

## SURVIVAL ESL

Text: A New Start: A Functional Course in Basic Spoken English  
and Survival Literacy

### WEEK 1

#### I. Meeting People (Units 1-4)

##### A. Greeting

Hello.

Good morning (afternoon).

How are you?

Beginning of first and subsequent classes.

Reciprocal nature of greeting.

##### B. Leavetaking

Goodbye.

See you on (DAY).

See you at (TIME).

Vocab: tomorrow, (some) days of the week

End of first and subsequent classes.

Reciprocal nature of leavetaking.

Confirm arrangements for next class.

##### C. Introducing

###### 1. Oneself

I'm....

###### 2. Other people

This is....

Pleased to meet you.

First meeting and subsequent arrival of new students.

Establish awareness of others.

##### D. Giving name and spelling it

My name is....

Can you spell it, please?

Vocab: initial spelling of names

Literacy: NAME, FIRST, MIDDLE, LAST

#### II. Numbers (Units 5-10)

##### A. Responding to personal information questions

How many...?

What's your...?

Vocab: simple numbers (1-10), simple objects,  
telephone number, Soc. Sec. number

Fill out forms.

Literacy: NUMBER, TELEPHONE NUMBER, SOCIAL  
SECURITY NUMBER, 1-10

##### B. Simple instructions

- Pick...up.
- Put...down.
- Open....
- Close....
- Vocabulary of classroom instructions.
- C. Offering something
  - Do you want...?
  - Here you are.
  - Vocab: food, beverages
  - Distinction between 'please' and 'thank you'
- D. Counting
  - Vocab: 11-20, 30-100
  - Paying the fare - buses.
  - Paying in stores.
  - Literacy: 11-100, c, \$
- E. Calendar
  - Vocab: calendar - days and months
  - Literacy: DAY, SUNDAY, MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY, JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH, APRIL, MAY, JUNE, JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, DECEMBER
- F. Responding to personal information questions
  - What's your...?
  - Vocab: address, age
  - Fill out forms.
  - Literacy: NUMBER, STREET, CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE, AGE

## WEEK 2

### III. Requests and Instructions (Units 11-18)

- A. Restroom signs
  - Public signs
  - Literacy: RESTROOMS, MEN, WOMEN, HOT, COLD
- B. Simple instructions involving position
  - In/On
  - Vocab: furniture and rooms in a house, cooking utensils and ingredients
- C. Requesting change
  - Do you have...?
  - Currency
  - Literacy: PENNY, NICKEL, DIME, QUARTER, HALF DOLLAR, DOLLAR
- D. Making simple requests
  - Can I have...?
  - Vocab: fruits, vegetables
  - Borrowing - what can and cannot be borrowed
  - Literacy: ONIONS, APPLES, ORANGES, BANANAS, MELONS, CARROTS, MUSHROOMS, TOMATOES



- E. Review of greeting, requesting, thanking, leavetaking  
How much is it?  
Vocab: food  
Buying things in a fruit market.
- F. Simple directions  
Turn left/right.  
Go straight.  
Turn around.  
Vocab: common personal objects, street signs  
Introduction to physical activity as part of the learning process.  
Literacy: WALK, DON'T WALK, STOP, BUS STOP, TAXI, LEFT, RIGHT, NO LEFT TURN, NO RIGHT TURN
- G. Colors  
Vocab: main colors of clothing  
Buying articles - distinguishing by color and size.  
Coloring object and pictures, to increase manual dexterity, if necessary.  
Literacy: COAT, DRESS, SWEATER, BLOUSE, SKIRT, SHOES, SHIRT, SLACKS, JACKET
- H. Following directions  
Vocab: 'take off', 'put on'  
Making a folder: encouraging students to keep their papers tidy, and see their progress as the course develops.

### WEEK 3

- IV. Further Requests (Units 19-26)
  - A. Requesting emergency assistance  
Vocab: Help!, Emergency!  
Emergencies at home.  
Report emergencies and get help.  
Literacy: HELP, EMERGENCY, FIRE, POLICE, AMBULANCE
  - B. choosing between alternatives  
red or green?  
large or small?  
Vocab: colors (review), sizes  
Buying articles and food.
  - C. Making a precise request  
the ... (s) on the left/right  
the one(s) on the left/right  
in the middle  
Vocab: different parts of a shop  
In a shop - enabling students to inspect before buying.
  - D. Requesting information about location  
Where are...?  
Vocab: 1st...10th  
Store shopping.  
Literacy: UP, DOWN, PUSH, PULL, ELEVATOR, STAIRS, ENTRANCE, EXIT, IN, OUT

- E. Distinguishing by position  
on the left/right of....  
between  
Vocab: more common objects, eating utensils  
Setting a table.
- F. Making a request  
I'd like some....  
Do you have any...?  
Can I have some...?  
Comparatives  
Vocab: fresh, canned  
Appropriate follow-up questions if articles not in stock.
- G. Requesting information  
Dialing 411.  
Literacy: HOSPITAL, FOOD STORE, POST OFFICE
- H. Responding to a request  
Can I borrow a...?  
I don't have a....  
Borrowing things.

