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## **Advanced English Conversation**

### Course Description:

This course in conversation is designed for non-native speakers of English with an emphasis on practical application of English speaking skills, especially as used in American society. (American idioms used in everyday speech will be included.) Students will also engage in English pronunciation exercise concentrating on those vowel sounds that are particularly difficult for native Polish speakers.

Specific topics to be studied include:

- 1) Popular Conversation Topics in the US – location, celebrities, sports.
- 2) Differences between American and British English
- 3) The sounds of language
- 4) Interactive listening skills
- 5) Handling practical situations – complaints, asking for assistance etc.
- 6) On the Telephone, answering machine, voice mail, and cell phones
- 7) Jobs, occupation, and work; interview skills
- 8) Misunderstood American slang

### Literature:

- Tom Kenny and Linda Woo, *Nice Talking to You*, 2004.
- Allie Patricia Wall, *Say it Naturally*, Level 2, 1998.
- Don Nilsen and Alleen Nilsen, *Pronunciation Contrasts in English*, 2002.
- Ronald E. Feare, *Practice with Idioms*, 1980.
- Jami Ferrer-Hanreddy and Elizabeth Whalley, *A Listening/Speaking Skills Book*, 1996.
- Marvin Terban, *Dictionary of Idioms*, 1996.
- Gertrude F. Orion, *Pronouncing American English*, 1997.
- Richard Spears, *NTC's American Idioms Dictionary*, 2000.
- Nina Weinstein, *Crazy Idioms*, 1990.
- Roger E. Axtell, *Do's and Taboos of Using English Around the World*, 1995.

### Web sites

- Randall's ESL Cyber Listening - [www.esl-lab.com](http://www.esl-lab.com)
- Dave's ESL Café - [www.daveseslcafe.com](http://www.daveseslcafe.com)

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