EXPECTATIONS

Language and Reading Skills for Students of ESL

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To the Teacher

The goal of this book is to equip adult students of ESL with some of the linguistic knowledge and reading skills needed for the comprehension of texts of a general academic nature. It is intended for use with near-beginning, low-proficiency students who have had the equivalent of approximately sixty hours of global-skills instruction and who are familiar with the Roman alphabet. It can also be used with "false beginners," students who may have had more classroom experience of ESL but whose reading proficiency is still low.

An entry-level knowledge of some basic English vocabulary and structure is presupposed for students who are to work with the book. This knowledge is specified in Appendix 3.

APPROACH

The book is based on a number of general beliefs about the nature of the reading process and its relationship to linguistic skills. The beliefs are as follows:

- 1. Learning to understand a second language will proceed more quickly than learning to produce it.
- 2. Linguistic knowledge (i.e., grammar and vocabulary) is necessary for efficient reading, but it is not sufficient.
- 3. The development or mobilization of reading skills can run concurrently with the acquisition of linguistic knowledge.
- 4. The ability to formulate expectations for the form and content of text still to be read is central to efficient reading.
- 5. The possession of some background knowledge will facilitate reading.

The activities presented in this book will reflect one or more of these beliefs.

GENERAL OUTLINE

The book consists of seven units and a brief Introductory Unit. Each unit focuses on one general topic, with the topics alternating between issues of international interest and issues more directly related to life in the United States.

Each unit consists of two sections: (1) a vocabulary study and preparatory reading section and (2) a main reading section. The first section defines, exemplifies, and offers practice in vocabulary items likely to be encountered in general academic, pre-technical English. Approximately forty items are introduced, in five groups. The section includes five short reading passages; the passages are intended to show the new vocabulary items in wider contexts and to establish some background knowledge which will be helpful for the understanding of the main reading of each unit.

The main reading section includes a longer reading passage which uses the structures and vocabulary introduced and practiced earlier in the unit. It also includes exercises in main idea recognition, detailed comprehension, and coherence recognition. Pre-reading exercises are provided as well; these promote the comprehension of unknown vocabulary from context and the development of expectations for the content of the upcoming main reading passage.

Appendix 1 consists of grammar study sections for each unit. They explain one or more points of English structure and provide exercises in the understanding of these structures for reading.

As the book proceeds, the readings become longer. In addition, sentence structure becomes more sophisticated and varied, reflecting the structural points introduced in preceding units.

GUIDELINES FOR USE

Reading teachers will devise many ways to effectively use the material in this text. However, since the book departs somewhat from the format of existing reading texts, a number of suggested guidelines for its use are provided. First I have given some general suggestions about the sequencing of activities within the book and within each unit. Then I have outlined general guidelines for the division of activities between in-class and homework assignments.

- 1. Since each unit builds on the vocabulary and structure of preceding units, the unit-by-unit sequence of the book should be followed. The Introductory Unit, consisting of a short grammar study section (in Appendix 1) and a vocabulary study section, is intended to introduce students to some of the less common features of the book in order to reduce the load of new activities that students will have to master in Unit One.
- Teachers should complete the vocabulary study and preparatory reading section in each unit before beginning the main reading. This will allow students to become familiar with the vocabulary and general subject matter of the main reading.
- Teachers may use or omit the grammar section of each unit, as they see fit. If teachers choose to use this section, it can be presented before the introduction of the new vocabulary. Alternatively, some teachers may wish to postpone consid-

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eration of the grammatical structures until students have encountered these structures in their reading of the short passages in the vocabulary study and preparatory reading section.

4. In each vocabulary study and preparatory reading section, teachers can have students work on preliminary familiarization with a set of words before reading the appropriate short passage. Alternatively, focused vocabulary work could be postponed until the students have encountered the new items in the shorter reading passage.

The vocabulary exercises (Same or Different, Expectations, and Vocabulary Quiz) are best left until the students have familiarized themselves with the vocabulary items in question. In these exercises, the vocabulary items of Parts A and B are practiced together, as are the items from Parts C, D, and E. The exercises are designed to offer reinforcement and consolidation of preliminary learning.

Note, however, that the items in the Vocabulary Quiz exercises are arranged to follow the order of their introduction. This allows teachers, if they wish, to assign the appropriate part of these exercises earlier—for example, immediately after students have had their first exposure to the items in a given group.

5. The Expectations exercises in the main reading sections (which begin in Unit Two) should be completed before any intensive reading of the passage is undertaken. The Vocabulary in Context can also be done prior to the main reading, or it can be postponed until the given words are encountered in the main reading.

