

ESL Toolkit

Tips, Hints, Links & Resources for Volunteer Tutors



Compiled for the:

Refugee Response Team
Thompson-Okanagan & Kootenays



WelcomeBC

B.C. Refugee Readiness Fund is part of the WelcomeBC umbrella of services, made possible through funding from the Province of British Columbia.

ESL Toolkit for Volunteer Tutors: Resource List

Level:

Introductory English and
Low - Beginning Literacy Language Skills

Compiled by Emily Hardy and Alana Turigan with input from Tara Stewart

For the

Refugee Response Team – Thompson Okanagan & Kootenays

With Funding from the Province of British Columbia

A Note to the Reader

This ESL toolkit is a compilation of a select choice of resources intended to guide volunteer English language tutors. The aim is to supplement the need for tutors in quickly finding resources, which are not only sources of quality information, but are also sources directed at the appropriate level; beginning / introductory and low-literacy learners. In essence, this is a compilation of resources and is *not* a curriculum.

The resources have been compiled into several sections, so that specific items may be found quickly and easily. Please see the table of contents on the following page for all categories. The layout is formed by category, title, picture, and will be followed by a link. You may click the link under each picture (or title) to be directed to the corresponding information; a web page, website, or directly to a downloadable PDF.

The majority of the resources in this package are available for free. However, we have included a select few, which we feel are extremely effective / essential, that are available for purchase. Links to the publishers of materials that need to be purchased are provided. Furthermore, in some cases materials might be found for sale online; for example, at amazon.ca.

Lastly, we **strongly recommend** that all volunteer tutors go through and understand the section "[CLB Can Do](#)" to gain an understanding of what is expected of learners at this low level in the areas of: Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing.

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- [Canadian Language Benchmarks: ESL for Adult Literacy Learners \(ALL\)](#)
- [Tutor Training Kit](#)
- [Adult ESL Literacy Resource Survival Guide for Instructors](#)
- [Hands On: A Collection of ESL Literacy Activities](#)
- [Making it Real: Teaching Pre-literate Adult Refugee Students](#)
- [Personal Hygiene](#)
- [Success in TESL Handbooks: Hallowe'en, Christmas, Literacy Boards & Literacy](#)

Canadian Language Benchmark Information

CLB Can Do List

PLEASE READ: Detailed explanation of what types of tasks and skills are expected of learners at the beginning levels for each language skill set; listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

Click the link below each image to access the document.



Canadian Language Benchmarks
Can Do Statements

Listening **1**

At this Benchmark, I can:

- understand a few words and very simple phrases
- understand common polite phrases

When:

- I can see the person
- the person speaks slowly and helps me understand
- the person uses pictures or gestures
- the person speaks about things I know or need

■ Understand very simple greetings and introductions.



■ Understand very simple requests.



■ Follow very short, simple instructions.

■ Understand very simple information.

http://www.language.ca/documents/CLB_Can_Do_Statements_L_01.pdf



At this Benchmark, I can:

- say a few words and very simple phrases
- say the alphabet, names, numbers, times, and dates

When:

- I can see the person
- the person helps me
- I can use pictures and gestures

- Say very simple greetings.
- Give a very simple introduction.



- Make very simple requests.



- Give very short, simple instructions.



- Answer very basic questions about myself.
- Ask simple questions about a person.



http://www.language.ca/documents/CLB_Can_Do_Statements_S_01.pdf



At this Benchmark, I can:

- read the alphabet
- read numbers
- read some very common, everyday words

When:

- the topic is very familiar
- there are many pictures
- the words are very easy to read
- I use a dictionary in my language

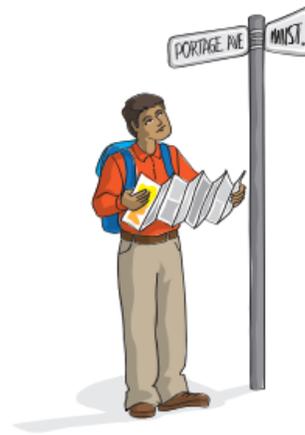
- Understand some words and phrases in very short, simple messages.



- Understand very short, simple instructions.



- Find some information in very short, simple signs, maps, and forms.



