

ENGLISH

Improving library skills

It is not necessary to carry out all the activities contained in this unit. Please see *Teachers' Notes* for explanations, additional activities, and tips and suggestions.

Theme	Improving library skills	
All students: Activities that are suitable for Learning Support, Language Support and the Mainstream Subject Class include:	Keywords	3
	Vocabulary File	4-6
	Activating Students' Existing Knowledge	7
	Completing Sentences	13
	Multiple Choice	14
	Writing	15-16
	Wordsearch	20
Learning support and Language support: Activities suitable for students receiving Learning or Language Support include:	Working with words	8
	Picture Sentences	9
	Odd One Out	10
	English Keywords	11
	Unscramble the letters	12
	Alphaboxes	19
	Play Snap	21-25
Language support: Additional activities for Language Support:	Grammar points	17-18
Levels for Language Support	A1 – B1 The language level of each activity is indicated in an information box.	
Learning focus	Using textbooks and accessing content and learning activities of the English curriculum.	
Acknowledgement	The <i>English Language Support Programme</i> acknowledges the permission of Gill and Macmillan to reproduce excerpts from <i>Exam Start Ordinary Level Junior Cert English</i> by Frances Rocks.	

Note: The categorisation of activities is indicative only and should not prevent teachers from using any activities that are considered suitable for a particular group of students.

Making the best use of these units

Learning Record

A copy of the Learning Record should be distributed to each learning support and language support student.

Students should:

1. Write the subject and topic on the record.
2. Tick off/date the different statements as they complete activities.
3. Keep the record in their files along with the work produced for this unit.
4. Use this material to support mainstream subject learning.

Introduction of a topic or activity should ensure that students understand **what** they are doing and **why**. Many students will have some difficulty in understanding both the language in the activity and the instructions/purpose for carrying out the activity.

You can create your **personal teaching resource** by printing these units in full and filing them by subject in a large ring binder.

Encourage students to:

- Bring the relevant **subject textbooks** to learning/language support class. It does not matter if they have different textbooks as the activities in these units refer to vocabulary and other items that will be found in all subject textbooks. These units are based on curriculum materials.
- Take some **responsibility for their own learning** programmes by:



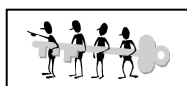
Developing a **personal dictionary** for different subjects, topics, and other categories of language, on an on-going basis. This prompt is a reminder.



Recording what they have learnt on the **Learning Record**, which should be distributed at the start of each unit.



Keeping their own **files** with good examples of the work produced for different subjects and topics. This file will be an invaluable **learning resource** in supporting mainstream learning.



Indicates that answers may be found at the end of the unit.

Don't forget that many of the activities in these units are also suitable as **homework** tasks or for **self-study**.

Keywords

The list of keywords for this unit is as follows:

Nouns

book
borrowers
catalogue
CDs/CD-ROMs
children
collection
community
compact disk (CD)
computers
computer access
content
council
debate
desk
DVDs
events
fiction
group
hype
idea
index
information
Internet
library
librarian
media
meeting
movie

page
public
public library
publisher
readers
reader's card
reference
repository
resource
school library
services
shelf/shelves
silence
stack
start
table
titles
visit (noun)
volumes
words
works
young readers

Verbs

to access
to answer
to begin
to borrow
to bring back

to catalogue
to classify
to explore
to find
to help
to identify
to improve
to order
to read
to return
to search
to sit down
to take out
to visit

Adjectives

borrowed
common
essential
fictional
lost
overdue
personal
proper
public
silent

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Vocabulary file 1

Word	Meaning	Note or example*
to borrow		
catalogue		
collection		
compact disk		
content		
index		
idea		



Get your teacher to check this, then file it in your folder so you can use it in the future.

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Vocabulary file 2

Word	Meaning	Note or example
media		
library		
librarian		
public		
reference		
resource		
services		



Get your teacher to check this, then file it in your folder so you can use it in the future.

