

Tunghai University Master's Program Entrance Examination, 2012
Department of Foreign Languages and Literature
Specialized Subject II: TEFL Methodology

Expository Essays 100% (25 points each)

Instructions: Choose and answer **FOUR** out of the five questions.

1. **Phonics instruction** seems to have taken center stage in teaching English pronunciation to elementary school children in Taiwan over the past decade. Still, some teachers also introduce **phonetic alphabets** to help children learn English pronunciation. First, briefly define **phonics instruction**. Second, do you support or oppose the practice of combining phonics instruction and teaching phonetic alphabets to help children learn English pronunciation? Why or why not?
2. Language teaching involves teaching knowledge of the language and teaching language skills. First, briefly define basic **knowledge categories** of the English language. Second, to teach **reading** and **writing** to senior high school students in Taiwan, what **specific skills**, respectively, would you like to emphasize? Why?
3. What are the characteristics of **Whole Language Teaching (WLT)**? Do you think that WLT can be successfully implemented in mainstream English education at the primary and secondary school levels in Taiwan? Why or why not.
4. It is getting common for elementary and secondary school students in Taiwan to take General English Proficiency Test (GEPT) to demonstrate their English ability. In your opinion, what are the **advantages** and **drawbacks** of **taking standardized English tests** in students' English learning during their formative years?
5. With the intensified intersection of **globalization** and **communication technologies**, some scholars advocate the paradigm shift from teaching English as a foreign language to teaching **English as an international language (EIL)**. What are the **implications** and potential **applications** for English language teachers in Taiwan if they adhere to **the framework of EIL**?