SUCCESS WITH

ENGLISHCONNECT 1 AND 2

A GUIDE FOR LOCAL CHURCH LEADERS,
MISSION PRESIDENTS, AND SELF-RELIANCE COMMITTEES
SUCCESS WITH ENGLISH CONNECT
1 AND 2

A Guide for Local Church Leaders, Mission Presidents, and Self-Reliance Committees
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EnglishConnect is an optional program that helps individuals learn English and increase their faith in Jesus Christ. Learning basic English conversational skills can improve education and employment opportunities.

Currently stakes, wards, or missions can offer two basic English courses: EnglishConnect 1 and EnglishConnect 2. This guide will help you implement the EnglishConnect 1 and EnglishConnect 2 classes. Each class:

- Meets once a week for 90 minutes to learn and practice English conversation skills and gospel principles.
- Lasts 25 weeks.
- Includes a gospel principle from *My Foundation for Self-Reliance* or a gospel lesson taught by full-time missionaries.
- Has an instructor (not a facilitator).
- Requires learners to practice 10 hours each week.
- Requires learners to access the internet and mobile apps for out-of-class practice.
EnglishConnect offers different courses to address specific needs. The following table explains these courses.

<table>
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<th>BASIC</th>
<th>INTERMEDIATE</th>
<th>ADVANCED</th>
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<tr>
<td><em>EnglishConnect 1</em></td>
<td><em>EnglishConnect 2</em></td>
<td><em>EnglishConnect 3</em> (under development)</td>
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- **Objective:**
  Basic English conversation skills

- **Requirements:**
  Learners must:
  1. Be age 12 or older.
  2. Be literate in their native language.
  3. Know the Latin or Roman alphabet and phonics.
  4. Have internet access.
  5. Commit to practice 10 hours each week.

- **Curriculum:**
  - Common daily conversation topics

- **Who should attend?**
  - EnglishConnect 1 is for new to high-beginner learners.
  - EnglishConnect 2 is for high-beginner to low-intermediate learners. It builds on EnglishConnect 1.

*Note:* For those areas with limited or no internet access, stakes may choose to use the manual *Learn English Now. Learn English Now* includes both learner and instructor resources in one manual and covers the same material as *EnglishConnect 1* and *EnglishConnect 2* combined.

- **Objective:**
  Academic English preparation in listening, speaking, reading, and writing

- **Requirements:**
  Learners must achieve a qualifying score on the placement exam (available through online registration).

- **Curriculum:**
  A weekly gathering combined with online self-paced practice activities

- **Objective:**
  University-ready skills and administrative employment opportunities

- **Requirements:**
  Learners must achieve a qualifying score on the placement exam (available through online registration).

- **Curriculum:**
  University-level courses in life skills, English, and math

- Visit [byupathway.lds.org](http://byupathway.lds.org) for more information
ROLE OF LEADERS

STAKE PRESIDENTS AND SELF-RELIANCE COMMITTEES

Stake presidents may delegate the administration of EnglishConnect 1 and 2 classes to the stake self-reliance committee. These classes may be organized and administered like other self-reliance courses.

MISSION PRESIDENTS

Mission presidents may instruct missionaries to use EnglishConnect 1 and EnglishConnect 2 as a community service, finding tool, and fellowshipping opportunity. In areas where stakes or wards are providing EnglishConnect classes, missionaries may serve as assistant instructors. In areas where stakes or wards are not providing EnglishConnect classes, mission presidents may choose to assign a mission English specialist to supervise the implementation of EnglishConnect with English-speaking missionaries as instructors.

USING ENGLISHCONNECT IN MISSIONARY WORK

In areas of the world where there is an interest in learning English, EnglishConnect can become a significant part of a stake mission plan. These classes can:

- Increase finding and teaching opportunities for full-time missionaries.
- Strengthen relationships between missionaries and members.
- Help less-active members or those being taught by the missionaries become integrated into their ward or branch.
- Minimize the preparation time required for missionaries to organize and teach English classes.
- Improve the image of the Church in the community.
Missionaries, local mission leaders, and stake self-reliance committees should counsel together to make EnglishConnect classes a place where missionary work can happen simply and naturally.

