

EASY DOES IT

Dean Curry

FOR BEGINNING LEVEL STUDENTS

A SPEAKING SKILLS PRACTICE BOOK FOR ENGLISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE

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藏书章

Easy Does It: A Speaking Skills Practice Book

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By Dean Curry



FOREWORD

EASY DOES IT has been prepared as an oral skills practice book for beginning level students of English as a foreign language. It is assumed that students at a "beginning level" will have a good command of the basic structures and vocabulary of English, as they appear in their written form, but that they need practice in speaking. (The act of speaking will also help to improve listening comprehension to some extent.)

The pedagogic emphasis of EASY DOES IT is the oral practice of present, present perfect, past, and present progressive tenses in real-life situations that deal mainly with *what people do*, both at work and at play. A short reading accompanied by an illustration is the springboard for the talk that should follow based on the exercises. Common, everyday people, as the saying goes in English, and their quotidian activities form the basis of every reading cum oral skills exercises.

Variety is another emphasis of the book, as the 52 chapters, each dealing with a different occupation or hobby, will attest. People are seen doing what they have to do or like to do on a regular basis.

Although the variety sometimes gives rise to some uncommon lexical items, it is believed that the illustrations add the needed visual support necessary to make the learning of such words relatively easy. Testing of the material in class situations appears to support this belief. Adult students react positively to the chance to practice with the type of material presented. The beginning level of the readings and oral exercises helps to build up student self-confidence while at the same time reducing the frequency of errors. Adult students also find the variety of topics treated both interesting and stimulating.

The three section divisions of EASY DOES IT are based more upon three different exercise approaches than upon an increasing degree of difficulty, as one moves from Section A to Section C. However, Section A is considered easier than Sections B & C mainly because the patterns of structure are more basic, as are the verb tenses. Section C provides opportunity for controlled writing practice through the rewriting of the reading by changing the tense of the principal verbs and the subject of the reading by personal pronoun substitution.

A Verb List of the 123 verbs used in the text will be found at the end of the book. The infinitive of each verb is listed followed by the forms of the verbs used in the readings as well as in the exercises. The following 30 common verbs are those most frequently appearing in the text: BE, BECOME, DO, EARN, GET, GIVE, GO, HAVE, HELP, HOLD, HOPE, KNOW, LOOK, MAKE, NEED, OWN, PLAN, PLAY, PRACTICE, SAVE, SEE, STUDY, TAKE, TEACH, TRAVEL, USE, WANT, WEAR, WIN, and WORK.

EASY DOES IT is completely open-ended. There is no specific order of presentation although the easier readings are found at the beginning of each section. Teachers are encouraged to use only those readings that best suit the needs of their classes, omitting those having little or no appeal. Teachers may also find that the verbs and verb forms from the Verb List can be used for pre-reading preparation or as review material.

A



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CHEF

Gene Rivers is a chef in a large hotel. He prepares food for important people. The restaurant of the hotel is famous for its excellent food. Gene prepares special dishes for kings, queens, presidents, movie stars, and many well-known people. He is the best chef in the city, they say.

I CHOICES TO MAKE: Choose the correct answer. Sometimes more than one is correct.

1. Gene works (a) in a restaurant.
(b) in a store.
(c) in a bakery.
(d) in a hotel.
2. Gene prepares (a) chefs.
(b) food.
(c) special dishes.
(d) restaurants.
3. Gene is (a) a president.
(b) a king.
(c) a chef.
(d) a movie star.
4. Gene's food is (a) well-known.
(b) excellent.
(c) famous.
(d) pretty.

II WORD PRACTICE: Choose the words in List B opposite in meaning to the words in List A.

