

ESL Independent Print Resources

ESL Sources for Independent Use

The following materials, located in the Writing Center, may be used independently for improving reading comprehension skills, vocabulary, and grammar:

1. *Weaving it Together* by Milada Broukal

- Beginning level (Book 1)
- High beginning level (Book 2)
- Intermediate level (Book 3)
- High intermediate level (Book 4)

This **four-book series** combines reading and writing skills into thematic units. The units begin with a **review of vocabulary**, followed by a one-page passage. **Comprehension questions** ask students to identify the **main idea and details** contained within the passage. **Writing exercises follow the reading exercises and are related to the chapter theme.** Grammar and mechanics are addressed in the writing exercises.

2. *Reading Advantage* - a four-book series by Casey Malarcher

This **user-friendly series** focuses on **increasing vocabulary and improving reading skills.** Each chapter begins with questions to activate the reader's background knowledge of the topic of the passage, followed by a matching exercise in vocabulary. The passages increase in length and complexity as the series progresses. The passages in **Book 1 are 200 words in length and appear to be written at an elementary level;** passages in **Book 4 are 650 words and are written at a more advanced level.** Students can also listen to the passages on audio tape. **Idioms are identified and explained after each passage.** Not a resource for a tutoring session; designed for independent student use.

3. *The Least You Should Know about Vocabulary Building: Word Roots*

by Teresa Ferster Glazier, et al.

- Word Roots and Exercises

More ESL Sources for Independent Use

4. *Themes for Today 1, 2nd ed. (Beginning Level)*

Insights for Today 2, 3rd ed. (High Beginning)

Issues for Today 3, 3rd ed. (Intermediate)

***Concepts for Today (missing this from shelf) (High Intermediate)**

Topics for Today 4, 3rd ed. (Advanced) by Lorraine Smith and Nancy Mare

This five-part series is designed to help students gain reading skills that are necessary to succeed in an academic environment. Passages are broken down with comprehension questions following each individual paragraph. The passage also appears in its entirety.

Vocabulary exercises follow the passages, but answers are not given. The student may need to work with a tutor to check for understanding. **The publisher does not allow any pages to be copied. Skills covered include:**

- Context clues
- Making inferences
- Identifying main idea
- Vocabulary exercises

5. *Vocabulary Simplified: Strategies for Building Your College Vocabulary*

by Kathleen T. McWhorter

This book contains exercises and an answer key. The following topics are covered:

- Context clues
- Prefixes/Suffixes/Roots
- Connotations
- Euphemisms/Analogies
- Figurative Language/Doublespeak
- Discipline Specific Vocabulary

6. *Changes: Readings for ESL Writers* by Withrow, et al.

Designed for Intermediate to Advanced-level ESL students, this book focuses on building reading and writing skills. **Exercises are designed for small group instruction; may not be effective for independent student use.**

More ESL Sources for Independent Use

7. *Explorations in Basic Writing* by Audrey L. Reynolds

This book is designed for both native speakers of English as well as ESL students. Topics include:

- Audience
- Sentence Structure
- Organizing Ideas
- Grammar

Last modified 7/13/09