

Case Study



Preparing mixed ability students for exams with Big English

Young Learners

THE CHALLENGE

Studio Języka Angielskiego WOW is a private primary school located in Częstochowa, Poland. Paulina Kotowska teaches students English from 1st to 3rd grade.

Her goal is helping her students gain English proficiency in order to pass Young Learners Exams (YLE). She understands many students want to be better in English; it helps when they go abroad, on vacation or to be better in school more generally.

She believes that part of her job is fostering the love of learning and making the learning process easier for her students at her private school.

THE SOLUTION

Paulina teaches four of her groups with Big English. Teachers and administration at her school appreciate how Big English facilitates students learning in a well-structured manner that allows for ease of learning throughout their grade levels. Further, they find Big English assists in preparing students for the YLE exams.

1st grade

- Course is taught with Big English Starters
- Lesson is once time a week for 60 minutes
- They utilize the Workbook for homework and during class, and supplement with the Student Book
- Main lesson is conducted on the floor with games, communication exercises and Big English posters
- ActiveTeach interactive whiteboard is used every lesson

TEACHER FEEDBACK:

- “Big English is very good for teachers. It is easy to teach from Big English.”
- “I know it works, so I love when I can see the progress!”
- “Speaking is particularly well-developed throughout the course ... which helps facilitate easier mastery of speaking in later years”.
- Differentiated learning is made easier because “digital materials help with those differences between students.”



2nd grade

- Course is taught using Big English 1
- Lesson is once a week for 60 minutes
- The Student Book is mostly used in class, and the Workbook is used for further activities
- ActiveTeach interactive whiteboard is used every lesson

3rd grade

- Course is taught with Big English 2
- Lesson is twice a week for 60 minutes per class
- Students use the Workbook for their homework, which is given every lesson, but is also used in class to practice
- The Student Book is widely used in class
- ActiveTeach interactive whiteboard is used every lesson

THE RESULT



When considering Paulina Kotowska's goals of preparing students for YLE exams, the world abroad and overall school achievement, using Big English has been critical in her success with her students. She has found that many features have benefited her and students in various ways including:

- Students appear more actively engaged in lessons when using the whiteboard because of its interactivity.
- The interactive whiteboard materials are easy to use and navigate.
- Differentiated learning is made easier because "digital materials help with those differences between students."
- Vocabulary is introduced and organized in a way that encourages students to practice throughout the unit, which facilitates a smoother learning process.
- The flexibility of the course helps Paulina teach mixed ability group of students effectively.
- Students who have used Big English in previous years have an easy time grasping new topics.
- Students enjoy the course content, books and especially the stickers because they are engaging and motivating.
- Speaking is particularly well-developed throughout the course because it helps students learn full sentence development, which helps facilitate easier mastery of speaking in later years.
- After using Big English, students appear to open up, become less shy and enjoy English.

