor Carol Curtis

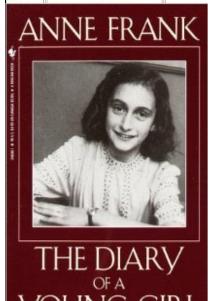
#### **ESL 111**





How a Teacher and 150 Teens Used Writing to Change Themselves and the World Around Them

THE FREEDOM WRITERS



WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY ELEANOR ROOSEVELT

#### **Reflection on ESL 111**

ESL 111, the academic reading level four class, which I am taking at Pasadena City College this semester is for improving my English reading. This class, which is conducted by Prof. Carol Curtis, is related to ESL 33A reading and writing level 4. Because both classes are together, I had a great opportunity to improve my knowledge about all areas of English at the same time under the same qualified teacher who has a lot of experience for many years. When I examine this academic study, it is important in several ways, such as improving reading, writing, speech and grammar in the language because it effected my English skills a lot.

The ESL 111 class especially focuses on academic reading. To achieve that goal it spreads to several areas such as reading The Freedom Writers book and writing RRJ (Reading Response Journal), reading special articles and writing DEJ (Double Entry Journal), studying special words and taking vocabulary tests, writing journals and essays in special areas, and going on a field trip and writing about it. These activities mostly happened weekly. Because most of them are concerned with points which effect the final result, the students are so sensitive about homework and quizzes. The students are enthusiastic to complete them on time. Especially, through reading The Freedom Writers, Anne Frank's diary and other important articles, I could improve my reading skills considerably. Simultaneously, I have been writing RRJ and DEJ which are like a review of reading and also has been very useful for my knowledge. Furthermore, our Professor Carol Curtis is giving us some topics to write for journals in the class according to various subjects and experiences such as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the Freedom Writers. Because it is a prompt without getting ready, we have to write on a particular topic suddenly. It was a good experience that I had never done before in English. On the other hand, we had some group activities which help to improve our speech and communication skills. Every week we were changing the members of groups. Here we talked and argued with each other. We are inspired by these activities week by week.

With all these activities of the ESL 111, I dedicated my time and effort for English study to do my best while I was having a busy life. Day by day I could see a steady progress in my reading and writing. Also my confidence that I can do something in English is also gradually growing. Here our Professor Ms. Carol always encouraged us being as a shadow. I pay my gratitude to her and my classmates who worked with me during this semester.

# An Interview With Prof. Curtis

## \*We conducted an interview through email with Professor Curtis who taught the ESL 111 class. The interview is shown below:

 ${f Q}$ : What is this ESL 111 class about? What kinds of students are qualified for this class?

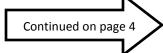
A: ESL 111 is a 3 unit reading class that is designed to give students reading strategies to help them be successful in their college courses. It is open to all students who have completed ESL 132 or are in ESL 33A.

**Q**: As far as I know, this is a new class opened for ESL students in this fall term 2014. What are some differences between other same level reading classes and ESL 111( What's special about this class)?

A: The other class at this level is English 415. The ESL Faculty created the 111 reading class so that it can be taught by ESL faculty and paired with an ESL 33A class. What is special about this class is that it is based on Reading Apprenticeship, which is a reading strategies approach used by faculty of all disciplines. It challenges students to be engaged readers.

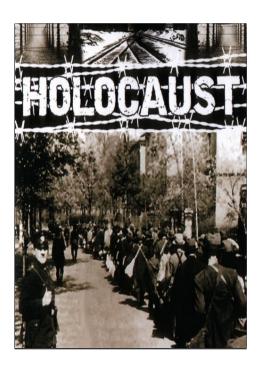
**Q**: One of your students in ESL 111 class mentioned that the class went on a field trip which related to a book that he read in his ESL 111 class. What is the field trip about?

A: The field trip was to the Museum of Tolerance in LA and was really connected to the ESL 33A class, which is paired with 111. There is also a stand-alone ESL 111 class that is offered. They most likely will not go to the Museum of Tolerance.





3.





Information Spring 2015

ESL 111 Academic Reading For ESL

3 units

MW 7-8:25am; or TTH 1-2:25pm Interview Continued from page 3

 $\mathbf{Q}$ : Could you talk about the books that have been used in the ESL 111 class? What is the purpose that you choose to pick those books for your students?

