

Volunteers: Linda,* Sylvia, Jon

Students: Hyunju, Yoko, Rainbow, Xi Lin, Satako, Jing sun, Natalia, Guosheng, Younghye

The Discussion topic today was “Eating Out”

We used story, **Eating Out**” for listening and pronunciation practice

Initially, when everyone was together we talked about rabies and rabid animals and what to do if you see one or are bitten by one. There was a rabies alert in Cranberry, which led to this discussion.

We then broke into two groups.

Group A: Yoko, Rainbow, Guosheng, Natalia and Xi Lin went with Jon.

Group B: Younghye, Hyunju and Jing sun stayed with Linda and Sylvia.

Group “B” talked about favorite restaurants, the kind of food we like to eat and where to buy good fish.

The pronunciation practice started with a very simple story about finding a restaurant at an airport. From there we practiced sounds they had difficulty with, "th" "l" and differentiating between "oo" and "u", as in full and fool. After that we started going over the food idioms, which the students really like to do. Next time I may start with idioms.

It was suggested that we talk about going on hayrides and picking apples so the students could take advantage of these things.

In the “A” group, there was a lot of discussion about restaurants and foods they liked. Their young children all seem to prefer pizza and hot dogs to their native foods. We talked about how to pronounce the name of Wholly’s, which they patronize for fresh fish. They naturally said it as “Holy’s and Jon explained it is pronounced, “Wooly’s.” The group thought this was very funny and laughed at the unexpected pronunciation. All five students talked a lot and recommended restaurants to each other, looking up the addresses on their smartphones. Xi Lin was very comfortable in joining the discussions so I will move her to the “B” group, where she will be able to hold her own with the most fluent of our students.

We also used the Eating Out story for pronunciation and listening practice. Each of the students had difficulty hearing some part of the sentences, mostly the endings (s, es, ed, er) and the articles and pronouns. We stopped and practiced these as they occurred.

I gave each of them a copy (to keep) of the Easy Read newspaper for September and briefly went through the contents and the dictionary on the back page before they left.

On the way out Rainbow told me how much she loves the classes and her teachers. Natalia told us again how much happier she is now that she is coming to our groups.