LIST A

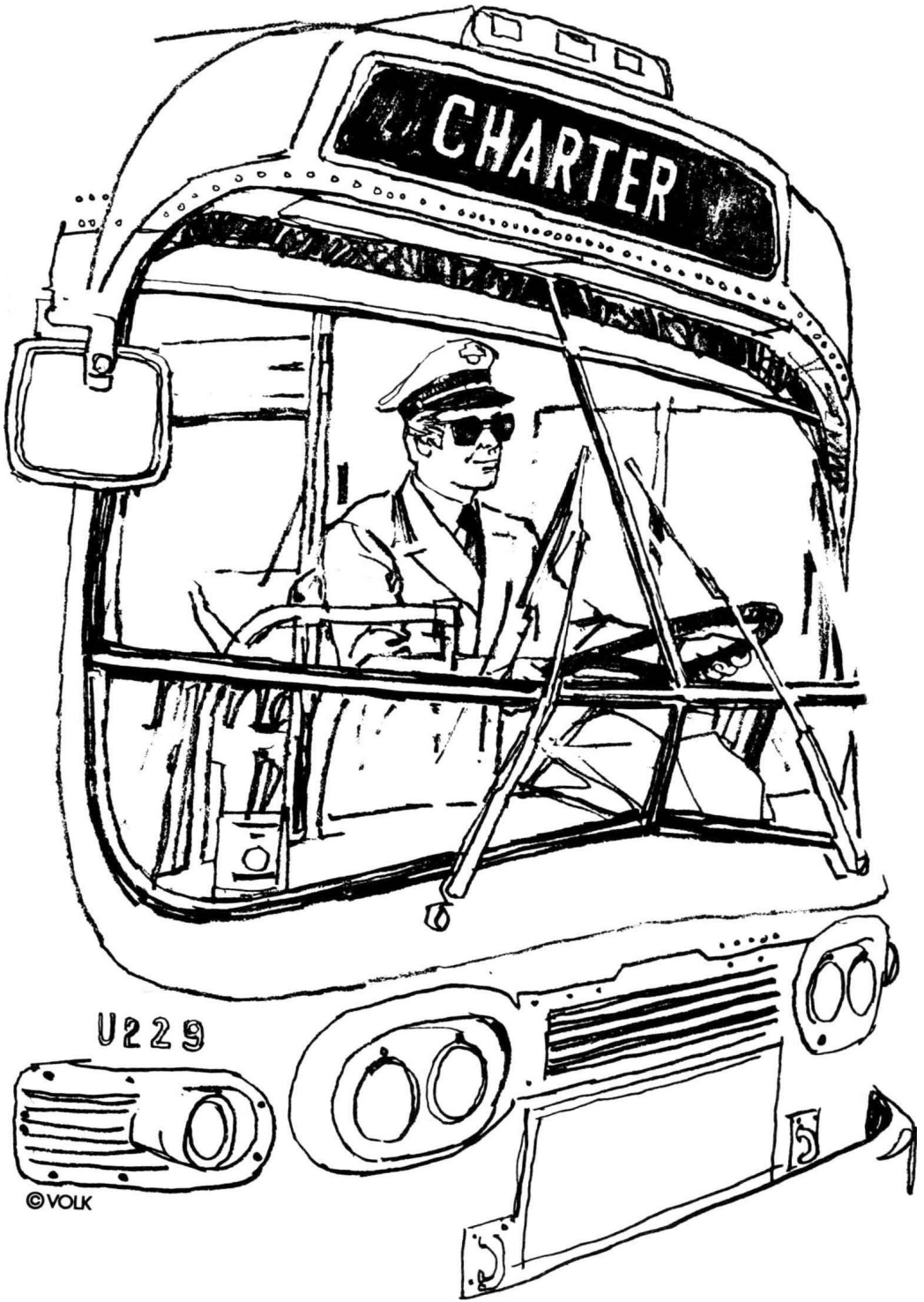
large
important
excellent
special
many
well-known
best

LIST B

a. bad
b. unknown
c. small
d. worst
e. unimportant
f. common
g. few

III SPEAKING PRACTICE: Answer the following questions.

