

## 21G.224 (Grad) 21G.223 (UG): Listening, Speaking and Pronunciation

Fall 2021  
MW 9:30-11 AM (Cambridge, MA time)  
Class Zoom Meeting ID: 953 5424 9305

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### Course description

Designed for high intermediate ELS students who need to develop better listening comprehension and oral skills. Involves short speaking and listening assignments with extensive exercises in accurate comprehension, pronunciation, stress and intonation, and expression of ideas. Includes frequent video- and audio-recording for analysis and feedback.

### Prioritizing for enrollment

First priority is for new MIT students for whom the class is an Institute recommendation or requirement by the English Evaluation Test (EET) or FEE (rec: 21G.220) or who are concentrating in ELS. Next are students required or recommended to take the class based on the EET or are undergraduate concentrators in ELS. Next are students who were recommended 21G.222 based on the FEE who received that requirement in the past two years. Finally, if there is room left, credit-seeking students for whom the class is not required or recommended by the Institute with permission of the instructor. No listeners.

### Required materials (do not purchase until instructed)

- Clear Speech, Fourth Edition with Integrated Digital Learning by Judy Gilbert. Bring this book to every class. Note: If you **already** have this physical book (4<sup>th</sup> Ed.), great! Otherwise, buy the digital version here for \$25: <https://shopusa.blinklearning.com/en/undefined-15923/35340-ClearSpeechFourthEdition.html> Do not buy a physical book if you don't have it already.
- Audio files for Clear Speech book (free): <https://www.cambridge.org/us/cambridgeenglish/catalog/english-academic-purposes/clear-speech-4th-edition/resources>
- A Gmail account
- MP3 recording software.
- Other class materials will be provided on Stellar

**Recommended:** At least one of the following (all free) Explain Everything, Google Jamboard, Google Slides.

### Attendance & Participation

Most of grade for this class will be based on work done and/or presented during class time. Therefore, you should plan to participate fully and attend all classes. Preparation (or lack thereof) will be noted and factored into your grade. More than three unexcused absences (e.g., you have a conference or job interview during class time; you oversleep) will negatively affect your grade. If you think that you may be required to attend lectures or do work for other classes during our class time, please consider changing to another section or postponing this class until you have more time.

If you know in advance that you will need to miss class, please send me an email as early as possible, so I will not worry about you. If you are ill, please let me know; that is an excused absence. Instances where students must miss more than one week of class for any reason will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis to ensure students stay on track toward learning outcomes.

### Homework

Homework assignments will be discussed in class and details will be posted on Canvas. If you miss class, it is your responsibility to find out what homework is due for the next class. Late assignments will not be accepted without prior permission from instructor. Students who join the class late will be expected to make up out-of-class work.

### Grading 1: Presentation, participation and test grading scale

97 +above=A+	93 – 96 =A	90-92=A-	87-89=B+	83-86=B	80-82=B-
77-79=C+	73-76=C	70-72=C-	60-69=D	Below 60 = F	

### Grading categories

Attendance, preparation, participation, quizzes & impromptu speaking	20%
Outside listening assignments	10%
Listening tests	15%
Sound files (Outside pronunciation assignments) MP3 format only	10%
Mini presentations	15%
Self-evaluations of video recordings	10%
Final interview (Note: Interviews will happen outside of class time)	20%
	100.00%

**Grading 2:** Attendance, listening tests, self-evaluations and presentations will be graded A-F. Other short assignments will be assigned grades as follows:

✓ +	100%	Assignment met all or almost all of the requirements.
✓	85%	Assignment met many of the requirements.
✓ -	70%	Assignment met some of the requirements.
X	0	Work did not match the assignment, was late without permission or was not turned in.

### The MIT Writing and Communication Center (WCC)

The Writing and Communication Center offers **free** weekly one-on-one professional advice from communication experts with advanced degrees and publishing experience. The WCC can help you further develop your oral communication skills and learn about all types of academic and professional writing. **THIS INCLUDES SPEAKING PRACTICE.** You can learn more about the WCC consultations at <http://cmsw.mit.edu/writing-and-communication-center> and register with the online scheduler to make appointments through <https://mit.mywconline.com>. Please note that the WCC hours are offered on Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m., and fill up fast.

## Schedule (Subject to change)

Note: Some Thursday homework is posted a week in advance on Stellar to give you extra time to complete it, so check the **due date**, not the post date. To find homework, check the Stellar Gradebook.