- Understand very simple information.



http://www.language.ca/documents/CLB_Can_Do_Statements_R_01.pdf



At this Benchmark, I can:

- write the alphabet and numbers
- write some very common, everyday words

When:

- the topic is very familiar
- someone helps me
- I write for a familiar person

■ Write very short, simple social messages.



■ Complete very short, simple forms.



■ Copy numbers, simple lists of words, or very short, simple sentences.

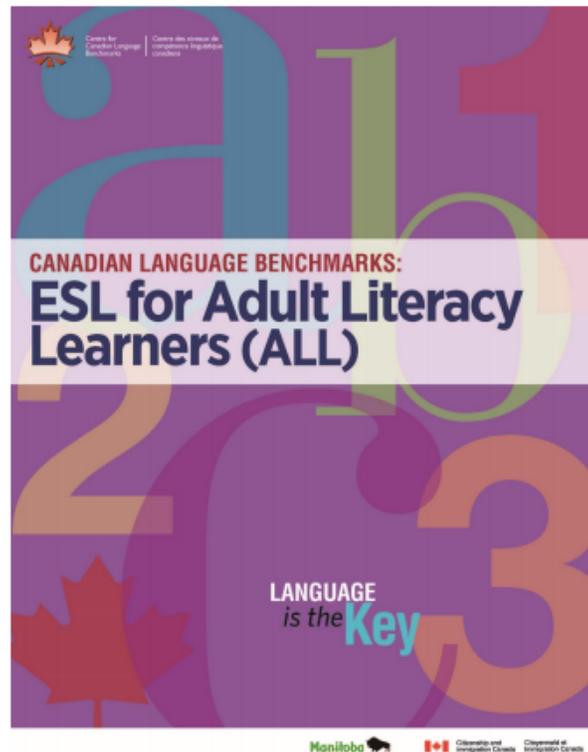


■ Complete 3-5 very short, simple sentences about me.



CLB Adult Literacy Learners (ALL).

This PDF provides extensive information regarding instruction in lower level language learners. Especially in regards to Literacy needs and teaching approaches as well as containing a thorough explanation of CLB levels and requirements; within all language skill sets (reading, writing, speaking, and listening).



http://www.language.ca/documents/CLB_Adult_Literacy_Learners_e-version_2015.pdf

Tutoring

This section is for resources available for tutors to improve their instruction skills; self-study.

