COUNSELOR’S CORNER:
How Can I Learn English Quickly?
By Sandra Issa, AEC Counseling Coordinator

Learning a language is NOT like learning an academic subject such as chemistry or history or math. Learning a language is more like learning to play basketball or learning to play the piano. You can study all ABOUT basketball, you can memorize all the rules, but if you want to become a good basketball player, you have to practice, practice, practice! Learning a language is the same. To successfully learn a language, you have to USE the language. (But you have to use it correctly! Make sure you are not practicing BAD habits.)

Your AEC instructors are like coaches. They guide you, they show you what is important, they tell you what is correct, and what is not, and they encourage you. However, if you don’t practice English outside of the class, your language learning progress will probably be slow.

You have to take the initiative. (That means you have to look for opportunities to practice what you have learned.) Everyday, you have many many choices to make. Will you take the easy choice, or will you take the best language learning choice? Look at the choices on page 2 and think about which choice you will make.

(continued on page 2)
COUNSELOR’S CORNER:
How Can I Learn English Quickly?
(continued from page 1)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Easy Choice</th>
<th>The Best Language Learning Choice</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I will sit by my friends who speak my language in my class.</td>
<td>I will take a seat by a classmate who does NOT speak my language.</td>
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<tr>
<td>I will go out for coffee with my friends.</td>
<td>I will invite someone who does NOT speak my language out for coffee.</td>
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<tr>
<td>When I finish reading an article or a book, I will put it down.</td>
<td>When I finish reading an article or a book, I will read it again and again.</td>
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<tr>
<td>While I am reading, I will pay attention to the words on the page.</td>
<td>While I am reading, I will be asking 1,000 questions: What will the author say next? Can I summarize what I just read? Have I read anything like this before? Why did the author choose that word? Why is this verb in the past tense? Etc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>I will only see my instructor during class time.</td>
<td>I will visit my instructor during office hours to ask questions and get a little extra help.</td>
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<tr>
<td>I will go home after class.</td>
<td>I will attend a Conversation Group after class.</td>
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Ask yourself these questions:

1. How many hours a day do I spend thinking, speaking, writing, reading, and interacting in my native language?
2. How many hours a day do I spend thinking, speaking, writing, reading, and interacting in English?
3. How can I increase the number of hours I speak English each day?
4. How many friends do I have who do NOT speak my native language?
5. Do I have roommates? Do my roommates speak my native language?
6. Do I avoid talking to Americans (or others who do not speak my native language) or do I seek them out?

Language learning is not something that just happens to you. You don’t become an NBA player just by studying basketball, you don’t become a concert pianist by taking some piano lessons, and you don’t become a proficient English speaker by only using English in your classes. You must work hard to learn a language. You must be an active language learner.
Greetings AEC Students!

The AEC is happy to introduce a service to help you study, learn, and become part of the KU community! If you have a specific question about your classwork, or if you just want to work on a special area, you can come to our special room in the Anschutz Library. We call this room “The Point.”

AEC instructors will be there to help you with your questions.

**When?**
Monday through Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**Where?**
Room 438 Anschutz Library
(in the building across the plaza from The Underground in Wescoe Hall; walk in the front door of Anschutz Library and go up one floor)

**How?**
Go up to the 4th floor of Anschutz Library. Look for a big glass corner room. When you walk in, a teacher will greet you and ask how he/she can help. Bring your assignment and materials with you!

Also, you can reserve a time in advance by **going to The Point during the hours when The Point is open.** In the sign-in notebook, write your name on the time and day when you want to come back for help. That 30-minute time will be saved for you! Come on time for your appointment. If you are 10 minutes late, we will help other students who come in, and you’ll have to wait until one of the teachers is free.

**Do’s and Don’ts**

**Do:** Bring your book or materials with you.

**Do:** Have a specific question or area that you want to work on.

**Don’t:** Expect help completing homework assignments (we can help explain it to you).

**Don’t:** Ask broad, general questions (e.g. How can I improve my English?).

Be specific! (e.g. I need help finding the main idea in a paragraph.) You only have 30 minutes!
The LEO Line

What is LEO? For those of you who don’t know, the LEO, or Learning English Online lab is a teaching lab and place for students to work independently, using technology to improve their English skills. LEO, located in room 226 Fraser Hall, has 20 computers for AEC students and staff to use. Lab hours are from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Some students use LEO with their teachers during class time, while others use it in their free time to check e-mail, print AEC assignments, and practice language skills.

LEO Coordinator Summer Peixoto and her staff welcome you to stop in any time the lab is open. They encourage students to use LEO to collaborate with peers, use technology, and practice language skills. Peixoto said, “Please feel free to use social media to contact your friends and family back home.”

Six friendly AEC instructors and four student assistants are available to help. Stop by soon and meet them!

ISS and the AEC present the Kansas City Trip Series.

We have two events coming up. Check your KU email for details!

Saturday October 11th
Kansas City Zoo

Saturday November 1st
Tour of the Roasterie coffee roaster and Arthur Bryant’s Barbecue
What’s your favorite Lawrence restaurant?

“India Palace. There’s a very good lamb biryani, it tastes like home!” — Feras Ahmed, Saudi Arabia, student

“Burger Stand for the Kobe burger.” — Risako Nakamura, Japan, student

“Red Pepper for the Szechuan cold noodles.” — Alexander Gerges, USA, conversation leader

“8 Flavors for the hot pot.” — Cheng Wei, China, student

“Ramen Bowl for the Tokyo Shoyu Ramen.” — Pedro Lucas Freitas, Brazil, student

AEC 50th Anniversary

Save the Date!

Offering English language classes to students and scholars from all parts of the world since 1964.

The Applied English Center invites you to celebrate our 50th Anniversary.

When
Tuesday, October 28, 2014
3:30-5:00 p.m.

Refreshments will be served starting at 3:30 p.m.

Program begins at 4:00 p.m.

Where
Kansas Room (Level 6)
Kansas Union
University of Kansas (Lawrence Campus)

Please RSVP by October 22nd to mharris@ku.edu