**KEY:** CS=Clear Speech OL=Outside listening SF=Sound file

W	#	D	Date	Topics	Homework Due
1	1	W	Feb 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Syllabus</li> <li>Intro to Zoom &amp; Google docs</li> <li>Introductions</li> <li>Listening baseline test</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete information form</li> </ul>
2	2	M	Feb 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussion: Domestication of Dogs</li> <li>Pronunciation: Consonants 1</li> <li>Expressing an opinion, agreeing and disagreeing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outside Listening (OL) #1: Domestication of Dogs</li> <li>Learn basics of Zoom whiteboard</li> <li>Conversation gambits (short reading)</li> <li>Sign up for individual interviews on Doodle</li> </ul>
				<i>Individual interviews (outside of class time)</i>	
	3	W	Feb 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interruptions and clarifications</li> <li>Impromptus 1</li> <li>Pronunciation: Consonants 2</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interruption gambits (short reading)</li> </ul>
3	4	M	Mar 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Verb tenses 1</li> <li>Pronunciation: Final -ed</li> <li>Discussion: Past, present and future</li> <li>Pronunciation: Syllables (Clear Speech 1)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outside Listening (OL) #2: The 1918 Pandemic</li> <li>verb tenses (short reading)</li> <li>Study Clear Speech (CS) 1</li> </ul>
	5	W	Mar 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussion: Student storytelling videos</li> <li>Pronunciation: Alphabet and relative vowels (CS 2)</li> <li>Gesture</li> <li>Brainstorming: Storytelling</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outside Listening (OL) #3: Student presentations</li> <li>Self-evaluation 1: Initial interview</li> <li>Prepare a brief story about yourself</li> <li>Gesture (short reading)</li> <li>Study CS 2</li> </ul>
4		M	Mar 8	No Class—student holiday	•
	6	T	Mar 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation 1: Telling a story.</li> <li>Discussion: English Pronunciation</li> <li>Pronunciation: Word stress and vowel length (CS 3)</li> <li></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepare Presentation</li> <li>OL #4: English Pronunciation</li> <li>Study CS 3</li> </ul>
	7	W	Mar 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Verb Tenses 2: present perfect</li> <li>Impromptus 2</li> <li>Review: Vowels</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Present perfect (short reading)</li> </ul>

W	#	D	Date	Topics	Homework Due
5	8	M	Mar 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion: At work</li> <li>• Requesting and negotiating</li> <li>• Can/Can't (CS 4)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Soundfile (SF) #1 (segmentals)</li> <li>• Self-evaluation 2: Storytelling</li> <li>• Requesting and negotiating (short reading)</li> <li>• Study CS 4</li> </ul>
	9	W	Mar 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Linking consonants and vowels</li> <li>• Word stress and vowel clarity</li> <li>• Groupwork: brainstorm presentation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Study CS 4</li> <li>• Presentation structure</li> </ul>
		Fri	Mar 19	Add Date; Change to/from PDF	
6		M	Mar 22	No class—student holiday	•
	10	W	Mar 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Group presentation</li> <li>• Discussion (topic TBA)</li> <li>• Pronunciation: Off glides and linking (CS 4)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare group presentation</li> <li>• OL #5 TBA</li> </ul>
7	11	M	Mar 29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Question intonation 1</li> <li>• Giving advice</li> <li>• Word stress patterns (CS5)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Making suggestions (short reading)</li> <li>• Answering questions (short reading)</li> <li>• Self-evaluation 3: Group Presentation</li> <li>• Study CS 5</li> </ul>
	12	W	Mar 31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Listening test 1</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>
8	13	M	Apr 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion: Ethics</li> <li>• Question Intonation 2</li> <li>• Conditional (if statements)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OL #6: Ethics</li> <li>• SF #2: Linking and stress</li> </ul>
	14	W	Apr 7 (drop date)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organization: General to specific</li> <li>• Tag questions</li> <li>• Clarifications</li> <li>• Giving instructions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Study vocabulary</li> </ul>
9	15	M	Apr 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organization: Process</li> <li>• Passive and active voice</li> <li>• Time transitions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OL #7 Process videos and student examples</li> <li>• Process (short reading)</li> <li>• Study time transitions</li> </ul>
	16	W	Apr 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Impromptus 3</li> <li>• Pronunciation: Sentence focus (CS 6&amp;7)</li> <li>• Brainstorming: Process presentation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Study CS 6&amp;7</li> </ul>
10		M	Apr 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No class—Patriot's Day</li> </ul>	
	17	W	Apr 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Process Presentations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare presentation</li> </ul>

W	#	D	Date	Topics	Homework Due
11	18	M	Apr 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion: Stress</li> <li>• Pronunciation: choosing focus words (CS 8)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OL #8: Good and Bad Stress</li> <li>• Learn Firework song</li> <li>• Self-evaluation 4: Process presentation</li> <li>• Study CS 8</li> </ul>
	19	W	Apr 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion: Presenting data</li> <li>• Pronunciation: Number stress/ thought groups 1 (CS 15)</li> <li>• Slide design</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OL # 9: Presenting Data</li> <li>• Study CS 15</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
12	20	M	May 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Qualifying statements</li> <li>• Structure: Data Commentary</li> <li>• Thought groups 2</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SF #3: Focus words, thought groups and review</li> <li>• OL # 10: Student data commentary presentations</li> <li>• Data Commentary (short reading)</li> </ul>
	21	W	May 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Group work</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>
13	22	M	May 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data commentary presentation</li> <li>• Pronunciation: emphasizing structure words (CS 9)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Study CS 9</li> <li>• Prepare presentation</li> </ul>
	23	W	May 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sign up for final interviews</li> <li>• Listening test 2</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>
				<i>Individual interviews (outside of class time)</i>	
14	24	T	May 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Impromptu review</li> <li>• Pronunciation review</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>
	25	R	May 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Wrap up</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Final Self-evaluation</li> </ul>