

# FOCUS on 21st Century Skills

Teaching upper secondary students to use English confidently in the 21st century is no longer a special feature for an ELT course - it is an essential one.

Find out how 21st Century Learning is embedded throughout FOCUS.

## Study Skills

The Word Store is quintessentially learner training - students are encouraged to organise new vocabulary in a variety of useful and memorable ways.

### WORD STORE 3A

Collocations – travel

- 1 board a ship/a plane/a ferry
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_ a ticket/a flight/a hotel room
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_ a train/a bus/a plane
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_ Europe/the sea/a river
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_ a train/a bus/a flight
- 6 \_\_\_\_\_ Sydney/your destination
- 7 \_\_\_\_\_ the sights

Focus 3, U.3, Wordstore

### WORD STORE 3D

Compound nouns – travel

beach car company  
leader school ski

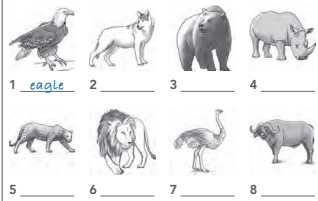
- 1 a car /a return JOURNEY
- 2 a \_\_\_\_\_ /a business TRIP
- 3 a TRAVEL \_\_\_\_\_ /agent
- 4 a TOUR \_\_\_\_\_ /guide
- 5 a \_\_\_\_\_ /a skiing HOLIDAY
- 6 a \_\_\_\_\_ /a seaside RESORT

Focus 3, U.3, Wordstore

### WORD STORE 3E

Wild animals

bear buffalo eagle leopard  
lion ostrich rhinoceros wolf



Focus 3, U.3, Wordstore

## Collaboration

FOCUS requires that students collaborate with each other on a regular basis.

- Pair work accounts for about a third of each unit – it includes reflective and discussion activities as well as answer checking.

- 1 In pairs, match the words in the box with the clothes (a-f) in the pictures. Which of the clothes do you own?

[ hoodie ☐ jacket ☐ suit ☐  
sweatpants ☐ tie ☐ uniform ☐ ]

Focus 2, U.1.5

- 7 In pairs, ask and answer questions about the information in Exercise 6. Use different question words.

A: What are you reading at the moment?

B: A book about Steve Jobs.

Focus 2, U.1.5

- 8 Which of these people do you think would be a good (G) or not so good (NG) exchange student for you? Compare your answers with a partner.

- 1 I'm quite cheerful, but sometimes I get in a bad mood.
- 2 I don't like sports very much and I'm quite unfit.
- 3 I love school and studying and my favourite subjects are science and maths.
- 4 I'm obsessed with pop music.
- 5 I watch a lot of DVDs, especially horror films.
- 6 I'm crazy about shopping! I spend lots of money on clothes.
- 7 I love animals and I'm a volunteer at an animal centre.

Focus 2, U.1.5

## Critical Thinking Skills

FOCUS was developed to be meaningful for teenagers – it encourages them to form their own opinions and express themselves accordingly.

- Exercises ask students to relate the content to their own lives and justify their opinions.
- Broad selection of editable worksheets, tests and assessment examine students' abilities to think critically and express their opinions.
- 'Show What you Know' section as a unit opener helps students place their own experiences in relation to the content.

- 1 Think about your house and complete the task. You have five minutes.

- List all the different rooms.
- Put the rooms in order according to the time you spend in them.  
1 my bedroom (I spend most time in here.)
- List at least six items you can find in each room.

Focus 2, U.4.1

- 5 Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first. Use the verbs in brackets.

