



Pearson

# Raising Skills: English - Getting Started

## Purpose of the course

Most of you will have started this course after completing the free Diagnostic Assessment as you want to improve your English Skills leading you onto a GCSE course or other English qualifications such as Functional Skills. The course aims to build your writing skills and develop your understanding of how language is used in fiction and non-fiction texts.

## Course Outline

As you study in your own time, the course can fit around the demands of life, work and family. The course takes 16 hours to complete and has been split into 6 units over 8 main blocks.

The 6 units are:

- Unit 1: Texts types
- Unit 2: Vocabulary
- Unit 3: Sentences
- Unit 4: Punctuation
- Unit 5: Grammar
- Unit 6: Reading texts

These 6 units have then been split up into 8 blocks. This is so that the course is more manageable around the demands of your life. We advise splitting your time into chunks based on these 8 blocks:

- 1-2 hours a week for 8 weeks. You will complete 1 block each week.
- Or 2-4 hours a week for 4 weeks. You will complete 2 blocks a week.

This is how the blocks will look:

Block 1: 'Introduction to texts session 1' (Unit 1)

Block 2: 'Introduction to texts session 2' (Unit 1)

Block 3: 'Vocabulary' (Unit 2)

Block 4: 'Sentences' (Unit 3)

Block 5: 'Punctuation' (Unit 4)

Block 6: 'Grammar' (Unit 5)

Block 7: 'Reading a Text' (Unit 6)

Block 8: 'Reading a Text: aim higher session' (Unit 6)

## How the folders are laid out

Each block of the course is split into its own folder. Each folder has a document called SOW (meaning scheme of work) that explains what activities to do, the order to do them in and how long is advised to spend on them. Make sure you read this first. Each SOW document will have the unit number and a document number in its title like this: U1\_01\_SOW.

The folder also includes a PowerPoint called PPT that will guide you through many of the activities and the SOW will indicate when to open this. Each PowerPoint will have the unit number and a document number in its title like this: U1\_02\_PPT.

The rest of the documents in the folder are the necessary worksheets to complete the activities, along with any additional booster resources. Again, the SOW will tell you the order to do these in. Each worksheet will have the unit number and a document number in its title like this: U1\_03\_Worksheet 1. The booster material will look like this: U1\_03d\_Booster 4. The answers to these worksheets can also be found in the folder.

**In the aim to pass sections of the worksheets you will not be expected to give yourself a mark, these are just used to give you an idea of the way your skills would be tested in an exam environment. The number of marks in an exam helps you understand how much to write as the number of marks usually goes up when you are expected to write a longer answer. The marks in an exam are also based on how well you include all the information you have been asked to write about as well as your overall spelling, punctuation, and grammar.**

Each unit is finished with a quiz and this can be found in the folder along with the answers. Each will have the unit number and a document number in its title like this: U1\_09\_ and will be followed by 'quiz' or 'quiz answers'.