

Future: English for Results 2

Review by Rick Nelson

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Future: English for Results 2. Sarah Lynn and Wendy Pratt Long. 2010. White Plains, NY: Pearson Education. ISBN 13: 978-0-13199148-4; ISBN 10: 0-13-199148-5. 314 pp. \$24.67.

Future: English for Results 2 Teacher's Edition and Lesson Planner. Julie C. Rouse. 2010. White Plains, NY: Pearson Education. ISBN 13: 978-0-13199148-4; ISBN 10: 0-13-199148-5. \$36.67.

As described in the “To the Teacher” section at the beginning of the book, *Future: English for Results 2* is part of “a six-level, four-skills course for adults and young adults correlated to state and national standards. It incorporates researched-based teaching strategies, corpus-informed language, and the best of modern technology.” *Level 2* is identified as “High Beginning,” for students with CASAS scale scores between 191 and 200.

The body of the text consists of a pre-unit and 12 units, each identified with a life-skills theme, such as “At Home,” “Health Watch,” “Job Hunting,” and “Parents and Children.”

Each unit typically presents nine lessons that offer a consistently-repeated series of language-skill points: Vocabulary, Listening and speaking (about the unit theme), Grammar, Reading, and Life Skills, Numeracy (focusing on the use of numbers in daily life) and Persistence (focusing on keeping students engaged in encouraging study activities, even when they cannot attend every class). Some skills, particularly listening and speaking and grammar, are sometimes presented as lessons more than once in each unit. Each lesson appears as a two-page spread. At the front of the book, a chart identifies the activities and exercises that support each of the skills. At the beginning each chapter, students can find an explicit list of goals for the lesson, such as “Talk about your life and family,” and “Complete a customs form” (Unit 2), and “Ask a co-worker to cover your hours” and “Complete a vacation request form” (Unit 12).

In terms of graphics, typography, and eye appeal, the book and each of its pages are beautiful, attractive, and efficient, with a well-considered variety of photographs, illustrations, charts, and text. Each page is easy to read with a good balance of text, graphics, and white space to attract users.

A CD accompanies the text, with numerous listening exercises marked by icons in each chapter.

The spiral-bound *Teacher's Edition and Lesson Planner* offers the teacher a view of each page of the student book, with a facing page offering useful presentation suggestions and watch points.

This text seems most suited for courses that take a broad view of English language study and for courses that wish to present language skills with a “a little bit of everything” approach.

This text may be less well suited for courses that focus narrowly or exclusively on one specific skill, such as grammar or reading.

With good background scholarship, an attractive appearance, good peripheral support and a reasonable price, *Future: English for Results 2* deserves careful consideration.

About the Reviewer

Rick Nelson teaches ESL and TESOL courses at Brigham Young University–Hawaii. He holds a Master's degree from the University of Hawaii. His interests include devising simple explanations for complex grammar points.