Vocabulary file 3

Word	Meaning	Note or example
to access		
to answer		
to return (a book)		
to find		
to search		
essential		
fictional		



Get your teacher to check this, then file it in your folder so you can use it in the future.

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Language Level: all
Type of activity: whole class
Suggested time: 10 minutes

Activating students' existing knowledge

Use a spidergram to activate students' ideas and knowledge on the key points in this chapter. See **Teachers' Notes** for suggestions.

Possible key terms for the spidergram:

A library

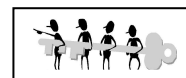
Research

- Invite newcomer students to provide key words in their own languages.
- Encourage dictionary use.
- Encourage all students to organise their vocabulary into relevant categories (e.g. meaning, nouns, keywords, verbs etc.).



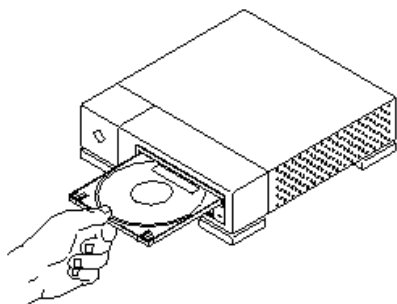
All students should record vocabulary and terms from the spidergram in their personal dictionaries.

Language Level: A1
Type of activity: pairs or individual
Suggested time: 30 minutes

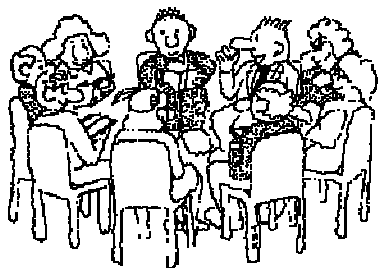


Working with words

1. Tick the correct answer



- a) a borrower
- b) a CD or a DVD
- c) a catalogue
- d) a council



- a) a book
- b) a meeting
- c) a computer
- d) a shelf

2. Find these words in your textbook.

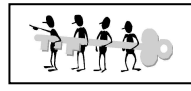
Write your own explanation for these words. Then write the word in your own language. Use your dictionary if necessary.

Word	Page in textbook	Explanation	Note or example
book			
borrowers			
librarian			
volumes			



Check that these key words are in your personal dictionary.

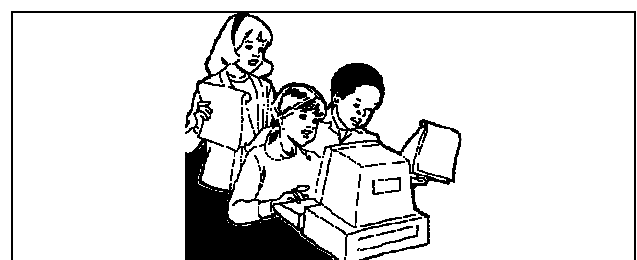
Language Level: A1
Type of activity: pairs or individual
Suggested time: 30 minutes



Picture Sentences

1. Tick the correct answer

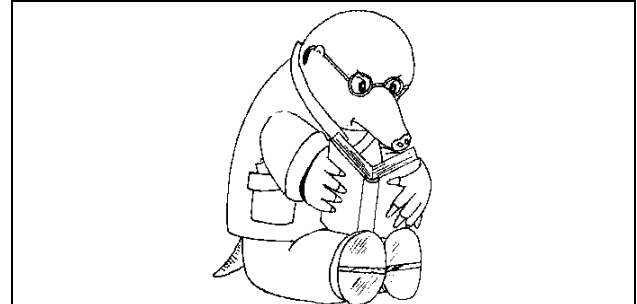
- a) This is a reader's card.
- b) This is using the internet.
- c) This is a shopping bag.



- a) This is a library.
- b) This is a speaker.
- c) This is a page.



- a) This is a desk.
- b) This is a table.
- c) This is a reader.



