Hi, my name is Bolun Xu, and you can call me Paul, that’s my English name. I have learned English since I was in primary school for about twelve years.

We Chinese students always focused on reading and listening but we spent little time practicing writing and expressing when learning English. We didn’t mean to do it. It was the method of teaching and the purpose to get a high score that made us do so. Because English tests and examinations are totally on paper in China, there are a lot of options like A,B,C,D so you just need to pick one of them . and that is just to test whether you have understood or not. But they would never see how you express. And that lead to a problem, We can hear English, we can read English but we can hardly join in a healthy conversation. A healthy conversation need a balance of listening and talking, not an action like listening more and talking less, that’s what I used to do and it is unhealthy and wired.

So why is this happening? Because I can think about how to use words in correct tense before I write something down. When it comes to a real conversation, I have no time to think. I must react almost immediately, otherwise some ridiculous mistakes will happen just like my mom is a teacher, he works in a middle school or something like Last time I see him.

So my personal problem is how to speak fluently. Pronounciation is not the biggest problem because people will finally get used to it if your pronounciation is not that bad. We can also easily fix the problem of our monotonous tone because it just need a little stronger emotion.so Fluency and pace of oral English matters most because people’s attention matters most. Once you lose other’s attention, they will never hear what you said but wonder how much time you will spend to finish your speech. And that would be awful.

To improve it, I think there are two ways. First one is to listen to the conversation among native speakers and conclude what words they are using in certain circumstances. The second one is to speak to native speaker often and ask for advice. We can make the first way in University center, there are a lot of students who keep talking and never mind what they are talking about is spreading out. To achieve the second way, we can go to a speaking club in Lehigh every Friday to chat and get advice.

Finally, I hope I can always join in a healthy conversation after finishing this course and I hope you guys can do that as well.