The sequence of the Main Ideas Check and the Comprehension Check is flexible. However, it should be pointed out that the Main Ideas Check states the main ideas and asks students to assign them to the correct paragraphs. The knowledge gained by doing this exercise before the Comprehension Check may help students, especially during the first weeks of the class. The Paragraph Reading exercises deal with information which will be fairly familiar to students after the main reading. Consequently, these exercises are best done as the final activity in the unit.

In general, the book is intended to provide copious amounts of reading or reading-related activities, both for in-class work and homework. In-class work can be done with the entire class, but it is probably more profitably pursued in small-group or individualized work sessions where feedback from the teacher is tailored to each student's needs. The following suggestions may be useful:

1. Teachers are encouraged to present the grammar points in their own way and with their own examples. The first three parts of each section (Introduction, Examples, and Explanation) of Appendix 1 are really intended for the students' reference after initial presentation and practice of the structures in question. Note that the goal is the ability to understand the structures, not to produce

- them. Since the goal is a more modest one than the goal of a typical structure class, more material can be presented, material which has its place in the reading class but which would not be encountered in the early stages of a course aimed at productive mastery of structure.
- 2. The Same or Different and Expectations exercises in the vocabulary study and preparatory reading sections are probably best reserved for in-class work, where valuable feedback can be given promptly and in individualized form, if necessary. Most of the other activities in this section lend themselves equally well to in-class work and to homework. The exception is vocabulary memorization, which is best reserved as a homework activity.
- 3. It is recommended that the Vocabulary in Context and the Expectations exercises in the main reading section be done in class. This will eliminate, in the case of the former, possible dictionary use. In the Expectations exercises, it will allow the students to learn the point of an exercise which may be very unfamiliar to them and enable the teacher to offer immediate guidance and feedback. The other activities in this section are suitable both for in-class work and for homework. This allows teachers to vary the assignment of activities. Note that in all the comprehension questions, students are asked to specify the place (or places) in the text where they find the answers to questions. This is intended to preempt guessing and to emphasize the text as the source of information requested.

A separate Teacher's Manual is available to accompany this book. It contains more specific suggestions for the use of the materials in the book, as well as supplementary exercises and keys.

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Introductory Unit

Grammar for this unit: Actions in the past
You will find information and practice on this grammar point in
Appendix 1, Introductory Unit.

Vocabulary Study and Preparatory Reading -

PART A

to seem (verb)

DEFINITION to seem to be something: to give the idea of something

EXAMPLES 1. Today it is 70°F, but it doesn't seem so warm. It seems quite cold. There is a strong wind from the north.

2. Things far away from you seem very small.

accident (noun)

DEFINITION an accident: something bad happens to you. This is an accident.

EXAMPLES 1. There are car accidents every day. People drive too fast and don't take enough care on the roads.

2. A person falls down the stairs and is hurt. This is an accident.

maybe/perhaps (adverb)

DEFINITION maybe: not sure about something perhaps: maybe

EXAMPLES 1. Robert: Hi, Mike, are you coming to the soccer game with us?

Mike: Maybe. I have to do some work for tomorrow, so

I'm not 100% sure.

2. John: Hi, Mike. Where's Robert?

Mike: I don't know for sure. Perhaps he's in the cafeteria.

It's lunch time.

to arrive (verb)

DEFINE GON to arrive: to get to a place; to finish a journey

EXAMPLES 1. I want to meet you at the airport. When does your plane arrive?

2. The party begins at nine o'clock, but Mike has to work this evening. He can't arrive before eleven o'clock.

to leave (irregular verb) left (past tense)

DEFINITION to leave: 1. to go away from a place or from a person 2. not to take something with you

EXAMPLES 1. Tomorrow we have to get up early. Our plane leaves at 8:30 A.M.

2. I can't find my English book. Maybe I left it at home.

trouble (noun)

DEFINITION trouble: difficulty

EXAMPLES 1. This math class is giving me a lot of *trouble*. It is very difficult for me.

2. I am having trouble with my car. It doesn't start on cold mornings.

important (adjective)

DEFINITION important: We have to pay attention to something; it matters a lot.

EXAMPLES 1. Here is some *important* information about your journey to Washington. The plane leaves at 8:30, not at 9:00.

2. Tomorrow is an *important* day for me. I begin a new job tomorrow.

way (noun)

DEFINITION a way: 1. how to do something

2. how to get to a place

2 Introductory Unit

- EXAMPLES 1. What is a good way to learn English?

