Pusan National University is one of the most famous and high grade national universities in the region of Busan, South Korea. Established in 1946, it now has around 20,000 students.

English Language Teaching at Pusan National University

It is compulsory for students to learn English at the University in order to graduate. 98% of Pusan University students surveyed said that learning English was very important or important to them.

Goals

- Motivate students in the English classroom
- Support students to continue learning outside of the classroom
- Engage young adult learners with genuinely interesting topics

Working with Oxford

- The University has been using Q: Skills for Success, (Reading and Writing strand) for two years.

Outcomes

- Teachers and students reports that they enjoy teaching and learning with Q: Skills for Success
- 95% of students surveyed say that they now use English outside of the classroom
- The majority of students strongly agree or agree that the topics in Q: Skills for Success are interesting
Motivating students in the English classroom

As it is a requirement for students to learn English in order to graduate, many students are not learning English out of choice and can be left feeling unmotivated in the classroom.

Engaging topics

The opening unit questions in *Q: Skills for Success* ask deep questions that really motivate adult learners to think and to speak. Daniel asks follow-up questions to the main unit question to spark group and class discussions on the unit topic. Students can “forget they are learning English and react naturally” (Daniel Panozzo).

David Proulx  David is a teacher at Pusan National University where he is responsible for 1st to 4th year undergraduate courses that focus on reading and writing as well as non-credit courses for Leaders in Industry-Academic Cooperation sponsored by the Ministry of Education, Science, and Technology.

“A textbook provides coherence and cohesion to a lesson, but is never the most important resource. The most important resource has always been and will always be a caring, knowledgeable expert leading the class.”

Daniel Panozzo  Daniel has been teaching English in Korea for 10 years, with 8 years at Pusan National University. He loves the job because he loves interacting with people.

“As much as I think I know what will happen in the classroom, I try to elicit a lot of student participation, and that’s the X-factor that makes this job forever interesting.”

75% of students surveyed at Pusan University say that they enjoy learning English with *Q: Skills for Success*.

Students in class at Pusan National University
Daniel recently asked his students to give a presentation on a topic of their choice. One of his student groups chose a topic from *Q: Skills* Level 2, Unit 2 “How do colors affect the way we feel?”. The students did their own research on the topic and extended it because they were genuinely fascinated by it.

**Focused outcomes**

The clear outcomes section at the start of each unit keeps students focused and engaged. David finds it useful to review the learning outcomes at the end of the unit to see if they have been met.

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**Supporting students to learn outside of the classroom**

**Practice teachers can track**

*Q: Skills iQ Online* is assigned as part of students’ grades at Pusan National University. Teachers appreciate that there is well-prepared material that students can easily use outside of class. Daniel logs on to check that all of his students have completed the questions online, and likes the fact that the online gradebook gives an at-a-glance overview of students’ scores.

**Life skills beyond the classroom**

The topics in *Q: Skills* correlate to the subjects that students are learning outside of the classroom, so that they can apply their English learning in a realistic context. David believes that *Q: Skills* teaches “life skills, more than just English”.

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**Being Polite from Culture to Culture**

David particularly appreciates the topic “What does it mean to be polite?” in Level 2. Many of his students have not yet learned how to address people appropriately and this topic actually teaches them a valuable life skill they can apply outside of the classroom.
What do you use English for outside of the classroom?

95% of students surveyed at the University report that they use English outside of the classroom:

- 30% Studying
- 21% Taking tests or exams
- 18% Traveling
- 11% My job
- 10% Facebook
- 5% The Internet
- 5% I don’t use English outside of class

Q: Skills for Success: Reading & Writing is particularly well suited for intermediate ESL and EFL students who are interested in improving their general English proficiency. The authors draw explicit attention to lexical, symbolic, and grammatical features found in reading passages of medium length... it is a useful and practical textbook series for all language teaching professionals.”

“Q. Skills helped me understand English better on a daily basis.”

Student at Pusan National University

“I can talk about many more things.”

Student at Pusan National University

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