

ESL BASIC SKILLS CURRICULUM

GOALS:

The ESL Program of the Indochinese Self-Help Project is designed to meet the following goals:

1. To increase the knowledge and use of English language skills, which will be utilized in applying for and maintaining jobs within the community.
2. To increase the social conversational skills of each student focusing on pronunciation and correct grammatical usage of idiomatic expressions.
3. To provide the students with a working knowledge of basic consumer/environmental skills necessary for survival within the community.
4. To increase the student's knowledge of and experience with American cultural expectations and attitudes which will be achieved through:
 - 1) discussions 2) readings 3) films 4) guest speakers.
5. To incorporate within our information:
 - 1) discussion on the culture
 - 2) history and background of each individual
 - 3) difficulties involved in the adoption of another language and culture with respect to their own.

METHODS:

The methods by which these goals are met incorporate the interaction of the educational system, the staff, and the community at large. They are:

1. The program is developmental in structure. Each day and each week's materials are designed to build upon and be directly related to the previous day's/week's instruction. By this, we will establish a secure foundation of Conversational English that is geared towards career development.
2. The ESL Instructor will work closely with the Job Developer to develop a daily and weekly curriculum which will meet the needs of the specific

students and to find resources by which those needs may be met.

3. The bilingual staff will tutor students in areas where they are having difficulty learning. Tape recorders will be used in tutoring sessions, as well as in daily class drills.
4. We will draw directly upon the resource personnel of the community by requesting individuals to speak to the class on such related topics as: Educational Options for Adults, Skill Training Programs, Insurance, and Community Services for Children and their Families.

CONTENT:

The following is a list of topics that were covered over the course of the three months, employing various methods of teaching, including: class discussions, small group discussions, role playing, audio/visual materials, conversational drill, and guest speakers.

Expressions and use of time

Using the telephone

Money

Health maintenance

Insurance

Banking

Using maps

Home economics

American cultural mores

Job interviews

Housing

Food

Clothing

Libraries

Classified ads

Public transportation

Prejudice

Idiomatic expressions

Correct grammatical usage was taught as it applied to the days' lessons only - not as a separate subject.

EVALUATION:

Students completing ESL Basic Skills should be able to:

- Ask and answer questions related to daily living and other subjects familiar to the client.
- Understand simple statements and questions addressed to them within their limited language scope and be able to ask for clarification when necessary.
- Be understood by native speakers paying close attention after repetition and clarification, since errors in pronunciation and grammar will probably be frequent.
- Possess vocabulary adequate for daily living needs, but probably inadequate for complex situations or ideas.
- Read essential forms, numbers, labels, signs, and simple written survival information.
- Fill out essential forms and write name, address, phone number, and make emergency requests.