1 chose this book, [*The Freedom Writers' Diary*], for the students to read because I felt that it was at the appropriate level (challenging but accessible) and I thought that the students would relate to the diaries that the high school students wrote. The theme of the class is to have tolerance for others and this is the one of the themes of the book. I think that it is an important lesson that everyone should learn. There are other themes in the book as well, but being tolerant of people who are different from you is the main one that we focus on.

**Q**: One of your students mentioned that he was glad that not only his reading skill has improved because of this class but also he got some knowledge about many historical events. What do you think about that?

We look at tolerance historically. We focus on the Holocaust and how a lack of tolerance for people different from the norms led to mass genocide. Then we look at the Civil Rights movement in the United States and again see how a lack of Tolerance created an ugly time in American history. We focus on the positive efforts of many to make changes to the system.

**Q**: I checked the class schedule for the upcoming spring term. You will still be teaching this class in the spring term. Since you are teaching this ESL 111 class in this fall term, what kind of the materials you would still consider to use for the upcoming spring term or what are some new changes you will bring to this class?

The content for the class in the spring will be the same. What I change from semester to semester is the extra articles that I bring in for the students to read and I change the writing assignments. Teaching ESL111 paired with ESL 33A gives me the time to develop the topics more deeply and it gives the students time to digest the material and to really improve as readers.

Neda Moetamedi

ESL 420

My Interesting Life

I was born in Iran, with a problem in my heart, so I didn't do many active games with my siblings at all. It was hard to get through my early life, but I managed to do it. After I graduated from high school, I helped to make movies and it became my job. When I was twenty five years old my doctor found another problem in my heart that I had been born with. at meant I had worked about 12 years with a heart problem and I didn't even know it.

I got married when I was 22.My husband was a movie director in Iran. After many years, I had a baby but my doctors were very worried about me. When my child was three years old, I won the lottery to come to the

USA! Living in America was like a dream come true. I had to get ready for a whole new life, in a new place, and with a new language!

My family and I came to the U.S. without anyone to help us. I studied ESL and started to look for a new job. My daughter started school here and she is now in third grade. My husband and I visited many TV studios but we didn't have any luck because America is very different from Iran. My husband works at a gas station here.

I decided to have surgery for my heart, because sadly the doctors could not fix my problem. So technically I really have to be careful of my heart now and in the future. However, I have many plans for the future. For example, my husband and I want to make movies so first we need to come up with a "story" and then we have to find actors so we should write and speak English pretty well. After some years of studying in ESL, I also want to study to be an Optometrist. Finally I want to open my own Optometrist shop. So before anything else, I should probably learn my English first..



#### Quote:

A sad part of most education is that by the time the child has spent a number of years in school his intrinsic motivation is pretty well dampened. -----Carl Rogers, *Freedom to Learn* 

One of the most difficult challenges in life is to motivate another person to change. The reason for this is that no one can make another person change....The desire to change must come from within. -----Hyrum W. Smith

The proper question is not, 'How can people motivate others?' but rather, 'How can people create the conditions within which others will motivate themselves?' ----Edward Deci, *Why We Do What* 

Rex Yang

ESL 33A

The Motivation of My Life

Today, I'm planning to go to the hospital to fill out an application form and to check around the environment of San Gabriel Valley Hospital. I am very excited about volunteering at a hospital because I get to help people and help myself at the same time. I need to gain some experience of working with the elderly and the patients. It is easier for me to say than do, because I am under a tremendous amount of pressure right now. I am taking 5 classes with 17 units total, and I work 22 hours a week for my part -time job. I have considered volunteering after the semester ends, but the procrastination won't do good for me either. Since my major is psychiatry, I have to go to medical school after I graduate from the university. I need to get into a medical school so I can accomplish the dream that I have always been dreaming of. Helping people is my primary goal in my entire life right now, and I will not allow any obstacles to stand in my way. Every time when I see the people around me, a few of them have either psychological problems or physiological problems. It doesn't make me feel comfortable because I want the people around me to feel positive or happy about life and about their current situations. Whenever my friends come to me and ask me to help with their problems, I feel really happy. Because I can help them, the feeling and the satisfaction that you get after you help someone when they need it can't be explained through words. I don't know if there are people who feel the same way as I do, but it is the motivation that keeps me moving towards my goal. I hope to see more people happily living through their lives without problems occurring. So I will take the opportunity to get into the hospital and change people's lives.

