



# THE VOICE OF APPLIED ENGLISH

Volume 10 Number 1

*You are rewarding a teacher poorly if you always remain a student.*

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## A Major Facelift

Everyone at OCIT should know that we are going to have a new building, a Multi-function Exercise and Leisure Center. It will be located to the south of OCIT. At this time, there is a sports field and scooter parking lot. The total area is about 2900 square meters. The new facility will have a sports field on the ground floor, including a track and basketball courts inside the track. In the basement, there will be conference rooms, offices for school clubs, and a restaurant. Finally, there will be a huge parking lot for both scooters and vehicles on the second level of the basement. There will be parking spaces for cars and over 1300 spaces for scooters.

Why a new facility? First, the old area was a poor use of space. The route for students to get in and out of school was too long. Second, the efficient use of space was too low. Next, there were not enough spaces for student activities, and the direction of the original sports field was not suitable for exercising.



An artist's conception of the new facility

The goal for building the new facility is to improve the parking problems and release the ground space for more student activities for, and it can be used to construct another building in the future. It can also improve the efficiency of space using of the campus.

Some students may wonder where we can park and walk into school while the building is under construction. Although substitute routes and parking have been planned for you, .we must try to get through this time as best we can.

When the new building accomplished we will have a more organized campus environment. Everyone at OCIT will benefit greatly from the Multi-function Exercise and Leisure Center.



## The AE's New Equipment/Display Area by Teresa

Recently, the Applied English Department has a new equipment /display area. It is dividing into two parts. One of the parts shows student work and another part includes a TV and a computer. The equipment is useful to students because of many following reasons.

First, we can improve our English ability by listening to the English programs that show on the wall. CNN and Discovery are my favorite channels. Watching to CNN can improve my listening skills. Also watching Discovery can learn many new vocabulary words. Seconds, we can use the computer to get some information that we want. If you are reading and find a word that you don't know, you can search the Internet immediately. Another part of the display area shows student works. I think it is a great place to share and show student work.



The display area is a practical tool for us. If you can spend some time at the display area, you will learn many things from it. Next time, when you walk by the display area, stop and pay attention on it. You will find something interesting there.

## What are You doing in Class?



The dictionary defines a student as someone who is formally engaged in learning. This means that a person is doing something constructive to help themselves learn the material they are studying.

Since the new building opened, I have had many occasions to see inside classrooms and observe what students are doing. I often notice many students doing everything but paying attention to their teachers and trying to study. These students are sleeping, talking on their cell phones, talking to one another, eating, putting make-up on, and the list goes on and on.

Who is mostly to blame for this? Is it the teachers? The students? A combination of them both? Some students will try to get away with as much as they can, so it seems that it's up to the teacher to set and maintain discipline and a standard of conduct in their classrooms. However, it is a student's responsibility to attend class, study, and learn the material. Teachers can not do it for them. This unfortunate situation that exists in too many classrooms does not benefit anyone, and the ones who suffer the most are those students who truly want to learn.



## Taking a Hot Spring at Wu-Lai by Kitty



I went on a trip with my family to Wu-Lai in Taipei last week. Wu-Lai is famous of its natural hot spring. Taking a hot spring is a popular activity during the winter in Taiwan. When you want to go somewhere to relax, taking a hot spring at Wu-Lai is a good choice.

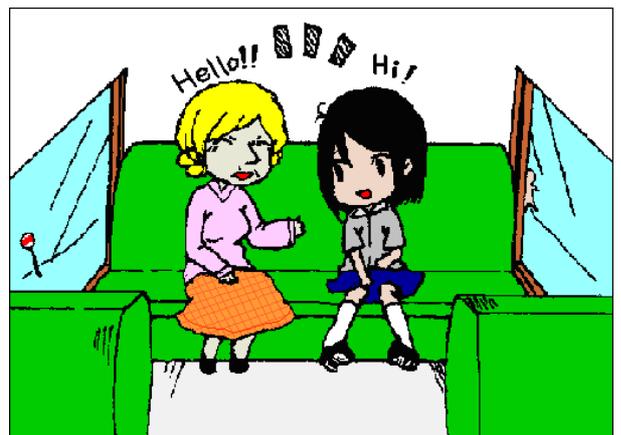
The natural hot spring looks like a river, but the water is hot. Taking a hot spring has many benefits. For example, it is good for your health, and it can help your skin look younger and more beautiful. Moreover, the hot spring is free, so you can enjoy it for a long time.