English-as-a-Second Language

Tutor Training Kit

**A Learner-Centred Approach
to Tutoring Adult ESL Learners**

TUTOR TRAINING MANUAL

http://www.reginalibrary.ca/literacy/tutor_training_manual.pdf

ADULT ESL LITERACY RESOURCE

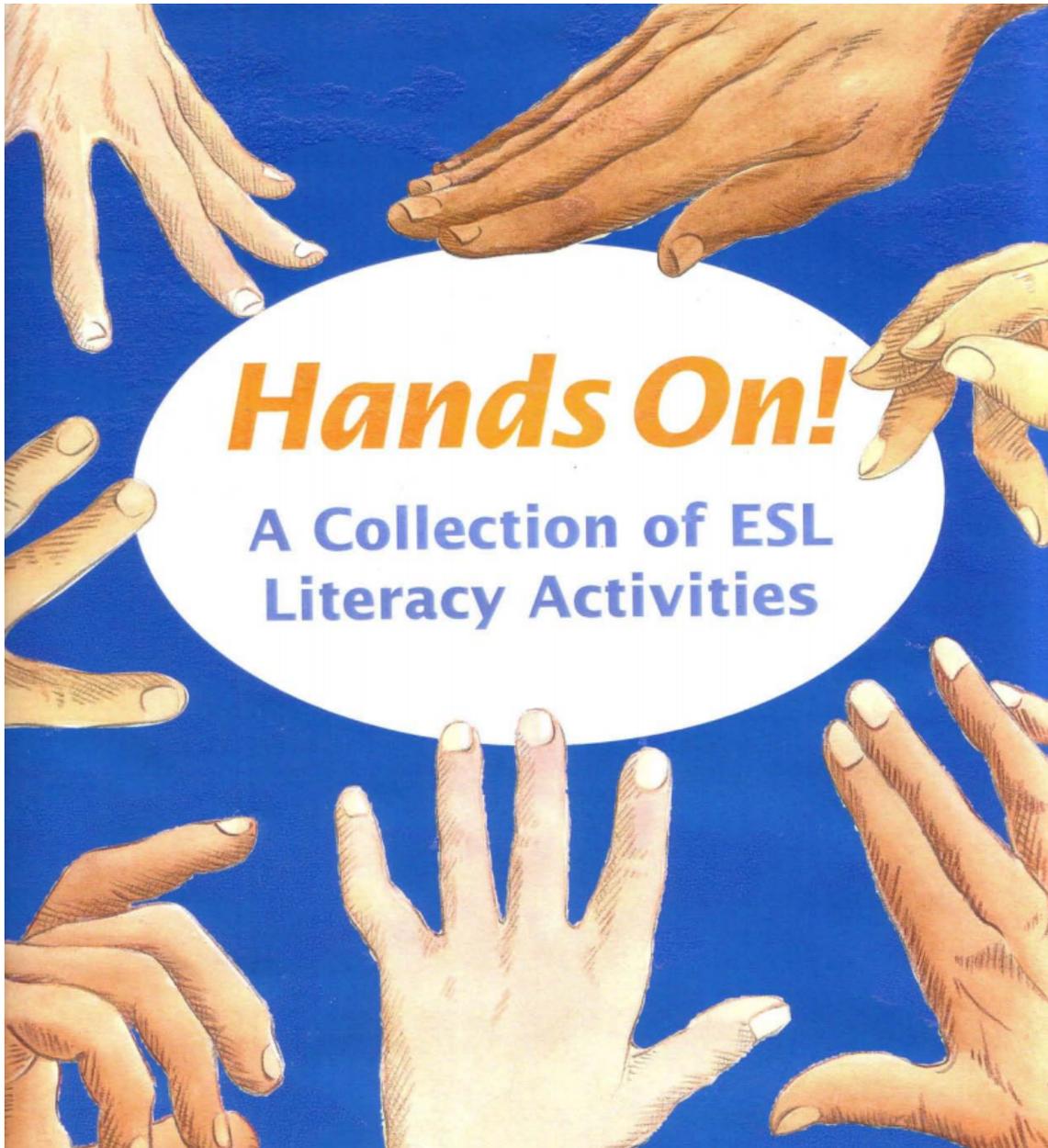
SURVIVAL GUIDE

FOR INSTRUCTORS

http://www.listn.info/site/wp-content/uploads/pdf/literacy_guide.pdf

Activities and Lesson Ideas

This section contains activity and lesson ideas focused on developing language skills.



<http://en.copian.ca/library/learning/handson/handson.pdf>

Making It Real:

Teaching Pre-literate Adult Refugee Students



http://www.camdencountylibrary.org/sites/default/files/files/Making_It_Real%20-%20teaching%20refugees.pdf

PDF for personal hygiene with pictures, matching vocabulary, fill in the blank spelling practice, and prompts for speaking about habitual routines.



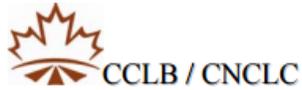
Take a shower.



Use soap.

<http://www.listn.info/site/wp-content/uploads/pdf/phm.pdf>

Canada Weather Lesson



Theme: Canada	Topic: Weather
Stage: 1	CLB Outcome Level(s): 1
Task: Learners describe the current local and national weather.	

http://www.language.ca/documents/Stage_1_CLB_1_Canada_Weather.pdf

Food Lesson



Theme: Food	Topic: Making Tea
Stage: 1	CLB Outcome Level(s): 1
Task: Learners make tea to serve to another class.	

http://www.language.ca/documents/Stage_1_CLB_1_Food_Making_Tea.pdf

Health Lesson



Theme: Health	Topic: Medical Clinics: Understanding a Directory
Stage: 1	CLB Outcome Level(s): 1
Task: Learners visit a local medical clinic.	

http://www.language.ca/documents/Stage_1_CLB_1_Health_Medical_Clinics.pdf

Donna Bowler

Success in TESL is a wonderful resource for teaching basic English Language Skills and Literacy learning. You have the option to order hardcopies of the materials, or **download PDFs at a lower cost**. In addition, corresponding audio files are available as free downloads; directly from the web page. They even provide an example weekly lesson plan in some packages. Success in TESL also has , which are great to reinforce language skills. Another bonus is once you are signed up they will send you additional free PDF materials!



successintesi
student-centred, teacher-friendly materials
for adult ESL

About Us

successintesi is an independent, Canadian-owned and operated publishing house. Based in B.C., we offer quality materials for adult ESL teachers and students.