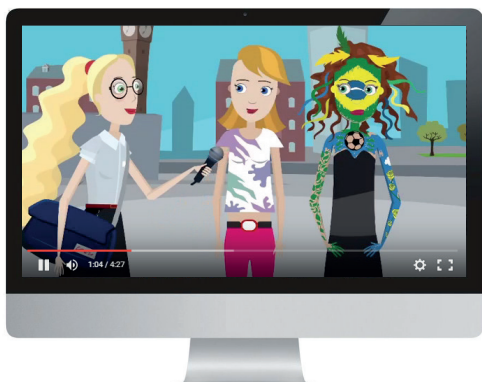
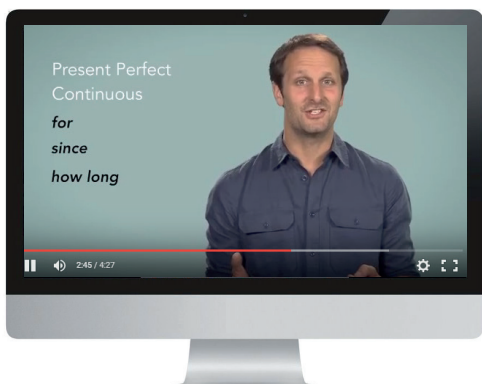
- 1 I met my best friend two years ago.  
I've known (know) my best friend for two years.
- 2 I joined this English class three months ago.  
I \_\_\_\_\_ (be) in this English class \_\_\_\_\_ three months.
- 3 My dad gave my mum this watch when she was forty.  
My mum \_\_\_\_\_ (have) this watch \_\_\_\_\_ she was forty.
- 4 I bought my last pair of trainers last Christmas.  
I \_\_\_\_\_ (not buy) any new trainers \_\_\_\_\_ last Christmas.
- 5 I had breakfast at 7 a.m.  
I \_\_\_\_\_ (not eat) anything \_\_\_\_\_ 7 a.m.
- 6 My dad was born in our house.  
My dad \_\_\_\_\_ (live) in our house \_\_\_\_\_ he was born.

Focus 2, U.4.1

# Communication

FOCUS constantly sets communication tasks for students.

- A contextual approach to grammar teaches appropriate, situational English.
- Grammar animations illustrate grammar rules in practice.



Grammar animation videos

- Vocabulary emphasis and extra practice (Word Store) help embed essential vocabulary in students' minds.
- Interactive speaking videos model conversational English for students and allow them to 'converse' with the actors to practice their communication skills.



Interactive speaking videos

- „Focus on culture“ is embedded throughout the course.

## US TODAY

We asked CS employee Dan about the world's largest travel community.

**What is it?**  
A worldwide travel network connecting travellers with people who offer free accommodation.

**Who is it for?**  
People who don't want to stay in hotels, but want to meet local people and experience new cultures.

**How much does it cost?**  
Nothing! It's free.

**How long have you worked for CS?**  
I've been here since it started in 2004. I've worked with people from all over the world for more than ten years. Together, we want to create a global community.

Focus 2, U.4.1

Focus 2, U.4.4

### SIX OF THE BEST THINGS TO DO IN LONDON

**London by speed boat**  
• Seven days a week, all year  
• Suitable for all ages!  
• £35 for fifty minutes

**Shopping**  
• Oxford Street shops: Mon-Fri: 8.30 a.m.-9 p.m., Sun: 11.30 a.m.-6 p.m.  
• Camden Market: clothes, music, souvenirs, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. daily

**The London Eye**  
Get the best view of London!  
• 10 a.m.-9 p.m. daily  
• Adult: £19  
• 15 and under: £10

**The London Dungeon**  
Prepare to be scared!  
• ninety-minute tours: £20  
• 10 a.m.-6 p.m., seven days a week

**IMAX cinema**  
Watch the latest films in 3D for £15!  
You'll feel like you're in the film!

**Madame Tussaud's**  
Come and see the Royal Family!  
• 9 a.m.-6 p.m. daily  
• Adult: £30 - save fifty percent when you book online!

Focus 2, U.4.4

## Technology

FOCUS covers up-to-date technology topics and social issues. It also provides online learning system and interactive solutions, such us:

- MyEnglishLab interactive exercises and gradebook,
- ActiveTeach IWB software,
- writing text types i.e. blogs and emails.



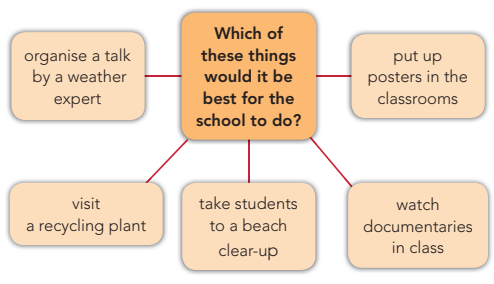
Focus, Interactive Whiteboard Software

## Creativity

FOCUS encourages students to use the language they have learnt in new and creative ways. It opts for a 'guided creativity' approach and gives students plenty of support and suggestions to stimulate their imagination and ideas.

4 Imagine that a school wants its students to understand more about environmental problems. Look at the diagram. It shows some things the teachers are thinking about doing. In pairs, follow these steps.

- Talk to each other about whether you think these are good ways to help students understand about environmental problems.
- Decide which of the things it would be best for the school to do.



Focus 3, U.5.5

7 In pairs, read the opening sentence of a story and think of a story that could follow it. Use the questions to help you.