There are a lot of delicious foods in Wu-Lai. Hot spring egg is the most famous food there. My favorite food is Wu-Lai sausage. The meat of Wu-Lai sausage is different from general sausage and taste more delicious. You can drink a cup of coffee or tea and see the stars or birds with your family when you go to take a hot spring at Wu-Lai.

## Chatting with a Foreigner on a Bus A true story by Claire

It was the last day of midterm exam week. I was glad that it was finally over. I took the bus home.

I was on the bus for about 10 minutes when a foreign woman got on the bus. She looked about 50 years old and very kind. Then a thought came to my mind: "Should I talk to her?" I've chatted with several foreigners that I didn't know before, and they all were very please to chat with me. I was afraid that she might not want to talk with me. However, I still wanted to give it a try.



I started a conversation. I found out she wasn't as unhappy as I thought. In fact, just the opposite! She was happy to chat with me. She told me that she's eagerly learning Chinese, but that it's really tough. It was the same situation as me! English used to be really hard to me, but I've learned it patiently and I'm interested in it. And the most important thing, I believe is that "If there's a will, there's a way."

It was a very nice experience to chat with her, and I also made a new friend! By using English the world can be united!



## The Recitation Competition by Iris

When I was in elementary school, I participated in a recitation contest. It was a big challenge to me because it was my first time to face so many people. Reciting in front of people made me feel nervous. I asked myself, "What should I do?" Then I learned some tips from my cram school teacher, and it helped a lot. When I received the articles, I started to read them aloud every day. On the contest day, I won the first prize in the school! I now believe, "Practice makes perfect."

Later, I represented my school to go to a larger competition. I saw lots of participants. I was eliminated too early in the contest, so I didn't have a chance to see how they did in the contest.

When I was in junior high school, every class had to choose one student to participate in a speech contest. I was the one chosen, but I was afraid. This was another challenge for me. This time, I didn't have anything to read: I had to memorize the entire article that I prepared. Even though it was difficult for me, I didn't want to lose this chance. I would do my best in the contest.

Things were not easy. My heartbeat went fast, and my face turned red when I faced the judges and audience. Then I forgot all the words that I had to say! I was too nervous to do well. I thought I did very badly.



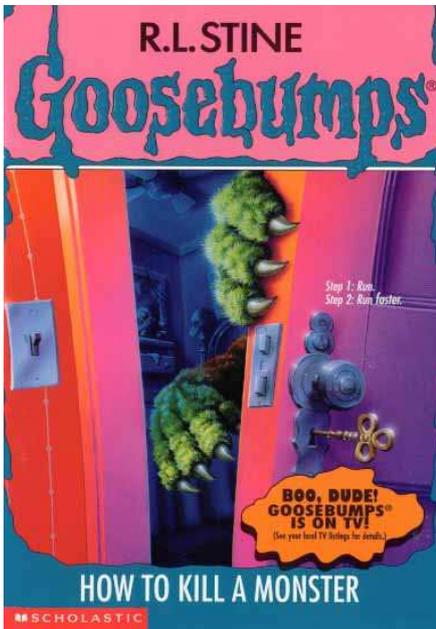
"You're not allowed to use  
the sprinkler system to keep  
your audience awake."

As I watched the other participants, I found their eyes seemed to tell you something about their thoughts and emotions. They looked so confident from their body language. They did so well on the stage and never looked nervous. Perhaps, I should improve my confidence at first and find some skills to solve my emotional stress.

I got more and more confident. I obtained a lot of experience from every contest, so I would like to try it more often. After the contests, I usually shared my experiences with other participants. In addition, participating in recitation contests, I can learn more than my classes in school. Also, competitions have many benefits such as get my courage up to speak loudly and get more valuable experience to increase my recitation skills.



