32-05-2025-01-07-rev1

My endurance in this semester

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To be honest, I believe I made enough effort to get an A+ in this class. Even if I do not stand out compared to my classmates, I think I have grown a lot more than myself in the beginning of this semester. In fact, my attitude had no problems. I joined all classes on time, and I never forget to submit homework.

Next, I would like to reflect on the goals I set in the first class. My goal consists of two parts. First one was to be accustomed to reading and listening to English. I wanted to enjoy English books or English radio. As is often the case with me, I tried but I got bored easily. I could not make it a habit to be exposed to English. I had more time, however, enjoying listening to English music or English YouTube. So, on this point I could grow. From now on I will continue enjoying them and make it a habit naturally in the future. The second one was to improve my presentation skills. Because it was for the first time for me to join English presentation class, I wanted to grow both English speaking skill and presentation skill. Specially, I would like to give a presentation without script and make meaningful eye contacts. On this point I sometimes read just what is written in presentation slides but mostly I could try to read it with appropriate intonation. I was able to incorporate questions into the content and be conscious of presentation while communicating with the audience. Other than the goal in this class, I also set the goal in TOIEC. When I tested my English skills with TOIEC, I marked 835 in October. It was a higher score than the goal I set in the first class. From the reflection, I can say I tried my best to my ability.

I have mainly three things that I learned in this class. First it was difficult for me to make a presentation in a short preparation time. Organizing what I want to present, sort the contents in order, summarize concisely, and visualize in an easy-to-understand manner. I understand that I am not good at searching for topics that have good evidence and comprehending its correct contents, however, I got used to it as I made presentations many times. In addition, I felt happy to know information in a special field and I expanded my vocabulary. I want to go through the presentation creation cycle so that I can quickly create presentations that are filled with content.

Second, questioning and answering are difficult. Even though I meant to listen to my friend’s presentation actively, sometimes I cannot think of any question or put it into words even if I think about it vaguely. I need to skill to think deeply about the reason for my vagueness. When I was a speaker, Q and A time was hard too. I felt many times I should have searched more about my topic because sometimes I could not answer the questions. After I was asked the question, I thought it was a good question, but at the same time I felt frustrated that I could not prepare for this question in advance. Since the presentation is for the audience, not speaker, I found that presenter must think from the viewpoint of the audience.

Third, cooperating with teammates was hard. Since each person makes their own slides, it was difficult to create a presentation with a certain direction and to organize them well. My teammates always helped me to organize my part. I realized that group presentations are more worthwhile, although there are more areas that don't go the way each member wants. I would like to try long-term group presentation someday.

Although some tasks in this class were hard, what I remember this class are pleasant memories. I made friends with our classmates and enjoyed Indian dishes together. I can say I chose the best English class.　I am grateful to Mr. Harada too. I appreciate all about my class. I want to communicate actively in classes where we work in groups as well as we did in this class.

【2025/01/09 15:51 本文 699 語】