We **specialize in content units** with teaching sequences that work because they combine thinking, speaking, listening, reading and writing, with lots of creative review: the kind of mix our own students have enjoyed for years.

successintesi: by teachers who love teaching , **for** teachers who love teaching.

FREE MATERIAL
See Kits Section for Free ESL Bingo Download

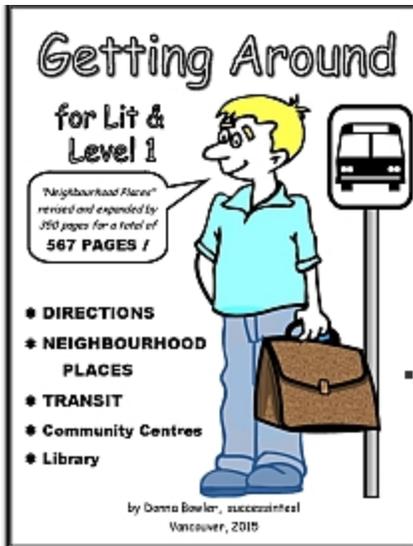
SEARCH OUR CATALOG

OUR MATERIALS
» Full catalog (59)

<http://www.successintesi.com/about/>

Please Note: Only several content units are shared here; there are many more available. The packages shown below are our best picks, which are appropriate for these ESL levels. Activity Pages / Worksheets are photocopyable by all teachers at one purchasing address.

Please click on this link for pricing: <http://www.successintesi.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/2015-price-list.pdf>



New Release: Oct 21,2015

New Title:

Getting Around for Lit and L1

— Based on the old “Neighbourhood Places”, but revised and expanded by over 350 extra pages (for a total of 567 pages) with an added section on Transit and the library.

▪ **567-page on Directions, Neighbourhood Places and Transit**, plus sections on Community Centres and the Library.

Covers neighbourhood places, directions and community centres. Includes photocopiable student

work-sheets, game and activity masters, songs, mixers, field trip worksheets, grammar handouts, phonics worksheets, and so much more, with handouts and teaching suggestions that allow you to adjust your lessons to any class. Stories are presented in literacy reader format (with copy master included) as well as column format for level one. Annotated index includes teaching and follow-up suggestions.

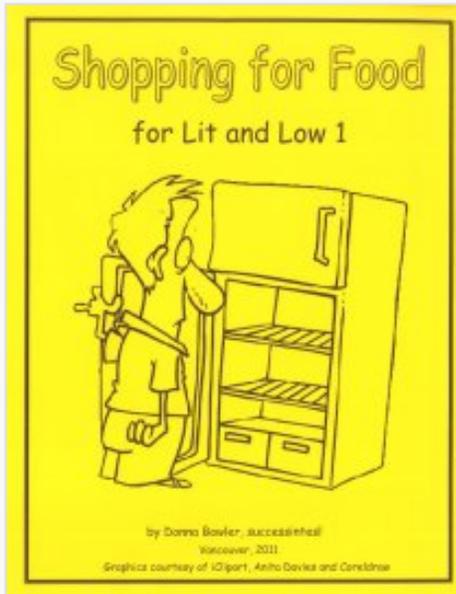
— Two months' worth of lesson plans. Some activities suitable for L. 2-3.

— **Photocopiable*** worksheets and activity masters (*for classroom use at one address).

— including:

- 90-page section on Transit
- 56-page section on Field Trips
- 89-page Grammar Supplement to reinforce the content language
- separate Phonics Section for Literacy
- 2 CDs include 5 Songs by BC artist Antonia Robertson
- 80-pages of Big Pictures
- 2 Dialog Card Games: *Neighbourhood Places* and *Verbs*
- 4 readers: *A Busy Day*, *At the Community Centre*, *Bill Takes the Bus*, and *A New Library Card*.