"I want the people around me to feel positive or happy about life and about their current situations"

YES You can Wei He ESL 33A

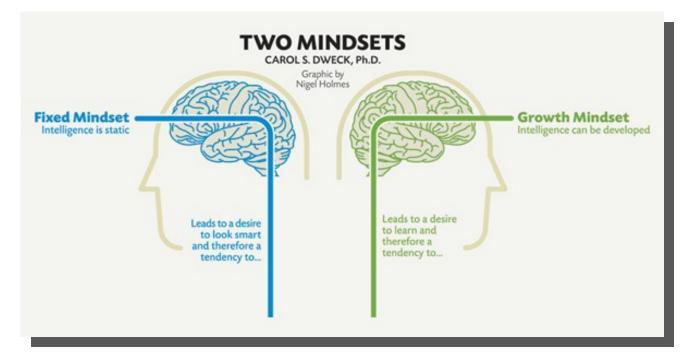
#### Educational Autobiography

Learning English has always been a difficult thing in my life. It is not easy to learn a second language like what I always thought especially English. I usually think I am smart, and if I focus on learning and listening in class, I will learn English well. However, it isn't like what I expected it to be. With learning English experiences, the fixed mindset makes it hard for me to learn English. In my past schooling, my English teachers, who are Chinese, always thought the grammar of English was the most important part of learning English. It is vital for students to learn English. Thus, they would spend a lot of time teaching grammar and giving a lot of grammar exercises and tests to students so that students always understand grammar clearly and will learn it well. As a result, Chinese students' grammar is always better than others who are from other countries, but their reading and listening skills are very weak.

I agree with Dweck's opinion, which is that the fixed and growth mind-sets create two different psychological worlds. In China, students always care about their grades and scores because those reflect how smart they are. They really care about how they will be judged. Also, I'm one of the fixed mindsets students. When I was in my past schooling, I always thought if I had only focused on listening in the class, taking notes and finishing my homework every day, I would have learned English well. In addition, Chinese teachers didn't give or teach students to find a suitable way to learn, and students just needed to finish their tasks. In order to learn English well, I tried finding many ways such as using the internet, listening to English songs and discussing with my classmates, but I didn't know reading texts and practicing writing are effective ways to learn English. However, I think these are also good experiences for me to develop my English because I am in L.A..

With my past experiences in academic reading and writing, I don't like doing these things. When my English teachers who were in my past schooling gave me the last part of tests, I really hated it because it included reading and writing, and this part held the most points on the test. Even though the requirement of writing only needed 5 sentence, it was hard to get the full points. I am still unsure in these areas.

Now, I am living in Los Angeles, and I am studying at PCC. Learning English is related to my whole life, and it will never end. I just want to write a very good essay, so I can be proud of myself, and I can tell my friends out loud "I did it!" In order to learn English well, I will spend more time learning and trying to forget the fixed mindset.



Shirley Zheng ESL 33A Professor Pilgreen

My Role Model

It is not difficult to discover that some people around you are outstanding role models to look up to. I appreciate that I have found my grandmother as my life role model. My grandmother's positive attitude, independence and hard work make her the strongest woman I have ever seen. I hope one day I can become as great as her.

Even though lung cancer took my grandfather's young life and made my grandmother an unassisted wife, my grandmother never lost hope. Instead of being dejected and depressed every day, she tended to be a positive person. She always encourages me by telling her experiences when I was depressed. She has been telling me to keep a positive attitude and the problem will be

solved. Therefore, I have become a positive person because of her encouragement. My grandmother is also very independent because she was able to raise her three kids on her own. As a single mother, she had to dedicate herself toward her children more selflessly than other parents. When my mother was young, my grandmother not only worked several different occupations, but also took good care of my mom and the siblings. Her toughness surprises me and makes me believe nothing is impossible. Therefore, I think of her every time I feel setbacks or failures. Last but not least, my grandmother was not only concerned about the family but her students. As a teacher, she is devoted in her job and puts a lot of effort into it. For example, she always works until midnight

grading students' work carefully. I would like to become a responsible person like her after seeing how she is interested in helping others.