2. Put these words in the correct order to form sentences.

library your visit!

have any about you books cookery?

love I reading fiction crime

Language Level: A1 / A2
Type of activity: pairs or individual
Suggested time: 20 minutes



Odd One Out

1. Circle the word which does not fit with the other words in each line.

Example: *apple orange banana taxi*

titles alphabetical cat books

write exercise rewriting bird

car consider remember imagine

pay computer visit library

2. Find these words in your textbook. Then put them in short sentences in your own words. Use a dictionary if necessary.

to borrow _____

to order _____

catalogue _____

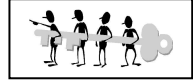
to classify _____

reference book _____



Check that these key words are in your personal dictionary.

Language Level: A2 / B1
Type of activity: individual
Suggested time: 20 minutes



English Keywords

1. Fill in the missing letters of the keywords listed below.
On the line beside each word, write whether the word is a noun, an adjective or a verb.

alp__betic_l _____

r_me__er _____

cons__er _____

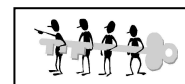
lib__ry _____

2. Write as many words as possible related to **libraries**. You have 3 minutes!

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Language Level: A2 / B1
Type of activity: pairs or individual
Suggested time: 30 minutes



Completing text

1. Fill in the blanks in these sentences. Use words from the Word Box below.

In a library every book is classified and _____ so that it is easy to find. For example, 000-099 is General works, reference, _____, English dictionaries. 500-599 is Science (maths, botany, astronomy, computers, _____, geology, chemistry, zoology). 900-999 is History. Geography, travel, biography, history of every continent in different sections, travel books from all over the world, lives of _____ people.

Word Box

biology encyclopaedia numbered famous

2. There are many public libraries in Ireland. They provide books and computers. What other services are provided in public libraries? Look at these words and circle the things that you will find in a library.

books	cats	internet	tables	groups
computers	lunch	catalogues	clouds	MP3s
mountains	forms	chairs	beds	websites
snow	soldiers	DVDs	languages	cars
information	houses	ships	music	newspapers



Have you visited your public library? You could get a **reader's card**.

Language Level: A2/B1
Type of activity: individual
Suggested time: 20 minutes



Multiple choice

Read the text below and choose the best answers

Fiction

In the world of fiction things happen just like events in the real world. There are good characters and bad characters, they fight and argue, fall in love, rob and steal, build new communities.

The events are arranged into a plot. This is the order of events in the story. The events are arranged so that the reader will become interested, particularly in the people in the story, as well as what happens next. The people in the story are called characters. The reader wants to know why a character behaved in a certain way, because the reader has become involved in the life of the character of the story.

The people are put into a setting. This is where and when the story takes place, the world of the story.

In the real world we don't have control over everything that happens to us. In fiction, the writer has control, so problems can be sorted out, with either a happy or an unhappy ending. This is the conclusion of the piece of fiction.

1. When we talk about fiction, how do we refer to the people?

- | | |
|------------|---------------|
| a) writers | b) characters |
| c) actors | d) robbers |

2. What do we call the order of events in the story?

- | | |
|--------------|-----------------|
| a) the film | b) the interest |
| c) the novel | d) the plot |

3. What is the world of the story called?

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| a) the setting | b) the plot |
| c) the film | d) the real world |

4. Does all fiction have a happy ending?

- | | |
|--------|-------|
| a) Yes | b) No |
|--------|-------|

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Language Level: A2 / B1
Type of activity: pairs
Suggested time: 40 minutes

Writing

You are going to write instructions for a friend who is visiting the local public library for the first time. You must explain:

- The purpose of the library
- What you can find when you go into the library
- How to find a particular book
- How to borrow a book
- Returning a book

You should try to use all these words in your instructions:

resource	community	collection	silence
shelves	catalogue	readers	librarian
overdue			

Plan your instructions. Make notes here.