WEEK 4

- V. Quantities (Units 27-30)
  - A. Not understanding  
Excuse me.  
I don't understand.
  - B. Quantities  
How much?  
How many?  
Vocab: common quantities (pint, dozen, etc.)  
containers  
Literacy: PINT, QUART, GALLON, DOZEN, POUND,  
OUNCE, CHEESE, HAM, HAMBURGER,  
SHRIMP, RICE, CHICKEN, PEACHES
  - C. Basic numeracy  
Vocab: shopping lists, price tags  
Adding up bill and checking change.  
Literacy: TOTAL, CHANGE
  - D. Checking the quantity  
It's a little over/under.  
In a store.

Review Units 1-30

WEEK 5

- VI. Mistakes and Apologies (Units 31-35)
  - A. Making an apology



- I'm (very) sorry.
- Bumping into someone.
- Wrong number.
- No change.
- Awareness of when an apology is necessary.
- B. Correcting a mistake politely
  - Excuse me....
  - Excuse me, I think this is wrong.
  - Mispronunciation of names.
  - Wrong change.
  - Distinguishing between:
    - Excuse me (attention-getting), and
    - I'm sorry (apology)
- C. Not getting into line
  - Excuse me, is this the end of the line?
  - Coping with a stress situation.
- D. Confusion of belongings
  - Excuse me, this is my/your....
  - Vocab: articles of clothing
  - Use of 'softening' form: I think....
- E. What to do when not understood
- VII. Position (Units 36-40)
  - A. Classroom reorganization
    - next to
    - under
    - opposite
    - Vocab: classroom furniture, personal belongings
    - Classroom as working space, not teacher's domain.
  - B. Using a slide projector
    - Sequencing instructions
    - Vocab: language of controls: (plug, socket, button, etc.)
  - C. Slides of the town
    - Review of prepositions of place
    - What is that?
    - Where is it?
    - familiar places
    - Literacy: BANK, SCHOOL, POLICE STATION, TRAIN STATION,  
FIRE STATION, BUS STATION, OPEN, CLOSED,  
CASHIER, CHECKOUT
  - D. Finding lost objects
    - I can't find....
    - Is it...?
    - Are they...?
    - No, it isn't.
    - No, they aren't.
    - Vocab: small, everyday objects (key, purse, wallet, etc.)
  - E. Hide and seek
    - Review of: Giving accurate directions

Review of:  
prepositions of place  
question forms and short answers  
Vocab: common objects

WEEK 6

VIII. Tea Making (Units 41-44)

A. Getting and carrying things

Bring....  
Bring me....  
Take....to (PERSON).  
Vocab: equipment

B. Making tea

Vocab: Put....  
Boil....

Chinese style - transfers initiative to student.

C. Making tea (American style)

Before  
After  
Vocab: Fill....  
Put....  
Boil....

Classroom as a social place.

D. Labeling property

my/your  
his/her  
(PERSON)'s

Vocab: personal property

IX. Information About People (Units 45-49)

A. Using a cassette recorder

Negative instructions: Don't touch....  
Vocab: precise controls  
first from the left  
second from the right, etc.

Enabling students to work with recorders on their own.

B. Describing the characters in a story

Simple present, third person  
Vocab: lives, works, has  
Literacy: Sign (your name)

C. Question words

Who?  
Where?  
What?

Building up a simple social picture of the characters.

D. Giving information about oneself

Simple present, first/second person  
Vocab: come from....

live with....  
go to....  
occupations

- Taking interest in others in the group.  
E. Differentiating between numbers in -teen and -ty  
Calling for a taxi.  
Putting numbers in order.

#### WEEK 7

#### X. Simple Daily Routines (Units 50-55)

- A. Expressing time  
My watch is fast/slow.  
Vocab: early/late  
fast/slow (watch)  
times  
Arriving at work.
- B. Recognizing conventional signs and symbols (introduction)  
Vocab: line, circle, square, triangle  
Drawing things.
- C. Describing the work routine of the characters  
Review of simple present, third person  
Question word: When?  
Vocab: leaves, arrives, gets home  
times (review)
- D. Describing one's own daily routine  
Review of simple present, first/second person  
Vocab: other everyday activities
- E. Asking questions  
Auxiliary does in question forms  
Review of:  
When?  
Where?  
What (does he do)?  
What (does he wear)?  
Vocab: Review of Units 40, 41, and 46
- F. Dates  
What day is it today?  
What day was it yesterday?  
Vocab: days of the week  
months of the year  
today  
tomorrow  
yesterday  
Literacy: Date, Day, Month (mo.), Year (yr.)



