Intercultural Communication
1. Replacing Korean with English can devalue identity and culture.  
2. It is important to study non-native models of English.  
3. In Korea, “English Only” is the best policy to increase learners’ English abilities.  
4. Konglish is an acceptable form of English.  
5. English learners’ abilities should be compared against native speakers of the language. (i.e. pronunciation, grammar, lexical choice, idioms and slang etc).
6. Non-native speakers determine how English is used internationally.  

7. Learners who have only studied in EFL contexts do not reach the same level of fluency of those who have studied abroad.

8. Interaction in English with non-native speakers fosters language development.

9. Non-native speakers can have better communicative abilities in certain contexts than native speakers.

10. Grammatical accuracy is the key to effective communication.
EXCUSE ME, WHICH TOWER ARE YOU ACTUALLY TALKING ABOUT?
• What are the challenges of communicating with other cultures?
• What is intercultural competence?

• What is intercultural incompetence?
having the **knowledge**, **attitudes**, **awareness** and **skills** to communicate effectively with cultures other than your own.

*Robert Kohls*
A complete lack of the knowledge, attitude, awareness and skills to communicate effectively with cultures other than your own.
An interculturally effective person has three main attributes:

1. an ability to communicate clearly with people of another culture in a way that earns their respect and trust.

2. the capacity to adapt his/her professional skills (both technical and managerial) to fit contextual conditions and constraints

3. the capacity to adjust personally so that s/he is content and generally at ease in intercultural settings.
• A movement away from a native speaking target group.

• A movement towards effectively communicating with non-native speakers of English.
  – Maintaining cultural identity while speaking in English
  – Developing understanding and respect for the culture(s) of the people we are interacting with
Target Selection

- Probability of interaction
Verbal & Non-Verbal Factors
Filters of Understanding

Experience Influence

L1 Influence

Cultural Influence

What is understood
Non-verbal Differences
Non-verbal Differences

- Gestures
- Personal space
- Physical contact
- Body posture
- Eye contact
- Behavior

1. When a teacher is talking to you in Canada you should look directly at him or her.

2. In Japan, if you are full and do not want to finish your rice you should put your chopstick standing up in your rice to signal that you are full.

3. In Brazil, you greet people by kissing their cheeks.

4. In India, it is important to eat all of the food on your plate to show how delicious the food was.

5. In the USA it is ok to walk around somebody’s house or apartment with your shoes on.
6. In China, giving someone a clock as a gift is a sign of respect.

7. When shaking the hand of someone from the Philippines it is important to shake firmly.

8. When shaking the hand of someone Canada it is important to shake firmly.

9. In Thailand, it is important to remove your shoes before entering local shops.

10. In Thailand, standing on a Buddha statue and taking a picture is very offensive.

11. Bonus: what does this gesture mean?

- Germany – “Number one”
- China – Excellent
- Japan – Boss or husband
- America – Sign of approval
- Australia – Sign of approval
- Greece – “Up yours”
- Middle East – Obscene gesture
• Understanding and accepting varieties of English
  – Linguistic
    • Speed
    • Pronunciation
    • Intonation
    • Word choice
      – Expressions
    • Word meanings
    • Grammatical constructions
    • Directness
Words and Meaning

What people say and what they mean may differ depending on who you are talking to.
1. Wow!
2. Be quiet!
3. Your kidding
4. Shut your mouth!

닥쳐

Shut up!

Shut up!
What people understand may differ depending on who you are talking to.
Shut up!

I am getting married!

Wow!

Shut up!
Cultures and languages that are more similar will tend to have similar meanings.
How was your date?

Crazy!
Many things happened...

How was your date?

Crazy!
The Double Iceberg Model
(Whitehead & Hwang, 2012)

English

Korean

Language

Meaning in context
Common Translation Process...