Purpose:

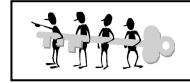
What you will find there:

Finding a book:

Borrowing:

Returning:

Language Level: all
Type of activity: pair and individual
Suggested time: 20-30 minutes

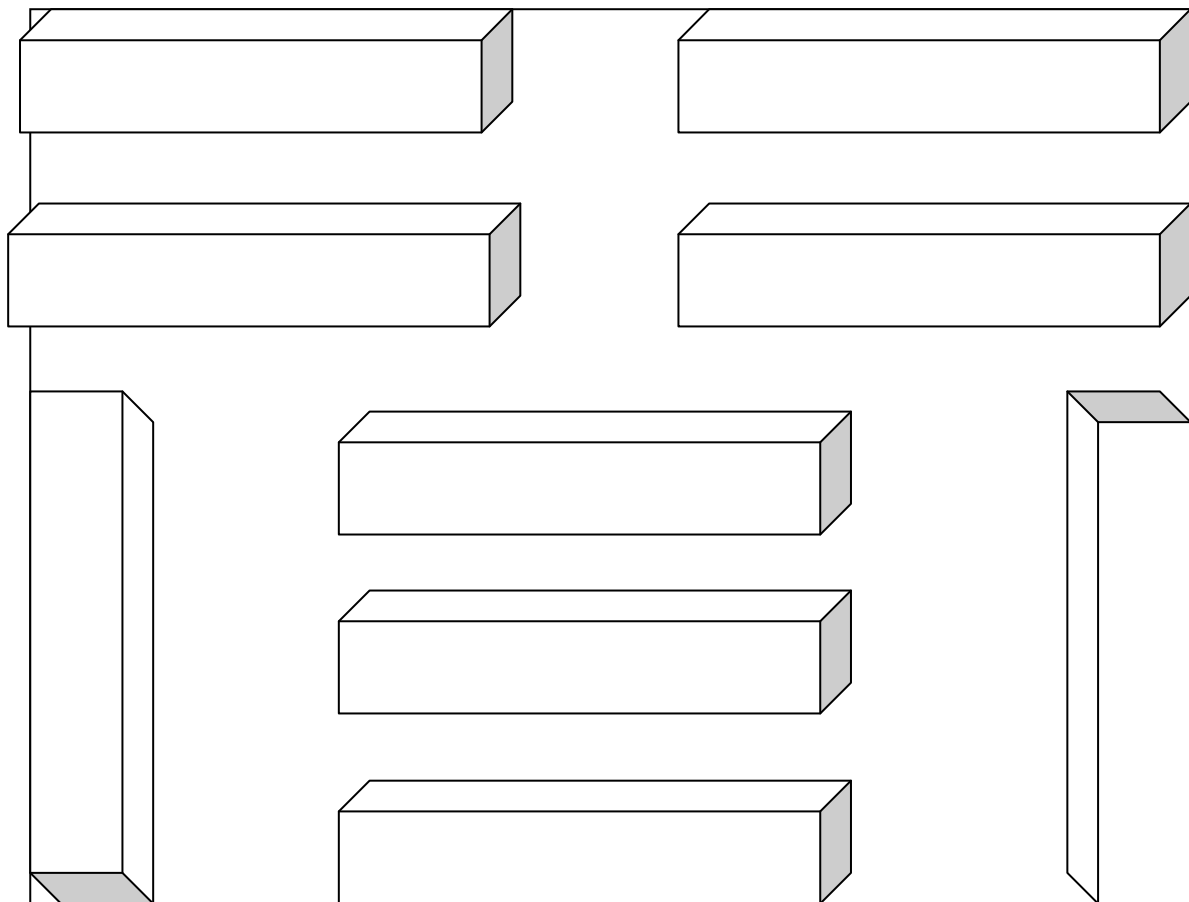


Vocabulary

Books in libraries are divided into different sections. They are usually organised either by the type of book (for example, *dictionaries*) or by the topic (for example, *History*).

This is a public library. People use this library to find many different types of books. Label the bookshelves to show what books may be found there.

Think about all the different things that people like to do - hobbies, study, interests and so on.



Alphaboxes

Using your textbook, find **one** word beginning with each of the letters of the alphabet. Write the word in the relevant box. You could also write the word in your own language.