WEEK 8

XI. Names (Units 56-57)

- A. Establishing what people should be called  
(Please) call me....  
Naming systems (discussion)
- B. Filling in a simple form  
Vocab: Personal information (name, address, occupation, marital status, etc.)  
Coping with different styles of form and methods of obtaining the same information.  
Literacy: Marital Status, single, married, widowed, divorced, separated, birth date, date, occupation, Sex (M or F), signature

Review Units 31-57

WEEK 9

XII. Food (Units 58-62)

- A. Expressing liking and disliking  
No, thanks.  
Would you like...?  
I don't like....  
What about...?  
Vocab: different foods in cafeterias  
Cafeterias.
- B. Choosing food and drink  
Vocab: food, drinks  
In a restaurant, snack bar, cafeteria.
- C. Using a vending machine  
Review of: Preference  
black or light?  
with or without?  
Vocab: slot, button  
Literacy: coffee, tea, sugar, light, extra, coin return, black, chocolate
- D. Following a recipe  
Vocab: instructions for simple cooking (put..., boil...) ingredients  
Preparing food in the kitchen.
- E. Ordering food  
Review of: Request  
Expressing disliking  
Expressing preference  
Checking the bill  
Checking change  
Correcting a mistake



What kind of...?

Vocab: snacks, meals

In a cafeteria, fast food restaurant.

Literacy: milk, Coke, ice cream, hamburger, french  
fries, fish

XIII. Travel (Units 63-65)

A. Describing travel routine

Review of simple present, third person

Question word: How?

Vocab: gets on/off

by bus/car/train

on foot

recognition of place names

Problem solving.

Literacy: Main, Wood, Elm, King, Pine, Hill

B. Exact times

Review of question word: What time?

Vocab: Review of Unit 63

Problem solving.

C. Describing work routines

Simple present, third person

Vocab: eat, work, sew, study, clean, wash, shave, talk

WEEK 10

XIV. Appointments (Units 66-69)

A. Making appointments

I want to make... .

Vocab: Review of dates and times, appointments

Dentist and doctor appointments.

Job interview.

B. Indicating preference

Vocab: Review of dates and times

Dentist appointments.

C. Insisting

Doctor's appointment.

D. Late

I have an appointment with....

I'm sorry I'm late.

I missed the bus.

You'll have to...

Vocab: appointment, dentist

Late for an appointment/work.

Practical consequences of lateness.

XV. Obtaining Things (Units 70-75)

A. Making an envelope

Find....

Fold....

Corner....

Keeping a personal collection of sight word cards in order.

- B. Out and about in the town  
 Where is it?  
 It's on....St.  
     near....  
     opposite....  
     in front of....  
     behind....  
 Vocab: sight words, shop signs, street names
- C. Sign recognition
- D. Locating objects  
 Where can I get...?  
 At the ....'s.  
 Vocab: tools, appliances, equipment, etc.  
 Encouraging initiative in solving problems. (Quiz)
- E. Describing objects  
 What color is it?  
 What size is it?  
 What shape is it?  
 What's it made of?  
 What's it for?  
 Used for...?  
 Vocab: objects (as in Unit 67)  
     size, shape  
     made of, used for  
 Game: 20 questions
- F. Getting a prescription filled  
 When will it be ready?  
 in....hour  
 in....minutes  
 Vocab: prescription  
 At the pharmacy.

WEEK 11

XVI. Directories (Units 76-80)

- A. Reading medicine labels  
 Take....  
 every....  
 Vocab: tsp., tbs., pill, capsule  
 Taking medicine.  
 Literacy: teaspoon (tsp.), tablespoon (tbl.),  
     pill, capsule, Take...every, hours, spoon
- B. Understanding and giving directions  
 turn left/right at the....  
 first door on the left/right  
 second door on the left/right  
 Vocab: rooms, parts of a building  
 In the building where the class takes place.  
 Tour of the building.
- C. Understanding a plan of the building



- D. Asking for and giving directions
    - I can't find....
    - Where is it, please?
    - Vocab: upstairs/downstairs
    - Ensure confirmation of directions given.
  - E. Understanding plans of other buildings
    - Vocab: rooms
    - Problem solving.
    - Literacy: toys, check-out, books, clothes, records, pharmacy
- XVII. Maps (Units 81-82)
- A. Asking for and giving directions in the street on the corner of.... between....
    - Where can I buy...?
    - Where is the nearest...?
    - Vocab: nearest
    - Reading a street map.
    - Pictorial transition to the concept of maps.
  - B. Asking for and following directions
    - Excuse me, where is...?
    - Vocab: Go....blocks....
    - Turn left at....
    - Ensure confirmation of directions given.