When I got on the bus, it was very crowded and I couldn't find a seat.

- 1 Where were you?
- 2 When were you there?
- 3 Who were you with?
- 4 What was the weather like?
- 5 What happened?
- 6 What could you see?
- 7 What could you hear?
- 8 How did you feel?
- 9 What did you do next?
- 10 How did it end?

Focus 3, U.4.7

## Health literacy

FOCUS covers plenty of health related topics, including:

- healthy school meals i.e. Focus 2, U.8,
- health myths i.e. Focus 3, U.4,
- what makes a healthy diet i.e. Focus 3, U.4,
- the scandal of global food waste i.e. Focus 3, U.4,
- malaria facts i.e. Focus 3, U.6,
- awareness of disabilities i.e. Focus 3, U.2.4.

**DR. MAXWELL'S FIRST AID QUIZ**

LISTEN TO DR. MAXWELL'S PODCAST TO CHECK YOUR ANSWERS.

- 1 If I had a nosebleed, I'd ...
  - hold my nose and look up.
  - hold my nose and look down.
- 2 If I burnt my hand, I'd ...
  - hold it under the cold water tap.
  - put oil on it.
- 3 If I twisted my ankle, I'd ...
  - put it in a bowl of hot water.
  - put ice on it.
- 4 If I got a black eye, I'd ...
  - put ice on it.
  - put some eye drops in.
- 5 If a bee stung me, I'd ...
  - take some antihistamine tablets.
  - put a plaster on the sting.
- 6 If I cut my finger and it was bleeding, I'd ...
  - wash and dry it and then put a plaster on.
  - tie something around my wrist to stop the blood flowing.

Focus 3, U.6.2

**THE TRUTH ABOUT FOOD**

Has anybody ever said to you, "If you eat your carrots, you'll have better eyesight"? Well, it's not really true. Carrots contain Vitamin A and this is important for healthy eyes. But lots of different fruit and vegetables contain Vitamin A. As long as you have a balanced diet, you'll get all the vitamins you need.

Another common belief is that you'll get more energy if you eat sugar. Actually, when you need an energy boost, a banana will work better than sugar. Sugar will give you a short boost. However, as soon as it goes out of your bloodstream, you'll feel tired again.

Some people think that missing breakfast can help you lose weight. In fact, if you don't have a good breakfast, you'll probably feel hungry by mid-morning and eat fattening snacks. You won't lose weight successfully unless you eat three healthy meals a day.

Focus 3, U.4.2

**The healthy diet test**

**Remember: the more ticks you get, the healthier you are!**

- 1 I don't eat too much salt (e.g. in crisps and fast food).
- 2 I don't eat too much sugar (e.g. in sweets and fizzy drinks).
- 3 I'm not a fussy eater.
- 4 I have a balanced diet – I eat a variety of different kinds of fresh food.
- 5 I eat fish at least once a week.
- 6 I don't eat red meat more than three times a week.
- 7 I feel well – I have plenty of energy.
- 8 I look well – my skin and my hair look healthy.

Focus 3, U.4.3

**UK TODAY**

**UK disability facts**

- There are eleven million disabled people in the UK – nearly eighteen percent of the population.
- Only seventeen percent of disabled people were born with their disabilities.
- Many disabilities are not visible and fewer than ten percent of disabled people need wheelchairs.

**The Paralympics**

- Doctor Ludwig Guttman, a spinal injury specialist, was the inspiration behind the modern Paralympic Games.
- Guttman treated soldiers with terrible injuries from the Second World War. He believed passionately in the benefits of competitive sport for his patients.
- Guttman organised the first disabled games in 1948. Sixteen disabled soldiers took part and the only sport was archery.
- The first Paralympic Games took place in Rome in 1960. There were 400 athletes from twenty-three countries, competing in nine events.
- Since 1960 the games have grown in size and importance. London 2012 welcomed 4,200 athletes from 164 countries to compete in twenty different sports.

Focus 3, U.2.4



## Environmental literacy

FOCUS covers many environmental issues, including:

- natural disasters i.e. *Focus 3, U.5,*
- problems of over-population and the solutions,
- vertical farming i.e. *Focus 3, U.5,*
- how to make a school more eco-friendly i.e. *Focus 3, U.5,*
- deforestation in the Amazon forest i.e. *Focus 3, U.5.*

**LIVING WITH NATURAL DISASTERS**

What's the most dangerous thing about the place where you live? Have you ever experienced a drought, a hurricane or an earthquake? Do you live near an active volcano? Does your local river flood regularly or do you live on the coast in a tsunami zone? Probably not, but some people are not so lucky. Four people tell us what it's like to live in a place where natural disasters have happened before and will probably happen again.