IMPORTANT: Many countries require legal approval before English classes are taught. To see if your country has been approved to offer EnglishConnect classes, visit englishconnect.lds.org/leaders.
STEPS TO STARTING ENGLISHCONNECT 1 AND 2 CLASSES

6 TO 8 WEEKS PRIOR TO STARTING A CLASS

☐ Decide to offer EnglishConnect 1, EnglishConnect 2, or both.
☐ Identify and call instructors. A list of qualifications is on page 12. The number of instructors and assistant instructors depends on the classroom space and number of learners. NOTE: In some locations the number of interested participants will exceed the number of available classes. In these locations, the stake self-reliance committee should make a plan for selecting participants and responding to requests.
☐ Ensure instructors have completed the instructor training (see englishconnect.lds.org/training).
☐ Identify and invite individuals to participate. Ideally, each class would have at least 5 learners and no more than 30 learners.
☐ Order course materials at store.lds.org (manuals may take up to six weeks to arrive).
☐ Distribute instructor and learner manuals to the instructor.
☐ IMPORTANT: Minors (age 18 and under living at home) must have a signed parental consent form before attending class. Forms are available online at englishconnect.lds.org/materials. Print, distribute, and collect all signed parental consent forms and deliver them to the bishop/branch president.

AFTER THE FIRST CLASS

☐ Either the self-reliance specialist or instructor should register the group at srs.lds.org/register.
☐ Encourage learners to sign up for online resources at englishconnect.lds.org/learner.
THE LAST CLASS (25 WEEKS LATER)

• Print a certificate for each person that attended 60% of the classes. Certificates are available at englishconnect.lds.org/leaders. Please note that this is just a recognition of participation. EnglishConnect 1 and 2 are not certified courses and do not award university credits.

• Complete the End of Group Report at srs.lds.org/register by marking which learners in the group earned a certificate.
FOLLOW UP AND MONITOR CLASSES

Members of the stake self-reliance committee or assigned individuals should visit and observe the EnglishConnect classes. Any issues or concerns should be shared with the stake self-reliance specialist (or assigned individual).

Checklist for Follow-Up with Instructors (Specialist)

- Instructors have read and viewed all training resources.
- Instructors are doing a self-reflection after every lesson, and making adjustments accordingly, using the resources in the manual.
- Instructors are following up with learners on My English Practice Plan at the beginning of each class and encouraging 10 hours of practice each week, including practice with a speaking partner.
- Instructors have assigned a class president to oversee the inclusion of My Foundation for Self-Reliance or a gospel lesson taught by the full-time missionaries each week.
- IMPORTANT: Instructors have collected a signed parental consent form for each minor and have delivered the completed consent forms to the local bishop or branch president. Consent forms can be downloaded from englishconnect.lds.org/materials.
What if a New Learner Comes after the First Class?

- Welcome the learner to the class.
- If both EnglishConnect 1 and EnglishConnect 2 classes are available, determine which class the new learner should attend.
  - The instructor or assistant instructor can do this with a simple conversation with the learner at the beginning of class or during an activity (see Appendix A).
  - Monitor the new learner during the class to ensure he or she feels comfortable participating.
- An assistant instructor or classmate can work with the new learner to explain the course and review the material he or she has missed. Try to accommodate new learners’ needs as much as possible.

STAY UPDATED: VISIT THE ENGLISHCONNECT WEBSITE

Find updated information for leaders, instructors, and learners at englishconnect.lds.org.
WHICH ENGLISHCONNECT COURSE(S) SHOULD WE OFFER?

Stakes should offer EnglishConnect 1 and EnglishConnect 2 unless participants do not have internet access and moderate computer skills (can navigate the internet and use apps). In that case, the course manual Learn English Now is an option.

The Learn English Now course meets twice a week for 90 minutes each class. There are 16 modules, and both learners and instructors share the same manual. It typically takes 6–9 months to complete. Learn English Now requires more teacher preparation time and therefore should not be used by missions to teach English.

WHO SHOULD I CALL AS INSTRUCTORS AND ASSISTANT INSTRUCTORS?