WEEK 12

- XVIII. Getting Things Done (Unit 83)
- A. Using a laundromat and public phone
    - Vocab: further instruction words
    - controls
    - hot/warm/cold
    - Introduction to the use of public facilities.

Review of Units 58-83

WEEK 13

- XIX. Daily Routines (Units 84-85)
- A. Describing a typical day in the life of the characters
    - Review of:
      - Simple present, third person
      - Question forms
      - Negative form with doesn't
    - Vocab: everyday actions
    - in the morning/afternoon/evening

- B. Describing the students' typical day
  - Review of simple present, first/second person
  - Negative form with don't
  - Vocab: Review of Unit 80
  - Daily activities.
  - Noting daily use of English.
- XX. House Problems (Units 86-88)
  - A. Complaining
    - The ceiling is leaking.
    - The window is broken
    - Vocab: common household words
    - Complaining about common household problems.
  - B. Requesting
    - Can you fix it?
    - Vocab: household words
    - Calling the landlord.
    - Reinforce ability to request assistance.
  - C. Insisting
    - Enable students to insist politely.

WEEK 14

- XXI. More Complicated Purchases (Units 89-96)
  - A. Buying clothing
    - Review of: Greeting, Request, Precise Request, Size, Quality, Price
    - I'm looking for....
    - Can I try it on, please?
    - ....made of cotton?
    - How much is it?
    - Vocab: clothes, materials, shades
  - B. Rejecting something politely
    - I'm afraid....
    - It's a little too....
    - It's too....
    - It doesn't fit.
    - Vocab: too
    - size, fitting
    - Buying clothing, exchanging.
    - Standing one's ground in the face of sales pressure.
  - C. Returning merchandise
    - Vocab: cash, credit
    - At a store.
  - D. Buying a pair of shoes
    - I'm afraid they don't fit.
    - They're too....
    - Have you got these in size 8?
    - Vocab: too big/small/narrow/broad materials



- E. In the Post Office
  - I'd like to send this package to....
  - How long...take?
  - How much....cost?
  - Vocab: airmail
    - surface mail
    - first class
    - parcel post
  - Different ways of sending letters and parcels.
- F. Writing a check
  - Vocab: numbers in word form
  - Literacy: written numbers - one, two, three.....
    - thousand
- G. Paying bills by check
  - Vocab: total, date due
  - Literacy: Due
- H. Coping with people at the door
  - Sorry, I'm not interested.
  - Reacting appropriately to unfamiliar requests.
  - Knowing when to refuse access and how to do it.
- XXII. Making Things (Units 97-98)
  - A. Making a book cover
    - Vocab: fold, cut, measure
    - Introduction to making an object using precise measurements.
  - B. Making a kite
    - Vocab: simple do-it-yourself instructions and materials
    - Introduction to making toys for children and construction objects from a design.

WEEK 15


- XXIII. Making Contact (Units 99-104)
  - A. Drawing a family tree
    - Review of simple present, third person
    - Review of vocabulary of daily routine
    - Vocab: family relationships
    - Freer discussion of life pattern and household.
    - Literacy: mother, father, husband, wife, son,
      - daughter, grandmother, grandfather, granddaughter
  - B. Making contact with a neighbor
    - Vocab: neighbor
    - Establishing the students' specific contacts with English-speaking people.
  - C. Making an invitation
    - Would you like to come over?

- Enable students to report an accident.
- D. Safety signs  
Vocab: caution, warning words  
Literacy: Caution, No Smoking, Poison, Combustible,  
Keep Out, Danger

WEEK 16

- XXV. Maintaining Contact (Units 109-112)
- A. Expressing interest/ Following-up with interest questions  
Did you have a good weekend?  
Did you go...?  
What did you do?  
What about you?  
Vocab: baseball game, television, movies  
ways of saying 'good'/'bad'  
In the workplace.  
Initiating social conversation.
- B. Inquiring sympathetically/ Expressing sympathy  
Following-up with interest questions  
Offering help  
What's the matter?  
I am sorry.  
That's bad luck.  
Is he/she all right?  
Can I help?  
Can I do anything?  
Vocabulary of bad news and misfortunes:  
headache, accident, arm/watch/broken/lost/stolen  
broken into  
Coping with a person who is depressed or in a bad mood.  
Making the sympathy appear genuine.
- C. Expressing enthusiasm/ Following-up with interest question.  
That's nice/great.  
Congratulations!  
I'm very pleased.  
What kind is it?  
What's his/her name?  
Who did he/she marry?  
Vocabulary of good or exciting news:  
born/married  
kind/make/type  
guaranteed  
Discussion of special events in students' own culture.
- D. Expressing interest in belongings  
That's nice....  
Where....get it?  
Was it expensive?





What's it made of?

Vocab: nice, pretty, fine, beautiful  
Appreciation of beautiful things.

Review of Units 84-112

WEEK 17

Review and Assessment