## Book Review: How to Kill a Monster by Doris



This story is about a sister and brother. Gretchen and Clark visit their grandparents while their parents go to Atlanta. Soon they begin to see strange things, like their grandfather bringing a lot of food to the third floor. Also when Gretchen wakes up in the morning, she looks at the window and sees something move from far away. When they are playing hide and seek, they discover that their grandparents have a monster in their house. Gretchen discovers the monster, but their grandparents have gone to the city and left them locked in the house. Also, their grandparents left two letters to protect them. Gretchen and her brother, Clark open the first letter which about the monster in that room. They hear the monster, and Gretchen has an idea on how to kill it.

After reading this book, I learn one thing: Don't be curious if you know it may be dangerous. Gretchen has more curiosity and that procure them in danger things. In addition, I'm really like Gretchen's brave. She kill the monster in the end. This is a good book and worth to introduce to everyone.

## The Good Steak at Feng-Yuan by Mandy

The beefsteak is the most delicious food in the world. There are a lot of different kinds, such as T bone steak, fillet steak, and sirloin steak. In Feng-Yuan, there has a steak restaurant named 荒野鏢客. Their meat is not only big but also delicious. They also offer a salad buffet. The meat looks pretty, and there are also famous as corn soup and popcorn. The steak match with corn soup is a real enjoyment.

This is a nice restaurant which is not only cheap but also has many different kinds of foods. Their vegetables of buffet are all brought from America, and it is fresh. Their price is different with different kind. The fillet's price is higher than sirloin, yet each one has unique tasty. I like their sirloin steak which is savory and makes me want to eat more. Their corn soup is also popular, because it puts many corns. The children like to eat popcorn, and they are also popular, too. The popcorn has heavy butter and enough sugar, so children and adults are like it. This restaurant's beef are come from New Zealand. The sirloin and fillet are 6 OZ, and the bigger one is 8 OZ.



In addition, there place are large, so you don't worry about parking. During eating, when the fork fall in the ground; the waiter will help you immediately and give you new fork. It also supplies other types that you can choose. Their meat has chicken, steak, pork chop, and fish. Because of this, it can help the people who can not eat beef. This steak restaurant has good servicing attitude, and the steaks are delicious. It is the best restaurant that ever ate before!



## Movie Reviews: *Big Stan* and *Evelyn* by Ken & Tiffany



“Big Stan” is a very interesting movie. It uses a comical way to tell about a man who was jailed and wants to learn Kung Fu from a specialist in martial arts for protect himself.

This guy’s name is Stan. He always uses an overstatement to cheat people out of their money. One day, he was arrested and sent to prison for fraud. He is very afraid of being raped in prison. Therefore, he is looking for someone who can teach him a way to protect himself to avoid being raped.

When he meet a Chinese man, he knows that guy will be his savior. The master teaches him self-defense skills, and it makes Stan can take everything easy. In the jailhouse, Stan challenges the leaders of violent gangs to prove that he is the strongest man in prison. After that, every prisoner fears him. He changed their mind of violent gangs successfully and bringing peace in prison.

Many prisoners want to make friends with him and everyone likes him, so he enjoys staying in the prison. But the warden wants to sell the prison, and he lets prisoners kill each other. Finally, Stan prevents the warden’s plan and makes the prison peaceful. This film lets us know that even though Stan was jailed for fraud, he is still a righteousness man. — **Ken**

“Evelyn” is a true story about family, love and courage. This film is about Desmond Doyle and his young children, Evelyn, Maurice and Dermot.

Doyle’s wife left him for another man and left her three young children with her husband. Because of his unemployment, he is unable to take care of his children well. Therefore, the Church and the courts decided to put his children into an orphanage. However, the judge said that when his financial situation improves, he will be able to get his children back.

For his children, Doyle does his best to be a single dad. He works day-by-day to struggle to have better finances. During that time, Evelyn and her brothers suffer the abuses of living in an orphanage. Doyle must battle the court to get his children back. He obtains the help from many people to challenge the law. At that time, Evelyn is very young to be a key witness. She is brave to read her prayers in front of everyone in the court room. Doyle and Evelyn have a good interaction between them.

