

Collaborate

TEACHER'S BOOK

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A1+ – A2

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Welcome to *Collaborate*

Welcome to *Collaborate*, an exciting new **four-level secondary course** which combines stimulating, real-world materials with a wide range of collaborative learning activities. It has been carefully designed to help bring your classes to life and maximise your students' opportunities for successful language learning. This introduction to the **Teacher's Book** outlines the methodology and key features of the course, while the pages that follow are full of **practical teaching tips** and suggestions for **additional activities**. We encourage you to familiarise yourself with its content and hope that it will be a useful resource as you guide your students through the year.

As any secondary school teacher will know, teaching secondary age students can be fulfilling and frustrating in equal measures. On the one hand, they are eager to engage with the world at a grown-up level and can often bring a lot of energy and ideas to a class. At the same time, their interests and concerns frequently seem to lie anywhere but within in the classroom walls, and they are going through a challenging period of life which can often make them self-conscious and difficult to engage. Nevertheless, we believe that with the right materials and the right approach, English teachers can successfully tap their students' natural curiosity and willingness to grow, helping them not only to **become better speakers of the language** and to have a greater awareness of the world around them, but also to **take ownership of their learning** and become more active participants in the learning process itself.

Exciting, teen-friendly content

Collaborate includes a wide variety of engaging materials. The core **reading** and **listening** texts have been carefully chosen for their topicality and interest to secondary students. They introduce students to inspiring young individuals, fascinating customs from across the globe, unusual lifestyles, cutting-edge technological developments and exciting artistic, sporting and cultural trends. A strong emphasis is placed both on global culture, especially in the ***Around the World*** pages, and on cross-curricular study, most notably in the ***CLIL (Content and Language Integrated Learning)*** Project pages, ensuring that students enjoy learning about the world through English, rather than simply learning English for its own sake. Each unit of the course also includes short **documentary-style video clips** that tie in with the main texts and bring the outside world into the classroom in an exciting and visual way.

The reading and listening texts also represent a **broad range of genres**, from blog posts and travel guides to quiz shows and interviews, guaranteeing that all content has a real-world context, thereby helping to prepare learners for exposure to English outside of the classroom. At the same time, the

accompanying exercises have been designed to stimulate maximum engagement with these texts, not only in terms of comprehension but also in terms of reaction and response. The ***Voice it!*** feature ensures that students are regularly given the opportunity to express their opinion regarding what they have learned and to make connections with their own lives, and we encourage you to make them a core part of your lessons.

Real English for real speaking and writing

The English in *Collaborate* has been carefully tailored to the needs of secondary students, not only in terms of the key grammar and vocabulary that needs to be covered at each level, but also in terms of relevance to the age and interests of the students themselves. We believe that this English is the English your students will want to learn. It is informed by the latest research and data from both the **Cambridge English Corpus** and the **Cambridge Learner Corpus** and draws on our **English Vocabulary and Grammar Profiles** to ensure that the most frequent and useful language is covered and to help learners improve their accuracy. The ***Use it!*** feature gives students ample opportunity for practising and personalising both new grammar and new vocabulary. The ***Get it Right!*** features highlight common errors, while the ***Grammar in Action*** and ***Everyday English*** videos enable students to hear new language in context, thus facilitating understanding in a fun, dynamic way.

Strong, structured support is given for both **speaking** and **writing**. Students are always provided with a **clear model** and are guided through a **step-by-step approach** to ensure they produce language which is appropriate both in terms of function, in the case of speaking, and genre, in the case of writing. Recordings of the model speaking dialogues allow students to hear naturalistic conversation before attempting their own, while *Useful language* for both speaking and writing tasks is clearly laid out on the page, with students guided to include **key phrases** in their dialogues and texts. Students are also asked to respond to each other's speaking and writing as listeners and readers, thereby guaranteeing that the language they produce has a **genuine audience**.

Dynamic activities for the classroom and beyond

In *Collaborate*, emphasis has been placed not only on what students learn but also on *how* they learn. To that end, each unit includes a range of exercises and activities that encourage students to apply a range of cognitive skills, use a variety of media, develop a range of study skills, and collaborate with their peers. The *Explore it!* feature and the *Mini Projects* encourage students to find out more about particular topics and share it with their classmates. The *Projects* encourage them to make connections between what they are learning in class and what they are learning in other subjects at school, while at the same time giving them the opportunity to develop a range of **real-world skills** such as presentation skills, task-sharing, negotiation and time-management. The *Learn to Learn* features focus on key reading and listening skills and raise students' awareness of vocabulary building, making them better readers and listeners and enabling them to increase their vocabulary in methodical ways, while the *Learn to Learn* study skills sections focus on a range of strategies for effective learning which can be used both in the English class and beyond.

Collaborate recognises that teachers must regularly work with classes of students who progress at varying speeds. With this in mind, each unit has a number of puzzle-style *Finished?* activities for fast finishers. These are not only a fun way for your students to further practise grammar and vocabulary from the unit, they will also make it easier for you to time-manage your lessons and ensure that every student is kept on track.

Clear, relevant and achievable goals

The course is intended to cover a full academic year, by the end of which students should be ready to progress to the next level. However, a year is a long time in the life of a student at this age, so it is essential that they are presented with **regular, frequent goals**, and that those goals are **clear, relevant and achievable**. This will help maintain motivation and contribute to the sense of ongoing personal success that is so important for effective learning. *Collaborate* addresses this in the following ways:

- **Learning Outcomes** are listed clearly on the first page of each unit. These let students know from the outset what they will be learning and what they will be expected to do.
- Each unit progresses clearly **from input to production**, allowing students to fully absorb and process new language before putting it into use. At the same time, each unit **recycles and reinforces language from previous units**, ensuring that students are kept aware of what they have already learned and are encouraged to apply it to new contexts.
- Units follow a **clear, common structure**, so that students know where they are at all times and can follow the progress of the syllabus, thus allowing them to take more control of their own learning. Odd-numbered units include the *Around the World* culture pages, while even-numbered units include the *Project* pages. The *Starter Unit* eases students into the course, while the *Review* pages allow students to consolidate what they have learned at regular intervals.
- **Clear headings** guide students to key content. **Clear instructions** clarify the procedure for exercises and activities. **Target language** is displayed in easy-to-identify tables and boxes, while a **Grammar reference** has been provided at the end of the Student's Book for quick, easy reference both in class and at home.

Putting it all to work

Teachers want the best for their students, but teachers are also busy people. With this in mind, we have aimed to create a course that not only provides **engaging, dynamic material** for students, but which also allows the teacher to make **the best use of class time possible**. The various features that have been outlined above have been included not only as individual items to support the learning of English, but also because they complement one another and allow both the teacher and student to approach language learning in a much more **holistic** manner. We encourage you to make them **key features** of your own lessons, and hope that you enjoy teaching from *Collaborate* as much as we enjoyed putting it together.