

Case Study



Learning English for the real world using Focus

School students

THE CHALLENGE

This case study focuses on the experiences of students and teachers in two private full-curriculum schools located in Turkey. Teachers and principals at these two schools wanted to help their students achieve English proficiency. They believed, along with their students, that becoming proficient in the English language has many benefits, including helping them become world citizens by familiarizing them with values that are shared throughout the world. Further, they believe that it prepares them for work opportunities, allowing them to study abroad.

THE SOLUTION

When taking into consideration the outcomes they were trying to achieve, teachers decided to implement Focus from Pearson. They appreciated how the English skills were all covered equally, the teacher's book and support materials were user-friendly and they knew of the good reputation of Edexcel qualifications.

School 1 Implementation:

- 107 students were taught by 6 teachers. Focus materials were used daily. The Workbook was used by students to read selected texts, view presentations and practice written exercises. Homework was assigned using the Workbook and was checked daily, taking about one hour to complete per week.
- Placement was determined through the use of a Pearson test to appropriately place students according to aptitude. Those with lower English levels attended a 3 week pre-semester orientation to raise their abilities using Focus 1 materials.
- Ongoing assessments included projects, homework, skill tests and pop quizzes using Focus materials, with self-assessment prompts in available in the Workbook.

FOCUS ON:

Feedback from teachers:

- The Workbook covers all skills equally
- The ActiveTeach was easy to navigate, it reinforced learning and saved time on lesson preparation
- Materials prepare students for the next level of their learning

Feedback from students:

- MyEnglishLab was easy to navigate, it reinforced learning, and allowed for the flexibility to practice anytime
- The Student Book provides real-life context and learning about different cultures through relevant text and quotes
- Unit exercises, illustrations, Word Store, grammar bank, and the variety of exercises were engaging, useful and reinforced learning



School 2 Implementation:

- School 2 included 210 students, taught by 6 teachers. All grades utilized Focus with MyEnglishLab. Focus materials were also used each class session and the lessons were teacher led. The Workbook was used for written exercises and homework. Homework was expected to take about three hours per week to complete.
- Placement was determined through the use of a Pearson test to appropriately place students for the new academic year, which was given at the end of each semester in order to monitor student's progress
- Student's final grade was made up of classroom participation, project presentations based on Student's Book, online work, revision tests, quizzes, and written exams.

THE RESULT



Teachers at 2 high schools in Turkey decided to utilize Focus to help them achieve their intended outcome of student English proficiency. Staff and students believed this proficiency would help better prepare them to be world citizens.

Student's Book

- Students appreciated the real-life context and learning about different cultures through relevant text and quotes
- There were well-rounded materials, specifically relating to world, history and general knowledge
- Unit exercises, illustrations, Word Store, grammar bank, and the variety of exercises were engaging, useful and reinforced learning
- Structure and features allowed for easy allocation of revision exercises and tracking student progress
- Materials prepare students for the next level of their learning
- The star system supports differentiation

Workbook

- All skills are covered equally (listening, reading, speaking, writing, grammar and vocabulary)
- Organization and structure allow for easy allocation of homework and level indication help students understand their own progress

Teacher's Book and Multi-ROM

- Teachers found the activities and cultural notes to support learning, be engaging and informative
- The Multi-ROM assessment resources helped teachers easily prepare quizzes, as well as write exams and self-assessments

ActiveTeach (front of class presentation tool)

- Teachers found it easy to navigate, it reinforced learning and saved time on lesson preparation

MyEnglishLab (online practice)- utilized at school 2

- Students found it easy to navigate, it reinforced learning, and allowed for the flexibility to practice anytime