 Go to the U.S., take classes there, and live with Americans.
 - 2. Mike: Can you tell me the way to the library?

 Jane: Go down this street for one block. The library is on your right.

to continue (verb)

DEFINITION to continue: to go on with something

- EXAMPLES 1. After an hour in New York, we continued our journey from London to San Francisco.
 - 2. The students read two pages of the story on Monday; on Tuesday they continued the story; on Wednesday they finished it.

Now read this passage and answer the questions about it. Also write the numbers of the lines where you found the answers.

Every year millions of people travel by plane without any difficulty. I don't fly very often, but I always seem to run into trouble. Trouble seems to like me; it goes with me like a friendly dog! Last year, for example, I wanted to come home from a winter vacation in Miami, Florida. I had to take a plane to Atlanta and then take another plane home. We left Miami on a Sunday morning. The weather there was warm and sunny. We arrived in Atlanta at 12:30 p.m., but then it began to snow. In the next three hours, 10 inches of snow fell, and the plane could not leave. After twenty-four hours at the Atlanta airport, I was able to continue my journey. I arrived home and went to work. "You look tired," the people at work said. "You need a vacation!"

This year I had to go to Washington, D.C., for an important business meeting. For the plane journey, I wore sports clothes; they were old, but I felt comfortable in them. My good clothes for the meeting were in my suitcase. That was a very intelligent idea! I arrived in Washington, but my suitcase didn't. Maybe it went to London or perhaps to San Francisco. I don't know, but it didn't arrive in Washington with me! I went to my important meeting in my tennis clothes. Now that is not a good way to do business! People in Washington wear suits to business meetings, not shorts and tennis shoes. My meeting did not go well. That was two weeks ago. Now I am home again, and I am still waiting for my suitcase!

1.	W]	hen di	d the writer have trouble last year?	Line(s)	
,	b.	On th	s way to Miami se plane from Miami to Atlanta s way home from Miami		
2 .	W	hy did	the writer have to wait in Atlanta?	Line(s)	
	a. The weather became bad, and his plane could not leave.b. All the planes were full; he could not get a ticket.c. He could not find his suitcase.				
3.	\mathbf{T}	F	The writer had to wear tennis clothes to his business meeting in Washington.	Line(s)	
4.	Т	F	The writer was happy with his meeting in Washington; it went well.	Line(s)	
5.	W	hat tro	ouble did the writer have on his trip to Washington?	Line(s)	
	a. He got on the wrong plane.b. The plane was late, and he was late for his important meeting.				
	c.	Some			

PART B

strange (adjective)

DEFINITION strange: You don't know things or people; you don't see them often. For you, they are strange.

EXAMPLES 1. For many people from other countries, American football is a very *strange* game. It is called football, but the players keep the ball in their hands.

2. Many drivers from the U.S. and Europe feel strange in Britain. They have to drive on the left side of the road, not the right.

result (noun)

DEFINITION a result: 1. something happens because of another thing 2. the news of a test or a game

EXAMPLES 1. My friend has a lot of trouble with his right leg. This is the result of a car accident last year.

2. The students were happy with the results of their test. Everyone got over 80%.

to take place (irregular verb) took place (past tense)

DEFINITION to take place: to happen

EXAMPLES 1. The soccer World Cup took place in Spain in 1982. It took place in Argentina in 1978.

2. The Olympic Games take place every four years.

real (adjective) really (adverb)

DEFINITION real: true

really: 1. truly

2. very

EXAMPLES 1. Some people don't like to tell their real age. They want to be young.

2. Robert: Mike, do you *really* want to go to the game to-night? It's very cold.

Mike: No. Let's forget it and go another night.

3. I'm really tired. I have to go to bed.

suitable (adjective) unsuitable (adjective)

DEFINITION suitable: right for someone or something unsuitable: not right

EXAMPLES 1. This apartment is unsuitable for my brother and his family. It has only one bedroom and it is not near any schools. (He has three children.)

2. This book is not suitable for our class. It is too difficult.

cause (noun) to cause (verb)

DEFINITION to cause something: to make something happen a cause: a reason

EXAMPLES 1. The bad weather caused a lot of road accidents.

2. In our class, we are studying the causes of World War II. We are asking the question, Why did the war begin?

nearly (adverb) almost (adverb)

DEFINITION nearly: not 100%, but very close almost: nearly

- **EXAMPLES** 1. The classroom is *nearly* full. There are only one or two free chairs.
 - 2. It's almost three o'clock. (Maybe three or four minutes before three.)

clear (adjective)

DEFINITION clear: You can understand or see something easily.