My grandmother's strength, toughness and devotion in work make me forget her unfortunate past. I cannot image how she triumphed over the huge sorrow of losing her love and converted that sorrow into positive energy to shape her life. I believe that what supported her is her insistence and her longing for life. Compared to her stories, my troubles seem too small and not worth mentioning. I feel shame about complaining about trivial matters in life. Therefore, how can I give up easily when I am faced with troubles?

Vocabulary Sources
<ol> <li>Academic Word List: shows the most frequent words that are found in university readings</li> </ol>
http://www.victoria.ac.nz/lals/resources/academicwordlist
2. Web Concordancer: If you want to check how a word is used in
context, type the word into the Web Concordancer
http://www.lextutor.ca/concordancers/concord_e.html



"I CANNOT IMAGE HOW SHE TRIUMPHED OVER THE HUGE SORROW OF LOSING HER LOVE AND CONVERTED THAT SORROW INTO POSITIVE ENERGY TO SHAPE HER LIFE."





Salpy Drejian Ms. Weber ESL 133

The Distinguished Alumnus

#### "DAVID RUST"

David Rust is a distinguished alumnus who graduated with an Associate of Arts degree from Pasadena City College in 1976. David Rust is a symbol of a diligent and successful student who made a significant difference for the society. He got many awards for his successful accomplishments in Journalism.

David Rust was born on December 8, 1945 in Mercer, North Dakota. He began his college life at Kent State University in Ohio, but he wasn't a dedicated student to excel in his academics. Because of that he moved to Los Angeles, "his homeland", and enrolled in the Journalism program at PCC. His motivation and enthusiasm for learning really led him to success. Indeed, he attended every course available for his favorite area of study which was Photography and Journalism. He had never cared about salary because he enjoyed his career and devoted his energy to present the information clearly to people.

The distinguished alumnus, David Rust, was a well-mannered and helpful person. He shared his experiences with other students who were interested in the same subject, so he did many presentations at PCC telling about his exciting, dangerous adventures he encountered during his work. He really became a role model for the next generation of PCC students.

David Rust earned many awards for his notable accomplishment in his career. The one that he earned from PCC was the Distinguished Alumni Award presented by the Community College League of California. This award interested me the most. Another award he got for his remarkable presenting was for the funeral procession of Princess Diana in London, and also for his exclusive reports when Pope John Paul 11th visited Los Angeles and Sarajevo. David Rust had been working in war zones. For instance, in Bagh-dad he took amazing pictures while there was bombing and shelling threatening his life. Even despite all the risky situations, he never fled from his field. He kept recording everything to inform people accurately. Moreover, he had many important encounters with the most powerful people such as the presidents of the United States of America, Ronald Reagan, Richard Nixon, and Barak Obama.

I am amazed what a wonderful life he has! I am also impressed by his personality because he could achieve his goal and he fulfilled his dream by working hard and to pursue the truth. He is a real hero because he overcame all the difficulties he faced during his work in order to inform people about important events in time. He is a hero because he made a difference in his life as well as for humanity and society.

This was the first time that I noticed the banners of distinguished alumni all around the PCC campus carefully, and I realized how important these banners are. All those outstanding students definitely deserve to be honored because they are symbols of courage and determination. They kept going forward following their dream until they succeeded. I am sure that there will be other excellent students who graduate from Pasadena City College in the future.



Ziying(Camille) Chen ESL 403 Prof. Michelson

### Solvang

There is a beautiful city called Solvang I have visited last year in Santa Barbara County. One of the things that amazed me was the architecture in Solvang. There are Danish-styled buildings along the street. Some of the half timbered houses have windmills on their rooftops. Half-timbered houses have exposed wood framing. There are many great bakeries and restaurants in Solvang that provide traditional pastries and dishes of Denmark. Also, museums in Solvang introduce the history of this beautiful and unique city. Many gift stores are on both sides of the street, but they sell different things that present the spirit of the city. One thing that surprised me was that visitors could see horse-drawn streetcars right on the street. I spent a great day in Solvang but it gave me the feelings that there are still many things I haven't had the time to discover. I would like to visit Solvang again in the future and maybe stay there for a few days. I believe people who visit Solvang would like this city because of the architecture, food and special cultural background of this city.