**FLOODS**

1 I live in Zhengzhou on the **banks** of the Yellow River. The river **floods** for 5,464 kilometres from the **glaciers** of Tibet, across 10 northern and central China and along the **foothills** of the Himalayas. 400 million people live in the river **valley**, but the Yellow River is dangerous because it **floods** a lot. The worst flood was in 1931 – four million 11 people died. Our government is building twenty-six dams to control the river and **reduce** the risks, but I'm still worried that it will **hazard** its banks and flood my city.

Ying, 16

**EARTHQUAKES**

1 I live in the wonderful city of San Francisco. 20 It's **located** on a **peninsula**, so the city is surrounded by water. We get small earthquakes all the time, but scientists think a major earthquake will **strike** in the next thirty years. 100 years ago, there was 21 a major earthquake in San Francisco – it killed 3,000 people and **destroyed** eighty percent of the city.

Robert, 18

Focus 3, U.5.1

**The world's growing problem**

For the first time in history, more people live in cities than in the countryside. Across the globe there are 27 megacities – cities with more than 10 million inhabitants – and by 2025 the United Nations predicts the total will be 36. Megacities are more common in Asia, particularly in India and China. The **biggest** megacity is still Tokyo, with a population of 34,500,000.

A famous scientist said recently that there's a **growing problem** in the world, and the **problem** is people – there are just too many of us! Because of economic growth, food has improved, health care has improved and **people** are living longer. During the twentieth century, the population of the **world** grew from 1.65 billion to 6 billion. Today it is 7 billion and by 2050 it is predicted to reach 9.2 billion.

Focus 3, U.5.2

## Financial and economic literacy

FOCUS covers topics such us:

- jobs and qualifications i.e. *Focus 2, U.6.3,*
- work experience i.e. *Focus 2, U.6.6,*
- Fairtrade i.e. *Focus 2, U.7.2.*

**WHAT MAKES YOU HAPPY IN YOUR JOB?**

What is the happiest job in the world? We want to find out what makes people happy in their work. Is it a big salary? A nice office? Or is it more than that? We asked six people in different jobs what they like and what they don't like about their jobs.

**Leona**

**a hairdresser**

- works **long hours**
- he can **hear** feet all day
- is **helly** paid
- makes people happy

**Anna**

**a nurse**

- works **long hours**
- does **stuffs**
- helps people
- works in a team
- doesn't earn much

Focus 2, U.1.1.

**UK TODAY**

Did you know that nearly all fifteen- or sixteen-year-old students in the UK do work experience before they leave school?

**What is work experience?**

- 1–3 weeks off school working full-time for a local employer.

**What are the benefits of work experience?**

- It teaches useful work skills.
- It makes you think about possible careers.
- It develops self-confidence and communication skills.

Focus 2, U.1.2

## Global citizenship

FOCUS teaches students to be global citizens by introducing topics like:

- TOMS shoes that support children in the world without shoes i.e. *Focus 2, U.7.5,*
- how to be a good citizen! i.e. *Focus 3, U.6.*

Do you have **too many pairs** of shoes? **How many pairs** do you need? Most people have **a few pairs** of trainers, some smart shoes, a pair of boots and **some sandals**. But can you imagine living without **any shoes** at all?

Blake Mycoskie was shocked when he found out that **a lot of children** around the world were growing up without **any shoes**. So he set up a company called Shoes for Tomorrow (TOMS). Every time he sells a pair, he gives a pair of new shoes to a child in need. He doesn't have to do **much advertising** – when people hear about TOMS, they tell one another. Over the years, he's given **lots of shoes** to people in need – more than a million, in fact. TOMS has become the One for One™ company who give eyewear as well as shoes to people around the world. With a **little imagination** and a **lot of hard work**, Mycoskie has transformed the lives of a lot of people.

Focus 2, U.7.5

**PRINCE JAMES SCHOOL**

home teachers **students** parents

**THREE EASY WAYS TO BE A GOOD CITIZEN!**

**1**

**Help younger pupils with school subjects.**

Are you good at a particular subject? Are you patient? Younger pupils need your help.

**2**

**Help the elderly in your community.**

Elderly people are often lonely. Promise to call on an elderly person two or three times a week.

**3**

**Raise money for charity.**

Organise a sale: second-hand clothes, cakes or books.

Focus 3, U.8.6