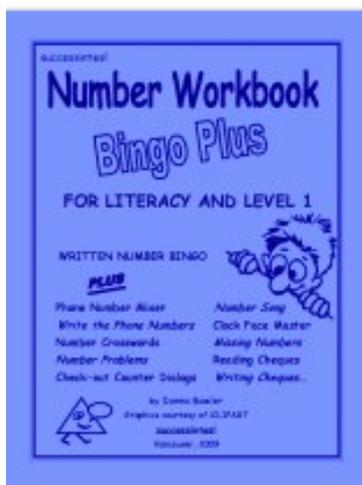
Plus jazz chants, dialogs, maps, worksheets, game masters and more: for interactive and student-focused lessons that your students will love.



Suitable for both literacy and level one, this 323-page binder includes:

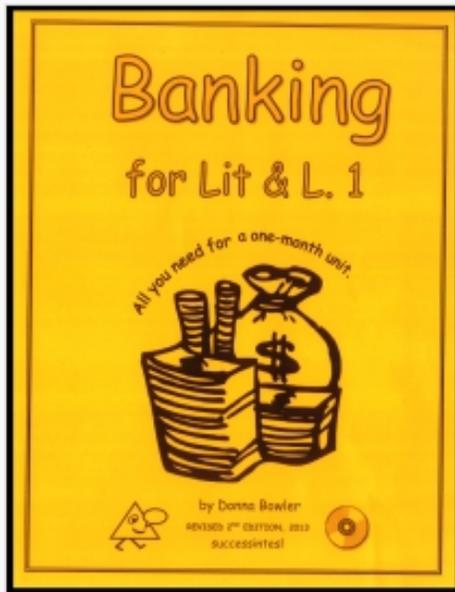
- 242 pages of photocopiable worksheets and activity and game masters.
- a comprehensive Teacher's Guide with sample week one lesson plans for each level.
- 3 literacy readers PLUS similar stories in level one format: At the Supermarket; Sam Goes Shopping, and Tom Needs Milk.
- the master for Food Bingo.
- 3 dialog card game masters.
- 44 pages of big pictures.
- an extensive phonics section for literacy level.
- a section on Personal Care Products for level 1.

For this unit, we highly recommend using: our number workbook for Lit/L. 1: "Bingo Plus!" and for Level 1 classes, "Success in Teaching Pronunciation to Levels 1 & 2". Also useful: our ESL Bingo kit and Number & Money Wizard kit.



(Pre-lit to level) A range of number and money handouts for literacy/level one **plus** the copy master for written bingo (22 different game boards). **A core book for teaching numeracy.** **For more numeracy materials** see our Number and Money Wizard Kit (Lit to Level 3), ESL Bingo (lit to level 1) , and Number Literacy Writing Boards (pre-lit/lit).

Price \$7.00



Banking for Lit & L. 1, 2nd Ed.

This **397 page binder bonanza** covers: teaching numbers (and number fluency), money amounts, reading and writing cheques, paying bills, reading ATM receipts, cheque record books, steps in cashing a cheque at the bank, types of bill payments, steps in using a bank machine, opening an account and personal information questions. **The new edition is four times bigger than our old one**, with updated graphics and contents.

Special Features include:

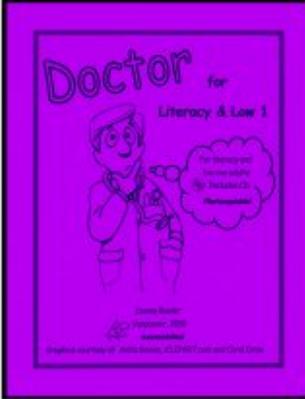
- 281 pages of **photocopiable** *worksheets and activity masters (*by teachers at one site)
 - Expanded 44-page Numeracy section on Numbers and Money, including a colour master for ESL money. (However, we strongly recommend using our companion volume Number Workbook: Bingo Plus!*) (*available for \$7. We sell this separately as most of our customers already own it.)
 - a 24-page phonics section for pre-lit/lit
 - a 36-page Grammar supplement that includes a Bank Grammar Card Game
 - 57 pages of large Pictures
 - 2 songs by BC artists, included on the binder CD
 - Week One Lesson Plans for Lit and L. 1
 - comprehensive page-by-page teaching hints and follow-up suggestions
 - 4 stories presented in both Literacy Reader and Level 1 format (plus extra L. 1 readings)
 - a Unit Review Board Game
- and much more... ***For a total of 397 pages of student-centred, teacher-friendly materials that both you and your students will love.***

Some materials are available in both a “Teacher’s Guide / Student Workbook” combination. **PDF versions are available at a fraction of the cost!**

Doctor for Literacy-Teacher's Guide

CATEGORIZED: CONTENT UNITS - LEVEL 0 (LIT) AND LOW 1, FULL CATALOG

[Free MP3 Download »](#)



Identifying medical problems, calling in sick, should & shouldn't, making an appointment, checking in at the doctor's office, personal information questions, forms, doctor's commands. 247 pages. The author's favourite! Pre-lit to high level 1.