1. Where does Gene work?
2. For whom does he prepare food?
3. Is the hotel restaurant famous? Why?
4. Does Gene prepare special dishes? For whom?
5. Is Gene the best chef in the city? Who says so?



BUS DRIVER

John Burns drives a bus on weekends and holidays. He works part-time for a large bus company in the city. During the week, John is an auto mechanic. He works part-time to earn extra money. He and his wife want to buy a house. John takes tourists on special trips to visit historic places.

I CHOICES TO MAKE: Choose the correct answer. Sometimes more than one is correct.

1. John works (a) for the railroad.
(b) for a bus company.
(c) part-time.
(d) on weekends.
2. John is (a) a tourist.
(b) a husband.
(c) an auto mechanic.
(d) a grandfather.
3. John needs (a) a bus.
(b) a wife.
(c) more money.
(d) a new car.
4. John takes people to (a) the city.
(b) the beach.
(c) historic places.
(d) the bus company.
5. John wants (a) to take a special trip.
(b) to buy a house.
(c) to drive a bus.
(d) to visit historic places.

II WORD PRACTICE: Choose the words in List B opposite in meaning to the words in List A.

LIST A

holiday
part-time
large
city
work
earn
buy
take

LIST B

a. small
b. spend
c. workday
d. leave
e. sell
f. country
g. full-time
h. play

III SPEAKING PRACTICE: Answer the following questions.

1. When does John drive a bus?
2. Who is his boss?
3. Why does he need extra money?
4. What is John's regular job?
5. Where does he take tourists?



BOY SCOUT LEADER

Steve Landers is a Boy Scout leader in his spare time. It is his favorite hobby. He likes to hike and go camping. He also likes to work with young boys. During the week, Steve is a teacher. After a week in the schoolroom, he is eager to be outside in the fresh air!

I CHOICES TO MAKE: Choose the correct answer. Sometimes more than one is correct.

1. Steve has (a) a camp.
(b) spare time.
(c) fresh air.
(d) a hobby.
2. Steve likes (a) to teach.
(b) to be outside.
(c) to hike.
(d) to go camping.
3. Steve is (a) a leader.
(b) a young boy.
(c) a teacher.
(d) a Boy Scout.

II WORD PRACTICE: Choose the words in List B opposite in meaning to the words in List A.

LIST A

Boy Scout
leader
go
young
boy
after
outside
fresh

LIST B

a. follower
b. girl
c. Girl Scout
d. come
e. old
f. before
g. inside
h. decayed

III SPEAKING PRACTICE: Answer the following questions.

1. Does Steve have a hobby?
What is it?
2. Does he like to hike?
3. Does he like to be outside?
4. Is he a teacher in his spare time?
5. What does Steve do during the week?



CIRCUS FAT LADY

Emma Legrand is the fat lady in a circus. (Emma Legrand is not her real name.) She is very famous. Many people come to the circus to see Emma. Emma weighs nearly 250 kilos and is only 28 years old. She has to eat a lot to stay fat. Her job is to be fat!

I CHOICES TO MAKE: Choose the correct answer. Sometimes more than one is correct.

1. Emma has (a) to be famous.
(b) to eat a lot.
(c) to go home.
(d) to be fat.
2. Emma is (a) an old lady.
(b) her real name.
(c) very big.
(d) very famous.
3. Emma works (a) in a circus
(b) to see people.
(c) to eat.
(d) in an office.
4. Emma eats (a) once a week.
(b) a lot.
(c) to be fat.
(d) to stay fat.

II WORD PRACTICE: Choose the words in List B opposite in meaning to the words in List A.

LIST A

fat
lady
real
famous
many
come

LIST B

a. unknown
b. gentleman
c. few
d. go
e. thin
f. false

III SPEAKING PRACTICE: Answer the following questions.

1. Who is Emma Legrand?
2. Is she thin?
3. How much does she weigh?
4. How old is she?
5. Where does she work?
6. Does she eat a lot?