EnglishConnect 1 and 2 require instructors and assistant instructors, depending on the number of learners in each class. Instructors and assistant instructors are volunteers called to this position or fluent English-speaking full-time missionaries. Because EnglishConnect learners can include minors, ecclesiastical leaders should interview each potential instructor or assistant instructor and review the individual’s membership record for annotations before issuing a calling. Also, instructors and assistant instructors should receive a copy of the EnglishConnect: Instructor Manual Addendum, which outlines instructor duties and prohibited conduct (see englishconnect.lds.org/materials).

WHAT QUALITIES MAKE A GOOD INSTRUCTOR?

- High level of English proficiency (especially in listening, speaking, and reading) and ability to communicate clearly
- Good English pronunciation
- Enthusiasm, excitement, and passion for teaching English
- Love for the learners and a strong desire to see them succeed
◦ Positive, optimistic attitude
◦ Patient, dependable, and teachable

Instructors do not need professional experience in teaching. Training resources are provided to help instructors be successful (see englishconnect.lds.org/training).

Assistant instructors should have the same qualities as an instructor, but they do not need the same level of English ability. If desired, assistant instructors can be trained to become instructors. Assistant instructors help instructors monitor pronunciation, demonstrate and model conversations and activities, and help learners with practice exercises. Assistant instructors do not need to prepare anything for lessons unless asked to do so by the instructor. During the lesson, assistant instructors lead small groups and work directly with learners.

HOW MANY INSTRUCTORS AND ASSISTANT INSTRUCTORS DO I NEED?

There should be at least one instructor for every 10 learners. It is strongly recommended that each class have at least two instructors. That way, they can team teach or cover for each other if one is away or sick. However, if finding individuals that meet the instructor qualifications is difficult, a good alternative is having one instructor and one or more assistant instructors. No class should have more than 40 learners, regardless of classroom size.

Classes may be held with fewer assistant instructors; however, the quality of the class members’ learning experiences will be greatly decreased. The EnglishConnect 1 and 2 courses focus heavily on learners’ participation. Thus, the more the learners can receive attention, feedback, and support from instructors and assistant instructors, the better their learning experiences will be.

Instructors are encouraged to meet regularly as necessary to counsel together, including sharing best practices, answering each other’s questions, and reviewing training materials.

IMPORTANT: EnglishConnect courses must follow the Church policy that at least two responsible adults should always be present during each class meeting. If there is only one
instructor, then an adult class member should be assigned to be present during each class. Classes should not be held if there are not at least two responsible adults present.

**HOW DO I ORDER COURSE MATERIALS?**

Note: Manuals may take up to six weeks to arrive.

*EnglishConnect 1* and *EnglishConnect 2* manuals can be ordered through Church Distribution Services ([store.lds.org](http://store.lds.org)). Units can order manuals for learners or tell learners to order them directly from Church Distribution Services. Copies can also be downloaded at [englishconnect.lds.org/materials](http://englishconnect.lds.org/materials).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MANUAL</th>
<th>ITEM NO.</th>
<th>COMMENTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>EnglishConnect 1 for Learners</em></td>
<td>14701</td>
<td>Additional languages may be available.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>EnglishConnect 1 for Instructors</em></td>
<td>14702</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>EnglishConnect 2 for Learners</em></td>
<td>14703</td>
<td>Additional languages may be available.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>EnglishConnect 2 for Instructors</em></td>
<td>14704</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>My Foundation for Self-Reliance</em></td>
<td>14067</td>
<td>Order one copy of <em>My Foundation for Self-Reliance</em> (in native language) and one copy of <em>My Foundation for Self-Reliance</em> (in English) for each member of the class (learners, instructors, and assistant instructors).</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Other Materials

For areas without internet access, an alternative to EnglishConnect 1 and EnglishConnect 2 is the manual Learn English Now. The Learn English Now manual covers the same content as EnglishConnect 1 and EnglishConnect 2 combined. It includes both learner and instructor resources. Order one manual (14699) for each learner and instructor. Also order copies of My Foundation for Self-Reliance as explained in the table above.

HOW DO I KNOW IF A LEARNER SHOULD TAKE ENGLISHCONNECT 1 OR 2?