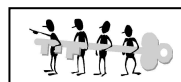
a	b	c
d	e	f
g	h	i
j	k	l
m	n	o
p	q	r
s	t	u
v	w	xyz

Do you understand all these words?



Get your teacher to check this, then file it in your folder so you can use it in the future.

Word Search



Find the words below.

O P
 X D
 L I Q T
 D X W L
 T I T L E S
 G J A S G F
 V I S I T P U B L I C L I B R A R Y S I
 R E S O U R C E W P U B L I S H E R I F
 B F S C H O O L L I B R A R Y U K Q
 V S U H W P O E I N T E R N E T
 M M S E R V I C E S B U A H
 S T A C K E W H Y E F Y
 M S C J L F W M E D I A A J
 U L V Y S T L F Q J E W R V
 E S H E L V E S I L E N C E Z R
 Q Y G P M T F R E A D E R S
 D W G V V J J P Y C W E W Q
 D G F I W P A G E B
 A E Z D B K P I
 Q E W X

INTERNET	SCHOOL LIBRARY	VOLUMES
MEDIA	SERVICES	
PAGE	SHELVES	
PUBLIC LIBRARY	SILENCE	
PUBLISHER	STACK	
READERS	TITLES	
RESOURCE	VISIT	

Play Snap

Make Snap cards with 2 sets of the same keywords. See *Notes for teachers* for ideas about how to use the cards.



borrower	borrower
catalogue	catalogue
collection	collection

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computers	computers
fiction	fiction
index	index

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library	library
librarian	librarian
media	media

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reader	reader
reference	reference
shelf	shelf

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

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silence

silence

volume

volume

information

information

events

events

Answer key

Working with words, page 8

1. b, b

Picture Sentences, page 9

1. b, a, c.

2. Visit your library!

Have you any books about cookery?

I love reading crime fiction.

Odd one out, page 10

Cat, bird, car, pay

English keywords, page 11

alphabetical, adjective, remember, verb, consumer, noun, library, noun

Unscramble the letters, page 12

Library, fiction, rewriting, find out

Secret code: the library is fun!

Completing text, page 13

In a library every book is classified and **numbered** so that it is easy to find. For example, 000-099 is *General works, reference, encyclopaedia, English dictionaries*. 500-599 is *Science (maths, botany, astronomy, computers, biology, geology, chemistry, zoology)*. 900-999 is *History. Geography, travel, biography, history of every continent in different sections, travel books from all over the world, lives of famous people*.

Things you will find in a library: books, internet, tables, groups, computers, catalogues, MP3s, forms, chairs, websites, DVDs, languages, information, music, newspapers

Multiple choice, page 14

1b, 2d, 3a, 4b.

Vocabulary, page 17

Possible answers include:

Fiction

Art

History

Travel

Novels

Cooking

Gardening

Sports

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Crafts Photography Woodwork Geography
Film/Movies Biography Computers Literature
Foreign language Music

Word Building, page 18

Action (verb)	Person (noun)
to write	writer
to read	reader
to explore	explorer
to borrow	borrower
to collect	collector
to publish	publisher
to visit (be careful with spelling!)	visitor

- We find many **shelves** in a library.
- **Silence** is important in a library so that people can read.
- If you can't find the book you want, you should look in the **catalogue**.
- You can get internet **access** in the public library.
- Sometimes a long book may be in several **volumes**.
- Different community **groups** use the library for their meetings.

Word Search, page
20

O P
X D
L I Q T
D X W L
T I T L E S
G J A S G F
V I S I T P U B L I C L I B R A R Y S I
R E S O U R C E W P U B L I S H E R I F
B F S C H O O L L I B R A R Y U K Q
V S U H W P O E I N T E R N E T
M M S E R V I C E S B U A H
S T A C K E W H Y E F Y
M S C J L F W M E D I A A J
U L V Y S T L F Q J E W R V
E S H E L V E S I L E N C E Z R
Q Y G P M T F R E A D E R S
D W G V V J J P Y C W E W Q
D G F I W P A G E B
A E Z D B K P I
Q E W X