

Reading and Listening Refresher Course – ILR 2+

Description:

The Reading and Listening Refresher Course – ILR 2+ was designed to refresh the language skills of learners and bring them back to a consistent ILR 2+/2+ proficiency level in listening and reading. The asynchronous lessons as well as the class time focuses on key difficulty drivers that help students reach the desired proficiency. Topics featured in the course are economy, culture, politics, security, military and technology.

Learning Objectives:

Overall course objective is to refresh students' language skills to an ILR 2+ proficiency level in reading and listening. To support this, students will work on

- Extracting the main idea and summarizing complex informational passages narrated in all three timeframes
- Recognizing and interpreting implied information, embedded opinions and embedded commentary
- Reading between the lines, analyzing the connotation of key terms
- Analyzing simple rhetorical devices
- Learning to infer the meaning of new vocabulary words in context
- Learning to use domain related technical vocabulary correctly in context
- Building comfort and familiarity with listening-specific difficulty drivers, such as faster rate of speech, interferences, reduced forms, false starts and variations in accent.

Course Outline

The Refresher Course is an intensive 80-hour program delivered in 2 weeks (2x40-hour blocks) or a 160-hour program delivered in 4 weeks (4x40-hour blocks).

2-Week Program

- Week 1| Theme: Economy, Culture & Politics
- Week 2| Theme: Military, Security & Technology

4-Week Program

- Week 1| Theme: Culture & Politics
- Week 2| Theme: Culture & Economy
- Week 3| Theme: Security & Technology
- Week 4| Theme: Military & Security

Methodology and Assessment

The Refresher Course uses the flipped classroom model with a blended learning approach, where students complete carefully curated interactive digital lessons prior to class, then go on to build on that knowledge in class with relevant level-appropriate activities. All asynchronous lessons are based on authentic content at the right ILR level to support the boost in proficiency with just the right content features.

The completion of pre-class assignments is a key requirement for the success of the program.

Students will undergo an initial evaluation, weekly formative assessments and a final summative assessment at the end of the program.

Sample Daily Schedule

Time	Activity	Materials
8:00–9:00	Preparation for the day: Asynchronous prep time Go over your notes from your chosen news article to do a briefing in class	Tech lessons News sources
9:00–9:30	Discuss news, current events	Additional external resources (e.g., news articles, videos, podcasts, etc.)
9:30–10:00	Review and discussion of 2 reading/listening lessons from the previous day	
10:00-10:10	Break	
10:10-10:30	Asynchronous Review Pre-Work Lesson	Reading/Listening lesson 1
10:30-10:40	Break	
10:40–12:00	Domain: Economy Communicative reading/ listening activities	Reading/Listening lesson 1
12:00–13:00	Lunch	
13:00–13:30	Review of Reading/Listening Lesson 1	Additional external resources aligned with the topic
13:30-13:50	Asynchronous Review Pre-Work Lesson	Reading/Listening lesson 2
13:50–14:00	Break	
14:00–14:50	Domain: Politics Communicative activities in class	Reading/Listening lesson 2
14:50–15:00	Wrap up, homework: review of today’s lessons	
15:00–16:00	Asynchronous study time Research for news articles you want to present in the morning	Tech lessons New sources