You can use the short oral assessment in Appendix A (page 17) of this guide to determine if a learner should be placed in EnglishConnect 1 or EnglishConnect 2. If there is only one course being offered, learners can work with other learners to provide and receive support.

All learners are required to:

◦ Be age 12 or older.
◦ Be familiar with the Latin or Roman alphabet, including having a rough idea of the phonetic sounds made by each letter.
◦ Have at least a low level of literacy in their native language.
◦ Be willing to practice English 10 hours a week. This includes completing class activities and studying between classes using available resources.

WHAT RESOURCES CAN LEARNERS USE TO PRACTICE DURING THE WEEK?

Each week, learners should memorize the assigned vocabulary and sentence patterns included in the course manual and practice conversation with a speaking partner (local or distant friend, family member, or classmate). Daily English habits should include praying for the gift of tongues, reading the Book of Mormon, writing in a journal, and acting in faith to achieve weekly practice goals. Weekly practice activities could include reading conference talks in English, listening to the Book of Mormon and conference talks in English, or listening to and singing hymns in English.
All learners are encouraged to sign up for online language resources at englishconnect.lds.org/learner. Sign-up requires an LDS account. An LDS account can be obtained at LDSaccount.lds.org or by following the instructions at englishconnect.lds.org/learner.

HOW DO WE KNOW WE ARE BEING SUCCESSFUL?

The purpose of EnglishConnect is to help learners increase their spiritual and temporal self-reliance as they seek the Lord’s help to learn English. Learning English can also expand their educational and job opportunities. EnglishConnect courses are designed to help learners apply principles of the gospel as they work together to achieve their learning goals.

You will know you are being successful when instructors:
- Invite the Spirit through testimony, prayer, and expressions of love and encouragement.
- Dedicate 30 minutes of the class session to discussing a principle from My Foundation for Self-Reliance or a missionary lesson.
- Spend the majority of class time helping learners engage in interactive speaking practice activities.

You will know you are being successful when learners:
- Consistently attend, and actively participate in, the weekly class session.
- Teach one another, expressing faith and sharing testimony.
- Act in faith to study and practice English outside of class.
APPENDIX A: ORAL PROFICIENCY INTERVIEW FOR PLACEMENT IN ENGLISHCONNECT 1 AND 2 CLASSES

FOR THOSE ADMINISTERING THE ORAL INTERVIEW

This test is a brief interview that should take no more than five minutes and will help determine if a learner should be placed in EnglishConnect 1 or EnglishConnect 2. First, help the interviewee feel as comfortable as possible by establishing a friendly environment. Use the worksheet on the next page to conduct the interview and rate the interviewee’s responses.

INTERPRETING THE RESULTS OF THE ORAL INTERVIEW

Each item (2–5) should be rated on the following scale:
0 = cannot respond to the question at all
1 = has little or no ability to answer; responds with single words only
2 = can respond with memorized phrases and lots of errors
3 = makes a connected response with nonmemorized phrases, even though there may be many errors
3+ = makes a connected response with few errors

Total Score: 0–8 = EnglishConnect 1
Total Score: 9+ = EnglishConnect 2

If the learner gets mostly 1s, he or she should be placed in EnglishConnect 1. (This includes questions you did not ask because the learner could not answer two questions in a row.)

If a learner gets 2s or 3s on a combined total of at least four questions, he or she should be placed in EnglishConnect 2. If the learner can speak with connected responses with few errors on most or all of the questions, you might direct him or her to a different, higher-proficiency level course.
ORAL INTERVIEW

Help the interviewee feel as comfortable as possible by establishing a friendly environment.

1. Greet the interviewee and introduce yourself simply. For example: “Hi. My name is____. What’s your name?”

Ask him or her the questions listed in the table below. Ask the questions one by one in order. You do not need to ask all of the questions. Stop the interview when the learner is not able to respond to two questions in a row.

Name ___________________________

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<th>QUESTIONS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Tell me about yourself. What do you like to do? (If the learner does not understand this, you can try asking, “What are your hobbies?”)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Tell me about your family. Who is in your family?</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Where are you from? Tell me about your city.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>What did you do last weekend? (Past tense is harder, so only ask this question if the learner did well on all other questions.)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Total Score</td>
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