- EXAMPLES 1. Good teachers can give *clear* examples to their students.

 From the examples, the students can understand the rule.
 - 2. Student: Can you please explain this rule to me again? It's not really *clear* to me.

Now read this passage and answer the questions about it. Also write the numbers of the lines where you found the answers.

To people from other countries, baseball seems a very strange game. Its rules are not clear, and it is not really a "world" game, like soccer. But there are other strange things about baseball. One is the name of the top team: the top baseball team in North America is called the "World Champions." The "World Series" is the name of the seven games between the top two teams. But how can it be a World Series; how can the top teams be World Champions? Only teams from the U.S. and Canada play in this World Series!

The World Series takes place in October every year. There can be up to seven games in the series. The first team with four wins becomes the World Champions. The teams play two games in the home city of one of the teams; then they leave that city and play the next two or three games in the home city of the other team. The last two games take place in the first city.

For many Americans, October is not a suitable month for the World Series. "Baseball is a summer game," they say. "We need good weather for these important games." They are right. In some cities—Chicago, Montreal, Toronto, Detroit, New York, Cleveland, Pittsburgh—October is almost winter and the weather can be very cold. The cold can cause trouble for the players. In one game of a World Series it began to snow; the players couldn't keep the ball in their hands and made a lot of mistakes in the game.

But for the people at the games, the weather isn't really important. They come to the games in warm weather and in cold weather. The important thing for them is a good result—a win for their team.

1.	W	hen do	pes the World Series of baseball take place?	Line(s)			
	b. c.	 a. In the United States and Canada b. In October every year c. Between the top two teams of North America d. No, it does not take place every year. 					
2.	T	•	Teams from many countries of the world play in the World Series.	Line(s)			
3.	Т	F	People from other countries do not really understand baseball.	Line(s)			
4.	Т	F	Baseball players like cold weather.	Line(s)			
5.			the results of the first four games in the 1976 World incinnati played New York.	Line(s)			
	Ga Ga	ime 1: ime 2: ime 3:	Cincinnati, 5-New York, 1 Cincinnati, 4-New York, 3 Cincinnati, 6-New York, 2 Cincinnati, 7-New York, 2				
	How many games did they have to play in this World Series?						
	b.	Four Seven Five					
Ex	erc	cises f	or Parts A and B				
SA.	ME	OR DII	FFERENT?				
ex wi	ores th c	s diffe lifferen	o sentences in each example. Do they express the same idrent ideas? Write S for sentences with the same ideas; write t ideas. ber: You can express the same ideas with different word	D for sentences			
1.			can I learn English fast? is a good way for me to learn English fast?				
2.			ad weather caused the accident. ccident was the result of the bad weather.				
			't really understand the professor's explanation.				

4. a. I am having a lot of trouble with this math class.b. This math class is really important for me.

5. a. Mike felt really tired, but he continued to work.
b. Mike stopped working; he felt really tired.
6. a. There was snow on the field, but the game took place.
b. They did not play the game; there was snow on the field.
7. a. Tomorrow's game means a lot to our team.
b. The game tomorrow is very important for our team.
8. a. It's very hot today; it's almost 95°F.
b. Today is very hot; it's nearly 95°F.

EXPECTATIONS

Read the first sentence in each of these examples. Think about the ideas in it. What ideas can you expect in the next sentence? From (a), (b), and (c), choose the sentence or sentences that can follow the first sentence. Together the sentences have to have a clear meaning.

- 1. There were a lot of people at the baseball game last night.
 - a. It was a very important game.
 - b. The stadium was almost full.
 - c. The weather was really bad last night.
- 2. Mike does not want to go to the soccer game with us today. That's very strange.
 - a. He does not really like soccer.
 - b. Last year he went to every game with us.
 - c. He has an important test tomorrow.
- 3. I am not really sure about Mike's address.
 - a. Perhaps Robert can tell you; he and Mike are very good friends.
 - b. He lives at 151 Main Street.
 - c. It's Apartment 2, 55 Market Street.
- 4. These light clothes are not suitable for the winters in this part of the country.
 - a. You really need them for the cold weather.
 - b. They're all right for the summer, but you need different clothes for the cold weather.
 - c. It gets really cold here.
- 5 My brother is not a good driver.
 - a. He was very happy about the result.
 - b. He had three accidents last year.
 - c. Two days this week he almost caused an accident.
- 8 Introductory Unit