Finally, the law is found to contradict the constitution, and Doyle wins the wardship of his three children. — **Tiffany**

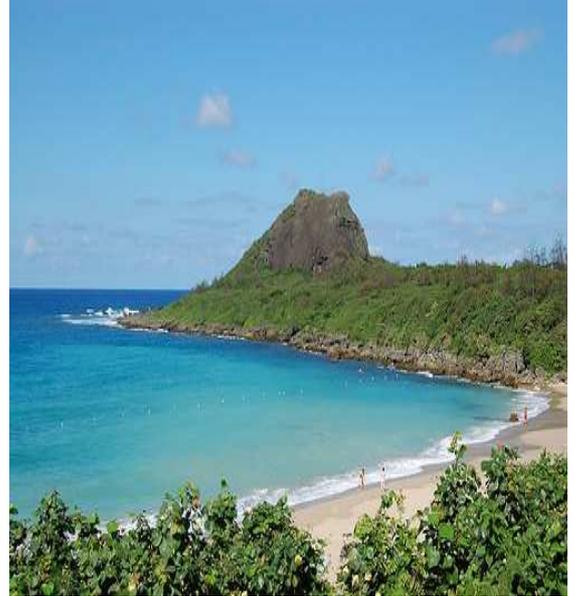




## A Place You Should Not Miss by Ann

There is a place you should not miss. In this place, the weather is always good, the sky always clear, and the air is always fresh. Where is this place? The answer is the most southern part in Taiwan. People call this place Kenting.

Every summer there are crowds of people who go there. Many people spend their free time and go with their friends and families. Kenting has many beautiful landscapes, sandy beaches, and a deep blue sea. Kenting National Park is a popular place you should visit because it has a precious environment, which includes topography, plants, wildlife, marine life, and a rich cultural heritage. In addition, people can go to the beach and play beach volleyball or enjoy aquatic activities, such as swimming, surfing, diving, boating, and water craft.



If you prefer the indoors, you can go to the National Museum of Marine Biology & Aquarium. At the aquarium, you can explore the seabed and see plants and animals that live near or at the bottom of the sea.

There are three different exhibitions at the aquarium: Waters of Taiwan, Coral Kingdom Pavilion, and Waters of the World. In the Waters of Taiwan and Water of World, people can see every kind of environment in the river and seabed. The most special exhibition is the underwater tunnel at the aquarium because people can really walk in the ocean. What an amazing design! In the underwater tunnel, people will see a number of corals, marine algae, and a school of fish-even the sharks! Moreover, people can shop at Kenting road in the evening. On Kenting road, there have many typical restaurants and special keepsakes which you can buy.

Kenting is a popular tourist attraction and a good place to relax in Taiwan. Also, it is a place which you will want to go again and again because every time you come , you will always have different experience and have fun there. For these reasons, Kenting is a place you should go to!



## Know What You Wear!

Students who study English have many things to learn. In addition to reading, writing and speaking, students also need to know about the more difficult parts of the English language. These include idioms and slang phrases that mean more than just the words you see.



Clothes for the “whore” family?

English students should also try to become aware of Western culture—not the culture you find in the movies from Hollywood. Most of those have little to do with the real world; rather, you should become aware of Western sensibilities and concerns.

But what does this have to do with what you wear? It's easy. Many students like to wear clothes that have English words on them. Yet very few students know what is really said on the clothes they wear. Students usually think the most important thing is that clothes look good, so they don't think too much about the words on their clothing. Many times words are

misspelled or word phrases don't make sense. Sometimes what is on a shirt has a completely different meaning than what a student thinks. For example, imagine how embarrassing it would be for a young naïve student to wear a shirt that is actually advertising her availability for sex. (*A sad but true story.*) The same is true for symbols. A symbol that might seem harmless to you may actually have a strong negative meanings for Westerners.

Students at OCIT are given a lot of freedom to wear the clothes they like. However, this freedom should not come without a cost. The cost is responsibility. The clothes you wear represent you. You are responsible for the clothes you wear and what they may be saying to others.

You can use the time you spend shopping to increase your knowledge of English. If you want to buy clothes with English words on them, look those words up in a dictionary. If you still have questions about what they mean, ask a classmate or one of your English teachers. Not only may you be saving yourself from embarrassment, but you may also find something nicer to wear.



It's SNOOPY, not SNOOFY!

This newsletter was arranged, edited, and proofread by fourth year writing students in the five year program in the Department of Applied English.

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