Buy print for \$42.00 [Add to Cart](#)

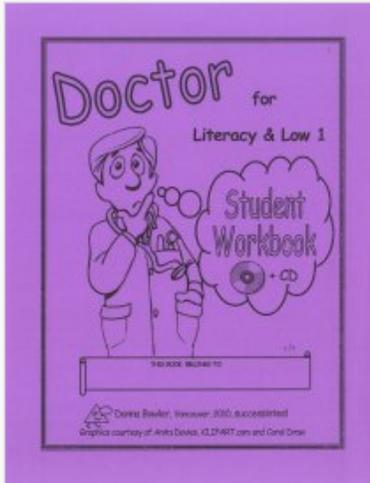
Buy PDF for \$5.00 [\\$5.00 – Add to Cart](#)

[Doctor for Literacy and Low 1](#)

Doctor for Literacy-Student workbook

CATEGORIZED: FULL CATALOG, STUDENT WORKBOOK LEVEL 0 TO LOW 1-- (BY SPECIAL ORDER ONLY- CONTACT US) -

[Free MP3 Download »](#)



Bill is Sick, Jerry Has the Flu, and Going for a Check-up. Covers Parts of the Body, Medical Problems; Should and Shouldn't; Making a Doctor's Appointment, Simple Forms. Dialogs: Calling in Sick, Are You Feeling Okay?, Phoning the Doctor's Office; At the Clinic: Checking In Songs: Head and Stomach; I Am Sick; Cough and Sneeze; Jerry Had the Flu. 24 pages, 1 CD, and 3 readers.

Price: \$9.00

Some materials are already fully made for you and available for purchase. This is a significant time saver and the games can be used again and again.

Look! Some materials are available for FREE!

ESL Bingo Set

CATEGORIZED: [FULL CATALOG](#), [KITS](#), [DIALOG CARD GAMES AND BOARD GAMES](#)



Traditional bingo on one side and ESL bingo using dates, prices, phone numbers, streets and years on the other. Each set includes caller cards, bingo chips and class set of 21 different laminated bingo cards.

Price \$26.00

[Add to Cart](#)

OR

[Download Free PDF & Print your own »](#)

PDF versions of workbooks and packages are available at a fraction of the cost!



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available
for a **fraction**
of the cost...

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TEACHER'S GUIDES —Currently Available Titles —

[Banking for Lit & L1, 2nd Ed. PDF 2015](#)

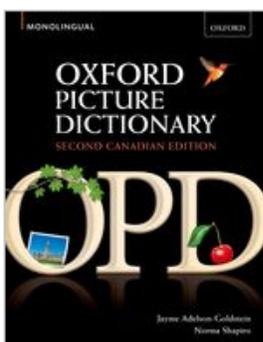
\$6.00 – Add to Cart

Click this link for a full list of all materials available as PDF versions:

<http://www.successintesi.com/20/14/05/pdf-version-of-all-our-books>

Book Recommendations

If you can only get your hands on one book for this level we both highly recommend the Oxford Picture Dictionary. This resource is truly an essential in any ESL classroom or tutoring situation. Working with different units from the dictionary are not only wonderful for increasing learner's vocabulary sets, but are also great for sparking conversation. There are even 'practice questions' located at the bottom of the pages.



[Click to enlarge](#)

Price: \$42.95

Format:

Paperback 286 pp.
Colour illustrations throughout, 215.9 mm x 279 mm

ISBN-10:

0195431162

ISBN-13:

9780195431162

Publication date:

March 2009

Oxford Picture Dictionary, Canadian Edition

Monolingual, Second Edition

Jayme Adelson-Goldstein and the late Norma Shapiro

The *Oxford Picture Dictionary, Second Canadian Edition* is an illustrated, theme-based dictionary for second-language learners. This four-colour dictionary defines words through pictures, and presents each new word in context. The OPD, along with its workbooks and many other components, can be used as a reference book or as text for high school or adult ESL students at the beginner level.

