

Oxford University Press Step Forward Student Books, Second Edition Series, Levels 2, 3, 4, 5

Overview

Resource Type	Subject(s)	NRS Level(s)
Print	ESL, Reading, Writing, Grammar	ESL 2 - 6

Publisher and Website

Oxford University Publishing: [Step Forward Teacher's Site](#)

New Readers Press: [NRP Step Forward](#)

Summary

General Information

Step Forward, Second Edition print resources are standards-based (ELPS and CCRS) workbooks for English language learners. The books come in six different levels with multiple types of literacy activities included in each unit. Units offer a consistent pattern of activities that offer contextualized lessons to support workplace, career, and civic goals. The student books provide instructional and practice opportunities.

Levels 2 through 6 are included as PA approved supplemental distance learning resources. The Introduction and Level 1 resources are not on the approved list because their content is for an audience of learners who do not yet have the literacy skills needed to engage with the resources independently, as required for supplemental distance learning.

Organizational Format

Each level's student book is divided into units. The theme of each unit addresses a typical workplace, career, or civic environment, while individual lessons on vocabulary, grammar, reading and writing, listening and speaking, critical thinking, and collaboration provide the units' consistent structure. Images, graphs, charts, and tables are used

Organizational Format

extensively throughout the lessons to provide students with context, aid in their understanding of the concepts, and develop higher-order thinking skills. Required audio files are accessible via CDs or MP3 downloads.

Lesson Overview

All lessons are broken into small activities that build a learner's listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills, while the context of the activities enables learners to increase their sociolinguistic, discourse, and strategic competence. Practice opportunities are embedded in each of the lesson activities and a team work and language review section is at the end of each unit in order to tie all of the activities together. Because the lessons were originally written for an in-person classroom, each lesson contains multiple partner activities. As a result, instructors should encourage learners to complete those activities with a partner whenever possible even though they will be using the books independently.

The use of color, graphics, different size fonts, and spacing make the lessons visually appealing, while the use of authentic texts enables learners to engage with materials they would likely see outside of the classroom. As learners advance through the materials, Step Forward introduces them to various reading/listening strategies, while it also presents targeted grammar forms both implicitly and explicitly.

Question/Answer Format

Varied question/answer formats are used widely throughout the Step Forward resources. Matching, fill-in the blank, true/false, multiple choice, short answers/writing responses, as well as verbal responses are all used. Two different placement tests are provided to aid in determining the initial literacy level of a student. These placement tests consist of all multiple choice questions.

Standards Alignment

The Step Forward resources are aligned to the English Language Proficiency Standards, College and Career Readiness Standards, and CASAS Competencies. Alignment of each level's resources to these standards/competencies are provided on the websites of Oxford University Press and New Readers Press.

Other Resources

Online resource centers exist for both the instructor and the student. The student resource center includes audio files at each literacy level, links to follow Step Forward via various social media platforms, and access to the Oxford English Vocabulary Training App, which helps build vocabulary skills.

The teacher site and resource center offer extensive resources to the instructor, including an outline of each level's resources/activities, individual lesson plans,

Other Resources

downloadable files for additional practice opportunities, and additional tests, classroom audio files, instructional tips, tools, and templates. A classroom presentation tool can be purchased separately, and includes the lesson material at each unit and level so that the instructor may project all student book materials on a screen, making it easier for the students to follow along in a real-time teaching environment.

Accessibility Features

Online platforms may include different accessibility features to aid learners. To learn more about these features contact the publisher's sales representative or customer support. Some platforms may offer a document titled a Voluntary Product Accessibility Template to delineate the features offered. Information that may help you understand a VPAT is available in our [informational document](#).