

## Recommended Titles, Tips and Web Sites

The following is a comprehensive list of titles, tips and Web sites recommended by LEARN members from 2005 to the present.

### Titles

1. ***Accent English: Sounds of American Speech***. Cassette for all learners, then there are separate titles for the following languages: Spanish, Russian, Arabic, Vietnamese, Chinese, French, Japanese, Korean, Tagalog, Thai, Indonesian, Greek (Unfortunately, I do not find that this has been updated to CD).
2. ***Adios, Accent*** DVD by Vocalis Ltd.
3. ***Barron's Pronounce it Perfectly in English*** CD.
4. ***Basic English: English as a Second Language*** (2 videocassettes) by Video Aided Instruction, 1995. (I do not see this in DVD, but <http://www.videoaidedinstruction.com/> has other possible titles).
5. **Capstone Press** at [www.capstonepress.com](http://www.capstonepress.com) has bilingual titles on many topics.
6. ***Citizenship Interactive DVDs...bilingual overview of the United States history and government*** by California Language Laboratories (in various languages).
7. ***The Complete Get That Job: A Quick and Easy Guide with Worksheets*** by Jurg Opplinger, New Readers Press, very pictorial and user friendly [www.newreaderspress.com](http://www.newreaderspress.com).
8. ***Easy English*** (3 CDs, includes pronunciation and lessons 1-20) by Living Language.
9. ***Easy Pronunciation*** (6 CDs), by Living Language.
10. ***Stories Plus*** by Ann Gianola from New Readers Press [www.newreaderspress.com](http://www.newreaderspress.com).
11. ***Easy True Stories*** by Sandra Heyer.
12. ***English for New Americans*** by Living Language. It includes the following titles: *Everyday Life; Health, Home & Community; and Work and School*. Each package includes four integrated components: a one-hour video (available on VHS and DVD), student workbook, one-hour audio (available on cassette and CD), and audio script.
13. ***English for Spanish Speaking People***, CD-ROM by Laser Pub. Group, 2000. There appears to be a newer title at <http://www.lp-group.com/eng4Spanish.php>.
14. ***English for Work Activities: A Picture Process Dictionary*** – For ESL learners who need to communicate in typical workplace situations.
15. ***English Grammar*** (8-10 DVDs by Video Aided Instruction <http://www.videoaidedinstruction.com/englishgrammar.html>).
16. ***ESLOA (English As A Second Language Oral Assessment)*** – Published by Literacy Volunteers of America.
17. ***Everyday English*** by Barbara Zaffran (National Textbook Company), 1991.
18. ***Éxito en el Norte - Success in the U.S.*** Pub. Info Red Oak, Iowa : Experience Education : In cooperation with Iowa State University Extension, c 2006. <http://www.exitovideos.com/main.htm> Wheaton purchased this though Midwest Tape. Titles include:
  - La ayuda pública [videorecording] = Public assistance
  - El cuidado de salud [videorecording] = Healthcare
  - La educación [videorecording] = Education
  - Las finanzas [videorecording] = Finances
  - Los impuestos [videorecording] = Taxes

- La inmigración [videorecording]
  - El sistema legal [videorecording]
19. **50 Strategies for Teaching Language Learners** by Pearson/Merrill Prentice Hall.
  20. **The Firefly Spanish/English Visual Dictionary**.
  21. **Grammar Links** by Houghton Mifflin, 2000 (3 vols. with cassettes).
  22. **Health Stories** by Ann Gianola (New Readers Press [www.newreaderspress.com](http://www.newreaderspress.com)) has relevancy to student's life and offers a lot of interaction.
  23. **In English On Your Own** DVD by Video Language Products.
  24. **Ingles Sin Barreras** (English without Barriers).  
<http://www.inglessinbarreras.com/isb/products.htm>
  25. **News for You** newspaper.
  26. **Oxford Bookworms** series – Graded readers which can be purchased with audio. The Oxford bookworm series was recommended. The books are graded at six language levels, from elementary (400 word vocabulary) to advanced (2,500 word vocabulary). Vocabulary, structure, syntax and the information presented are all carefully controlled. Key topic vocabulary is often illustrated, particularly at the lower levels
  27. **Power English** by Natasha Cooper which is available at <http://www.englishskills.com/>. It includes scripts for writing English and how to speak English for specific situations (banks, utilities, police, medical offices, etc.). It is for intermediate to advanced learners.
  28. **Oxford Picture Dictionary** CD-ROM/DVD-ROM.
  29. **Rosetta Stone** – Indian Prairie just purchased Rosetta Stone levels I, II, III for learning English on CD-ROM (available to check out). Oak Park Library has Rosetta Stone available online remotely for its patrons. Wheaton is hopefully getting it online remotely, too. Someone has since said that they are no longer selling the CD-ROM to libraries.
  30. Saddleback Publishing has a series called Saddleback Pageturners which are more adult-like and include teacher resource guides.
  31. Saddleback Publishing also has a series of Read Alongs like the *Shakespeare Read Alongs* <http://www.sdlback.com/p-89065-shakespeare-ic-read-alongs.aspx>. This series features classic Shakespeare retold with graphic color illustrations
  32. **Side by Side** series by Molinsky. There are 4 books in the series, with accompanying workbooks and teachers guides. In addition there is a Secondary School edition.
  33. **Slangman Guide to Street Speak** by Slangman Pub., 2002 (3 CDs with books). Also have a 3-set series called *Slangman Guide to Biz Speak*.
  34. **Stand Out: Standards-Based English** by Heinle & Heinle. There are five books in the series with accompanying CDs/Cassettes and workbooks. **Stand Out Basic** – School on Wheels is using the Stand Out Basic series for teaching while the tutors trained in the past are still using the Laubach method.
  35. **Thumbprint Mysteries** – Series by Contemporary Books.
  36. **Tumble Books** – The site [www.tumblebooks.com](http://www.tumblebooks.com) is a good way to hear books spoken aloud (though it is geared for children). These are animated, talking picture books to which users can read along. They have found that grade level 6 works well for ESL learners.
  37. **Tutor Resource Manual** – Put together by Literacy Volunteers of Western Cook County.
  38. **Voyager** Series by New Readers Press [www.newreaderspress.com](http://www.newreaderspress.com).