For years, the first Canadian edition of the OPD has been the industry leader among picture dictionaries. The second edition expands on the topics covered, providing more depth of vocabulary in the areas that matter most to students. The illustrations have been completely updated in a more realistic style that is visually appealing to adult learners.

The second edition also contains two new features: Introductory Pages and Story Pages. The Introductory Pages have been added to the beginning of each theme to give lower-level students a basic overview of key vocabulary words, and to give a starting point for discussion and an introduction to the theme for more advanced students. The Story Pages consist of a two-page spread at the end of each theme to help students use the words in context and practise their reading skills.

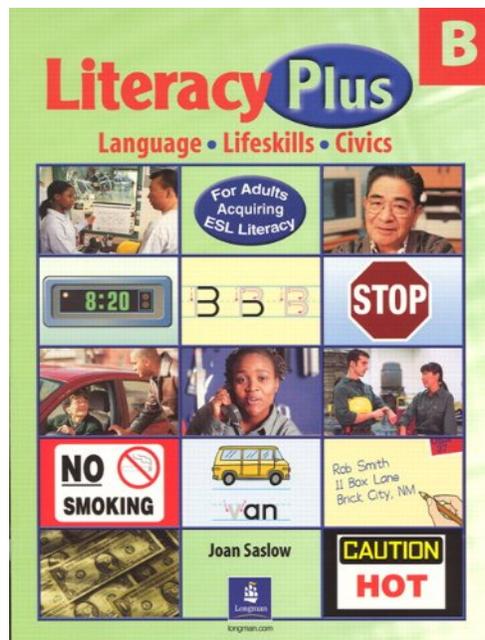
The OPD is designed for use both in and out of the classroom. Speaking exercises are presented throughout the OPD to allow students to practise new vocabulary in pairs or small groups, while the pronunciation guide in the index allows students to check their pronunciation when they are studying on their own.

Readership : Beginner-level ESL picture dictionary for mature or adult learners.

<https://oupcanada.com/catalog/9780195431162.html>

We suggest purchasing several copies of the Picture Dictionaries for each site, which tutors could sign out as needed. Ideally, one Picture Dictionary per tutor would great.

Another book that is a good starting point for literacy skills is *Literacy Plus B: Language, Lifeskills, Civics*. Students can begin learning how to write the English alphabet; using proper stroke order and enforces muscle memory practice sheets. The writing skills are developed along with context based units, which include conversation and vocabulary focus. There are audio cassettes and a teacher's guide available, but while very helpful are optional.



<http://www.longmanhomeusa.com/product/product-detail-components/?sid=Entry-Level%2FLiteracy&pid=F-0HR&tab=B>

Additional Websites / Resources

A few extra ideas for worksheets. You may have to do a quick search of your topic to see if there are any applicable activities for your topic / subject. Use the printable worksheets to supplement your tutoring.



The screenshot shows the homepage of Worksheet Works.com, a website dedicated to providing handwriting practice worksheets. The site is currently in a "beta" phase, as indicated by the logo and a navigation menu with links for Home, About, Copyright, FAQ, and Contact. The main content area is titled "Handwriting Practice" and features a section for "Handwriting Worksheets". This section includes a paragraph explaining that the worksheets use sweeping lines to mimic natural cursive curves. Below this text are three examples of handwriting practice: "friendly" in a print font, "ifficul" in a cursive font, and "weather" in a pre-cursive font. A search bar and a section for Adobe Reader are also visible on the right side of the page. A yellow box at the bottom right contains a "Public Beta Preview" notice, stating that the website is in its late stages of development and may have some quirks. The footer of the page shows a URL: <https://www.worksheetworks.com/english/writing/handwriting.html>.

<https://www.worksheetworks.com/english/writing/handwriting.html>

Absolute Beginners: Unit 1

By Frances Marnie

[Print](#) [Email](#) [Share](#) [Comments \(19\)](#) [Rate](#)

In this lesson by Frances Marnie, students cover language including *hello, what's your name?*, numbers 1-5, *book, pen, chair, table* and *goodbye*. Printable resources include comprehensive step-by-step teacher's notes, a student worksheet, cut-out alphabet cards and flashcards.