## Credit English as a Second Language (ESL) Sequence

School of Humanities and Social Sciences

The English as a Second Language curriculum has been developed sequentially for students to achieve the reading and writing skills necessary for academic success. Placement within the sequence depends upon multiple measures.

ESL Level :	1	2	3	4		5	•		
ESL Placement Test	ESL 420	ESL 422	ESL 122	ESL 33A Transfer C UC, CSU	Credit	ESL 33B Transfer Credit UC, CSU	English 1A Freshman English Transfer Credit		
ESL Core <b>Reading and Writing</b> Sequence									
ESL Reading Support Courses			460 E	ESL 432 ESL :		32 ESI	_ 111 ENG 130		
ESL Grammar Support Courses		ESL	410 A E	SL 410 B	ESL 40	D3 ESI	_ 113 ESL 133		
ESL Pronunciation & Work Place Support Courses		e ESL	472 E	ESL 246 ES		2 ESI	_ 146		
ESL Listening & Speaking Support Courses		rt ESL	456 E	SL 446	ESL 17	76 ESI	_ 136 ESL 106		

Have fun and try to find the 24 words in this puzzle. Bring the completed puzzle to the ESL Center in D306 and get a prize!





GLETWCRSTOCKING IPIDAERBREGNIG ACOVTRPYAECEFFU REASLEQIXOCTAPZ EMIRYHAUDPSAJON SEAPOBETHLEHEMI NRULOLDONTFOSPU ARLSLEIGHAASUDO MYNOKLTTOYSISHR WCENEMESIWFETAN OBMKAJLOZYEGVMA NERNOLUHMGOTELM SOGIEOYDNACXONE VERB - T JOTHUWBKAN REEDNIERQCAEERT

- 1. Bells
- 2. Bethlehem
- 3. Candy
- 4. Carol
- 5. Christmas
- Elves
- 7. Gifts
- 8. Gingerbread

Have a Happy Holiday

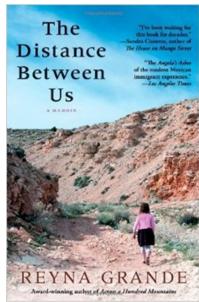
- 9. Holly
- 10. Jesus
- 11. Manger
- 12. Merry
- 13. Ornament
- 14. Peace
- 15. Reindeer
- 16. Santa



- 17. Sleigh
- 18. Snowman
- 19. Star
- 20. Stocking
- 21. Toys
- 22. Tree
- 23. Wisemen
- 24. Yuletide

### Book Review Kristina Chigvintseva Final Reflection on *The Distance Between Us*

Our 33A class finished reading "The Distance Between Us". We were reading it the whole semester and were writing our reflections on assigned chapters. What can I say about this book? *The Distance Between Us* is the most emotional book that I have ever read. It shows the poverty of the people in Mexico who were trying to give their children a home, clothes, and food. On the other hand, this book showed me the thoughts and the worries of the children who were left behind. Also, it was showing how Reyna, Mago, and Carlos were by themselves trying to survive without their parents and how they were the parents for themselves. However, the saddest moment was when the kids got back together with their parents, but their parents, Juana and Natalio, were not the same as before. Natalio abused all of the kids, beat, and yelled at them. Also, when he was by himself and needed company, he always used his kids. By reading this book I understood how hard it is for immigrants to start a new life in America and how difficult it is to achieve the American Dream. It is very hard for some children to have a normal childhood because of their parents, but as



we all know we don't pick our family so the kids have to reach their own goals by themselves like Reyna, the author of this book.

#### Practice your English with the Globe Newsletter

If you are interested in working on the ESL student newsletter, the first meeting of Spring Semester will be on Tuesday, January 27, 2015 from 12-1pm in the ESL Center. You can write articles, edit, or do the layout of the newsletter. Contact Prof. Paulette A. Koubek-Yao at <u>pakoubek@pasadena.edu</u> if you have any questions. Articles can be submitted at <u>pccthe-globenewsletter@hotmail.com</u>. Include your name, your ESL class and teacher's name along with a title for your article. Prizes for submissions to the newsletter! There will be three issues in the Spring semester, so start writing. Do you have a story about your interesting life? We would enjoy reading about it.