39. ***US100.org Your Road to Passing the U.S. Citizenship Test***. It covers the exact 100 questions for which students will need to prepare for the test. <http://www.us100.org/>
40. ***We Both Read*** series. It has parallel texts in English and Spanish and titles for multiple levels. The title she brought was *Perfect Gift* by Jenny Gago. <http://www.webothread.com/>
41. ***We Read*** Books – Debra discussed the benefits of “We Read” books – durable pages, brightly-colored pictures.
42. ***Writers’ Voices*** – Series by Literacy Volunteers of New York City.

## **Tips**

### **1. Publishers/Distributors**

- Continental Book Company at [www.continentalbook.com](http://www.continentalbook.com) has some titles that are becoming outdated, but overall the company offers a good selection.
  - [www.deltapublishing.com](http://www.deltapublishing.com). The books are easily divided on the Web site into categories like reading, grammar, conversation/vocabulary, etc.
  - New Readers Press
  - Oxford University Press.
  - PearsonLongman
2. ESL blog – Indian Prairie Library has an ESL blog to highlight new Life Skills titles, answer ESL questions and post tutor recommendations. <http://indianprairielibrary.org/esltalk/>
  3. PolyTalk, the Illinois Public Library translation project, which makes available to public librarians 80 interpreters speaking 36 languages.
  4. Keychain with a tiny Spanish/English dictionary attached that they hand out.
  5. During National Library Week (April 12-18) the Bloomingdale library will have a unified theme of “Worlds Connect” throughout the library, including in the ESL area.

## **Web Sites**

1. ***English Language Listening Lab*** (<http://www.ello.org/>) – Users listen to a story and then must answer questions in order to continue. It offers fun and useful listening practice.
2. ***The New York Times Learning Network*** (<http://www.nytimes.com/learning/>) - Current event stories, quizzes, crossword puzzles and other vocabulary and knowledge building resources for students, parents, and instructors. Includes geography. Great for vocabulary.
3. ***Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary*** (<http://www.m-w.com/>) – Provides a free online dictionary, thesaurus, audio pronunciations, Word of the Day, word games, and other English language resources. Key feature is that you can hear the pronunciation of the words.
4. <http://www.gcflearnfree.org/Tutorials/> offers free online computer tutorials. Registration is required, but the tutorials are free.
5. [www.chicagojobs.com](http://www.chicagojobs.com) allows searching job postings for all the newspapers in the Chicago area simultaneously. It also includes a “smart” search so that abbreviated words are also searched spelled out (e.g. a search for “tech” would also retrieve listing with “technician”).
6. ***The Literacy Assistance Center*** in New York <http://www.lacnyc.org/> has some good links.

7. **Ennis William Cosby Foundation** <http://www.hellofriend.org/> - The section on “Learning Differences” includes tips for parents with students struggling with class work.
8. <http://www.keynews.org/> - An online, simplified newspaper put out by the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* which is similar to News for You.
9. <http://www.spokentext.net/> allows you to record PDF, Word, plain text, PowerPoint files, RSS news feeds, emails and web pages, and convert them to speech automatically.
10. Try <http://www.keybr.com/> for practice with keyboard skills.