Related files

Unit 1: Track 1



Unit 1: Track 2



Related resources

• [Absolute Beginners: Unit 1: Lesson plan](#)

This lesson plan by Frances Marnie is aimed at students who are familiar with Roman script. Students cover language including *hello, what's your name?*, numbers 1-5, *book, pen, chair, table* and *goodbye*. Printable resources include comprehensive step-by-step teacher's notes, a student worksheet, cut-out alphabet cards and flashcards.

Level: Starter/beginner Type: General lesson plan

• [Absolute Beginners: Unit 1: No Roman script: Lesson plan](#)

This lesson plan by Frances Marnie is aimed at students who have no previous knowledge of Roman script. Students cover language including *hello, what's your name?*, numbers 1-5, *book, pen, chair, table* and *goodbye*. Printable resources include comprehensive step-by-step teacher's notes, a student worksheet, cut-out alphabet cards, alphabet formation sheets and flashcards.

Level: Starter/beginner Type: General lesson plan

Rate this resource (4.81 average user rating)



You must be signed in to rate.

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- ▶ [Grammar: differences between could and can](#)
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MACMILLAN
DICTIONARY

Search

<http://www.onestopenglish.com/esol/absolute-beginners/unit-1/>

exercises

Grammar:
 articles, comparatives,
 pronouns, prepositions..

Vocabulary:
 animals, body, days, food,
 colours, numbers, family..

Verbs:
 to be, present , past, can,
 progressive, modals ...

Listening:
 comprehension exercises,
 podcast, audio books, ...

Reading:
 comprehension exercises,
 short stories, fairy tales..

Videos:
 learning , beginners, short
 conversations, courses ...

Songs:
 nursery rhymes, songs for
 children, best songs ever

Stories
 children's stories, videos,
 animated stories, audio ...

Phonetic

Worksheets

G R A M M A R

- › articles: a / an / the
- › any / some - indefinite
- › adjectives - exercises
- › adjectives / opposites
- › adverbs exercises
- › alphabet - spelling
- › comparatives / comparison
- › conjunctions - linking
- › contractions / apostrophes
- › genitive' case / saxon
- › countable / uncountable
- › many-much exercises
- › few-little exercises
- › quantifiers - quantity
- › plural - exercises
- › possessives - exercises

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Banking that fits your life. **CIBC**

Dictionary

Word



<http://agendaweb.org/>

Exercises, Quizzes, Tests

Eva Easton on YouTube

Chinese ... English ... French
German ... Italian ... Japanese
Latin ... Russian ... Spanish

CREATE YOUR OWN

....or....

USE RESOURCES on the INTERNET

Anagrams
Anagrams
Award Maker
Blog Creator
Calendar Maker
Certificate Creator
Certificate Creator
Certificate Maker
Course Builders
Crossword Puzzles
Crossword Puzzles
Essay Annotation
Feedback Forms
Flashcards
Gradekeepers
Graphic Organizers
..

<http://eleaston.com/quizzes.html>

'Opposites' Card Set (Beginner)

warm	cool	east
west	thin	fat
high	low	quick
slow	easy	difficult

Printable cards: <http://teflgames.com/opcbegin.html>

“Opposites” activity instructions: <http://teflgames.com/match1ops.html>

Advanced Resources

Learn English Feel Good

Printables, Worksheets etc



[HOME](#) > ESL PRINTABLE WORKSHEETS

ESL WORKSHEETS, ENGLISH GRAMMAR PRINTABLES, ESL HANDOUTS

 Like 1.5K

<http://www.learnenglishfeelgood.com/esl-printables-worksheets.html>

PRINT & GO ESL Reading Worksheets



Short Stories for Adult Students – Beginning Level

ESL Printable
© Christina Niven, 2010

Online E-book
www.elcivics.com

Print & Go ESL

Short Stories for Adult Learners, appropriate for Levels 1-2.

<http://www.elcivics.com/esl-ebook-worksheets.pdf>

BC TEAL

Offers links to additional resources, with a specific focus to support Syrian refugees.

<http://bcteartp.edublogs.org/about/>

Home



Refugee Project

Welcome to our page for sharing ideas and resources to support the BC TEAL Refugee Project. For more information about who we are and what we do, please visit our "About Us" page.

We will be adding new resources regularly, so please check back frequently.

Thank you for stopping by!

Resources by Skill Area

