

New General English Readings

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In the Name of God

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Introduction

New General English Readings for University Students is a reading skills text intended for academically oriented students of English as a foreign language at a lower intermediate and intermediate level. *New General English Readings* encompasses such areas as history, psychology, politics, nutrition, environment, media, science and technology.

This book has been designed to enhance students' confidence and enjoyment of reading in English, build their reading skills, and develop their vocabulary. Each unit is loosely connected to a specific academic discipline. This book provides students with essential practice in the type of reading skills that they will need in an academic environment. It requires the students to not only read a text, but also to extract basic information from illustrations and photographs. The different parts of each unit: Topic Preview, Vocabulary Preview, Reading, Reading Check, Vocabulary Check, Reading Strategies and Getting Ready for Your Exam each encourages the students to think about the ideas, facts and vocabulary that will be presented in the passage. Discussing illustrations and vocabulary help lower level students to visualize and predict what they are going to read about and give them cues for the new vocabulary they will encounter.

A salient feature of this book is the wealth of exercises ranging from comprehension check and vocabulary practice to language learning strategies such as getting the meaning from context, scanning, main idea, word formation, compounds, parallel structures and so on. Furthermore, much of the vocabulary and important information of the passages is recycled in the units titled "*Get Ready for Your Exam*". Almost all the exercises are designed to make students frequently refer to the passage thereby getting thorough benefit from the reading. Moreover, all readings in the book have been recorded for those students whose language can be enhanced by listening to the text as well as reading it.

As the name of the book implies, it is intended to fill the gap between English courses in high schools and ESP courses at universities or technical colleges. Therefore, the use of this book in the "General English" courses by all students in higher education centers all over the country is recommended.

**Honarvar
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Unit 1

Learning a Second Language



A. Pre-Reading Activities

1. Look at the picture. Why do you want to learn a new language?
2. Work with a partner. Make a list of things you can do that will help you learn a second language.
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.
3. Compare your list with your classmates' lists. What can you add to your list?

.....

.....
4. Read the title of the unit. What do you think the passage will discuss?

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