

Don's Favorite EFL Texts

Texts are tools for an EFL teacher, a lot of the series are similar, and everyone has his/her own favorites. Here are a few of mine:

Integrated Skills

Firsthand Series – by Helgesen and Brown, Pearson Publishing

This tried-and-true series is especially good for the Asian market and beginners. It also contains plenty of audio and listening practice.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=or1kmV6cZmo>

<https://www.pearsonelt.com/catalogue/general-english/english-firsthand.html>

Face2Face – by Redston & Cunningham, Cambridge Publishing

The upper-intermediate to advanced texts in this series are especially good for higher level students.

A review of the intermediate level: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uwOrNQ5Qo7A>

Smart Choice – Ken Wilson, Oxford Publishing

Online Practice and 'On the Move,' which allow students to get practice online, and the teacher to easily assign and track this feature, along with decent topic choices and short articles and sections within each unit, all make this series ideal for beginning – pre-intermediate students.

<https://kenwilsonelt.wordpress.com/smart-choice/>

Speaking Skills

- **Communication Games** – Jill Hadfield, a great 3-level series

<https://www.slideshare.net/LdiaSzab/jill-hadfield-elementary-communication-games>

- **New Headway Pronunciation** – Bill Bowler, Oxford University Press
- **Whaddaya Say** – Nina Weinstein, addresses real world relaxed and careful speech

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MaNEwFtclOk>

https://www.slideshare.net/yd_blair/whaddaya-say

Don's Favorite EFL Texts

Listening

- ***Tactics for Listening*** – Jack C. Richards, Oxford University
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gyCryo3w0lo>
<https://elt.oup.com/student/tacticsforlistening3e/?cc=kr&sellLanguage=ko>
- ***Jazz Chants*** – Carolyn Graham, Oxford University
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jazz_Chants
<http://www.onestopenglish.com/skills/listening/jazz-chants/>
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R_nPUuPryCs
- ***Active Listening*** – Brown & Smith, Cambridge University
<http://www.cambridge.org/us/cambridgeenglish/catalog/skills/active-listening-2nd-edition>

Reading

- ***Select Readings*** – Oxford Univ Press
https://elt.oup.com/catalogue/items/global/skills/select_readings_second_edition/?cc=global&sellLanguage=en
- ***Read This! Fascinating Stories from the Content Areas*** – Cambridge U Press
<http://www.cambridge.org/us/cambridgeenglish/catalog/skills/read>

(Level 1: 978-0521747868, Level 2: 978-0521747899, Level 3: 978-0521747936)

Writing

- ***Composition Practice, Book 1*** – Linda Lonon Blanton, Heinle ELT Publishing
http://ngl.cengage.com/search/productOverview.do?N=200+4294918495&Ntk=P_EPI&Ntt=12608112642093154799175797435788935964&Ntx=mode%2Bmatchallpartial
- ***Fundamentals of Academic Writing*** – Linda Butler, Pearson 978-0131995574
- ***First Steps in Academic Writing*** – Ann Hogue, Pearson 978-0132414883
- ***Engaging Writing 1,2: Essential Skills for Academic Writing*** – Mary Fitzpatrick, Pearson
<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/14794462-engaging-writing-2>

Don's Favorite EFL Texts

IELTS / TOEFL / EAP Texts

- **Passport to IELTS** – Diana Hopkins, Longman
<https://ieltsgeneral.net/free-download-passport-to-ielts-students-book-2nd-edition-ebook-audio/>
- **Cambridge IELTS Practice Test Series** – Cambridge U, best for practice tests
- **IELTS for Academic Purposes** – McGraw Hill, is great for getting someone from about a level 5 up to a 6.5
- **IELTS Resource Pack** – Jon Marks, is full of handy stuff for any classroom IELTS prep course
- **Instant IELTS** – Cambridge, is another great teacher resource for IELTS prep courses
- **Objective IELTS Intermediate/Advanced** – Cambridge; the advanced is really difficult = great for advanced students above the 6.5 band
- **Headway Academic Skills** – Oxford University Press, great for improving overall academic English
- **Cambridge Preparation for the TOEFL Test** – Cambridge U
- **NorthStar Building Skills for the TOEFL iBT** – Pearson Longman
- **Vocabulary and Grammar for the TOEFL Test** – Collins
- **EAP Now!** – Kathy Cox, David Hill, Pearson

Business

- **Business Start Up 1-2** – Cambridge U
- **First Insights into Business / New Insights into Business** – Longman
(These have been around long enough that you can find free .pdf versions online)

ESP

- **English for Work: Everyday Technical English** – Valerie Lambert, Longman
- **Career Paths: Cooking** – Express Publishing
<http://www.careerpaths-esp.com/cooking>

*I've used only a few ESP texts during my many years of teaching ESP, mostly because I've found most existing tests (like Cambridge Professional and Vocational series) too difficult for nearly all of the professional adults in Asia (whether cruise line workers, nurses, doctors, business men and women, chefs, civil servants, military, or what have you) and ill-suited for their specific needs; pulling material from various sources and designing my own was usually better. However, I have to say the **Career Paths series** seems to start at a more realistic, lower level of learner, and shows great promise:*

<http://www.careerpaths-esp.com/home>