Language

Meaning in context

[1]
Thinking Process for Translation

Language

Meaning
in
context

English

Korean

[1]

[2]

[3]

[3a]

[2a]

[4. Same or Different?]
# Word Meaning Relationships

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Relationship</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1:1</td>
<td>The word or phrase meaning being translated from English has a perfect word or phrase match in Korean. English word + Meaning = Korean word + Meaning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fake 1:1</td>
<td>Type A: Words appear to have 1:1 relationship; however, in context the meaning of the English word is not what it first appears. Therefore, the Korean translation/explanation must also reflect the meaning in context. Type B: On the surface, the words appear to have a perfect 1:1 relationship; however, slight differences exist in meaning. (Word meaning differs in different language and cultures.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:0</td>
<td>English word and meaning has no direct match in Korean, and therefore, requires an explanation of meaning.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Let’s Try

- I ate a big apple.
1:1 Translation

English: big apple
Korean: 큰사과
Let’s Try

• I want to go to the Big Apple.
Fake 1:1 (Type A) Translation

There is a representative in the Korean language, but meaning is different. The translation/explanation must reflect the meaning in the context.
Let’s Try

• I want shepherd’s pie for dinner.
There is a representative in the Korean language, but meaning is different. The translation/explanation must reflect the meaning in the context.
Let’s Try

• I love you.
Fake 1:1 (Type B) Translation

On a language level, it seems to be a perfect match, however, languages hold different usage and meaning. In such cases, you have to give explanation to provide a full picture of the word/expression used.
Let’s Try

• Xiaoming ate a poutine for lunch.
Fake 1:1 Translation

Fake 1:0 Translation

There is no direct match in Korean for the English word/phrase. In such case, you have to provide explanation to understand what it means and how it is used.
1. The test was a **piece of cake**!
2. **Shut Up!** I can’t believe you won!!
3. The bag is **heavy**.
4. I saw a **snail** on the road. The car was driving so slow!
5. An old man sees a young boy (they have never met)...
   He says, “Come here **son**!”.
6. Hi **pumpkin**! How was your day?
7. I bought a **kilt** when I went to Scotland
1. The coffee shop was **crowded**.

2. My friend **launched** his new clothing line last week.

3. She was **paranoid** about her parents finding out.

4. He **injured** his leg in the game.

5. She got **cold feet** before the wedding.

6. He was very **masculine**.
Steps to Effective L1

1. DO NOT translate word to word simply from memory or from an English to Korean dictionary! (GTM style) This can lead to inaccurate translation!

2. Find the English meaning of the word or phrase in the context you are teaching. (English to English dictionary) www.dictionary.com

3. DO NOT teach multiple definitions. The context will give you the correct meaning to teach.

4. This is your starting point to effective translation.
• In a normal conversation between two persons, less than 35% of the social meanings is actually transmitted by words. (Edward T. Hall)

• So, at least 65% of it is conveyed through the body (non-verbal channel).
Promoting ICC in the Classroom

- Change your students prejudices about good English speakers.
- Remove the prejudice that “Native-like” is best.
- Foster understanding and acceptance of different world values and beliefs (Not only ‘Inner Circle’ countries!)
- Use international characters to promote intercultural interactions. (e.g. dialogue, pictures)
- Flash culture points during lessons (did you know that in.. they..?)

www.forvo.com
Promoting ICC in the Classroom

• Explain differences between what word meaning and appropriateness in different cultures.

• Avoid idioms and slang or explain in detail where they are from and what they mean.

• Set an intercultural “glocal” Korean role model (You!, Ban Ki Moon).
What is the problem with these pages?
Get Ready

TUNE IN

다음을 듣고, 말하는 사람이 누구인지 골라 봅시다.

a  Abraham Lincoln
b  John F. Kennedy
c  George Washington

🔍 인터넷으로 역대 미국 대통령들에 대해 알아봅시다.  American President
Let's Communicate

Step 1: Make a group of four. Write the meanings of these expressions on the cards.

E.g. why the long face: unhappy

- why the long face
- a busy bee
- have butterflies in your stomach
- a lemon
- have a heart of stone
- a chicken
The way you greet someone in America or England can decide your relationship with that person. A friendly, warm greeting shows that you are interested in making friends, and would like to have a conversation. However, a short formal greeting is seen as cold, and will make the other person less likely to be friendly to you. Also, the more formal the greeting, the more likely that any follow-up conversation you have will be in a formal tone.

The same goes for introductions. If you introduce yourself in a friendly way, most people will show kindness in return. However, if you introduce yourself coldly at the first meeting, many people will be turned off and will not try to be friends with you.
Advice for Intercultural Communication

• Try to understand the speaker’s background/ point of view
• Keep it short and simple
• Don’t use idioms, slang or abstract language
• Show and demonstrate by using examples, illustrations, gestures etc.
• Monitor face and body language
• Pause a lot and check if they understand
• Repeat as necessary
• Ask for clarity (Don’t jump to your own conclusions)