

2.1 Whole Book Activities

Finding your way around the textbook

Focus: *Getting to know the textbook BEFORE starting the subject class.*

Work with a partner. You need one copy of a textbook you are going to use in class (for example, Geography). With a partner discuss possible answers to the questions below.

Name of textbook: _____ Subject: _____

- What is on the front cover?
- Do you like it?
- Why do you think this cover was chosen?
- Did you have a (geography) book before? If yes, describe the cover to your partner.
- Is the book packed with words, or are there photographs and diagrams?
- How many pages are in the book?
- Can you find the list of contents?
- How many chapters are in the book?
- Is there a glossary (list of difficult words with their meanings) at the end of the book?
- Sometimes chapters are organized to help you. Pick one chapter - is there a summary at the beginning of the chapter?
- Is there a summary at the end of the chapter?
- Go through the chapter to see if you can find any of these headings:

Rapid Revision

Checklist

Activities

Exercises

Revision Questions

Top Tip

Memory Tip

Know Your Definitions

- The back of the book sometimes has a short description of the book (a blurb). Does the book have a blurb?
- If the answer is yes, what does the blurb tell you about who the book is for?
- What does the blurb tell you about who wrote the book?
- Do you think you will enjoy using this book?