SKY SOFTWARE HOUSE

PRODUCT GUIDE 2014

INTERACTIVE PROGRAMS FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNING

ABOUT SKY SOFTWARE HOUSE

About us

Sky Software House was set up in 1997. Since then it has been at the forefront in delivering interactive English language programs for individuals, corporation and educational institutions for self-access learning, classroom teaching and in multimedia language labs. Our products are the programs of choice for The British Council, International House and hundreds of universities, colleges and schools worldwide.
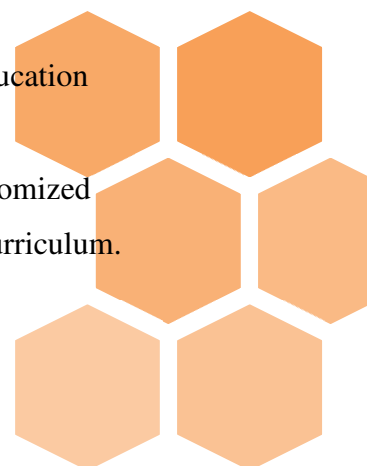
Our values

The principles underpinning Sky Software House are based on its strong links to education. Our creative design teams have spent many years as teachers, thereby given them the skills needed to create relevant and appropriate teaching materials to suit the dynamic needs of modern-day learners.

Why us?

Sky Software House programs are popular throughout the world. The main reasons for this are:

- we approach each program with a clear idea of the teaching objectives and the learner outcomes.

- our materials are designed to be easy to understand and to use.

- our materials have been tested thoroughly with learners from a wide variety of language backgrounds to ensure that they are effective and compatible.

- we strive for quality in every area of our work, both in the delivery and performance of our software

- We pay special attention to provide content that is sensitive to local religious and cultural values.

- Our contents are suitable for schools under most Ministries of Education worldwide.

- For Ministry of Education's nationwide purchase, we could customized our international learning levels to suit the Ministry's specified curriculum.

SKY SOFTWARE HOUSE'PRODUCTS

We provide skill based interactive software for listening, speaking, reading, grammar and better communication. Each helps to improve learners' language competency level and higher thinking skills.

Contents, Features and Functions

All SKY SOFTWARE HOUSE's interactive program comes with:
- A wealth of Interactive Audio-Video content to help learners to listen, speak and learn English Language successfully.
- Recording features
- Games
- Self-marking tests with feedback
- Student result tracking capabilities
- User manuals
- Teachers' guide

Areas of application
- Self-access learning (online or off-line)
- Classroom teaching
- Language Lab

Levels
- Elementary to Advanced
- CEF : A2 to C1 (secondary school and higher)
- International English

Versions
- Standalone
- Network
- PC online
- Windows XP and newer

We love to hear from you!
For more information, email us at mail@skysoftwarehouse.com

www. skysoftwarehouse.com

SKY PRONUNCIATION

The most comprehensive English Pronunciation software on the market.

Sky Pronunciation is a multimedia interactive pronunciation program designed to help learners of English to improve their pronunciation skills through awareness-building, recognition and production. The program is divided into five different sections, outlined below. These include the study and testing of sounds, the study and testing of similar-sounding word sets and the study, practice and testing of phrases and sentences.

5 KEY CONTENT AREAS to help learner to develop good listening skills and confidence to speak:

1. The International Phonemic Alphabet
2. **Similar sounds** gives extensive practice in recognizing and distinguishing similar-sounding letters (minimal – pairs) which can be problematic. The game-style format is very popular with learners
3. **Word and phrasal stress** helps learners to recognize where the stress falls in words of more than one syllable, and in short phrases. This is done through a variety of fun exercise types.
4. **Stress and Rhythm section** containing over 600 sound items, introduces learners to the features of connected speech, including: the rules governing sentence stress, weak forms, linking, elision, assimilation and contraction, and shifting stress. It takes the form of a step by step tutorial with test-as-you-learn features and extensive practice in the focus areas. It also contains a recording tool and back chaining facility.
5. **Rhythm from Rainland :** Practice in the rhythm of spoken English throughout everyday dialogues, jokes, poems, rhymes and quotations The practice takes the form of video and audio lessons where the learner can listen and repeat the language in the texts in a variety of ways. There are 48 texts which you may access unit-by-unit or by topic area. The program also has a specialised recording feature, which allows the learner to build up a set of recordings.

New update!

- A personal progress page to chart scores and assess progress

- Tailored Learning capability where the teachers can create a special course by selecting the individual exercises to be completed by their students, set the hours to be allocated to the course and specify the score for students to attain.

Go to our website to download a free evaluation copy at
www.skysoftware house.com

This is the program of choice for British Council (global license), international schools and hundreds of universities, colleges and schools worldwide. Available as *online* or *off-line* resource for individual /classroom or lab learning.

ACTIVE LISTENING

Listening is very important in language learning. It not only enhances the learner's comprehension skills, it helps the learner to speak more accurately, to develop their vocabulary, and to refine their understanding of grammar."

Active Listening in English has **been** designed to provide secondary school students and adult learners with a wide variety of realistic listening texts in everyday situations.

Topics include:
- shopping
- meeting people
- getting to know people
- eating out
- travel
- the weather
- giving personal information
- filling timetables
- taking messages
- booking tickets
- describing animals/people/countries/objects/shops/jobs
- giving directions
- listening to short talks

There are five units in the program. The units, which are graded in terms of difficulty, contain four types of listening task:

1. **A Listening for Information task** – here the learner must listen for something specific, e.g. what food items are mentioned by a shopper.
2. **A Listen and Respond task** – here the learner must take the part of one of the speakers and respond by choosing the most suitable option. Areas covered include meeting people, eating out, and booking tickets.
3. **A Listening and Note-taking task -** where the listener must fill out forms, take messages and complete timetables etc…
4. **A General Listening task –** here the learner listens to an interview or to a talk and must first answer gist questions and then specific questions on the text.

Each exercise in *Active Listening in English* has three supplementary features:

- Vocabulary learning – learners can practise the difficult vocabulary from the audio text with a 'Matching the words with its meaning or association' exercise
- Language extension – Each exercise has a language practice section where a particular aspect is focused on. This could be a grammatical point, a function, alternative usages, or something that isolates and gives practice in a speaking component.
- A transcript of the audio text. This is available to learners only after they have completed the exercise. Learners can listen again and see the text of the dialogues

PRODUCT REVIEWS:

At last a listening program for lower-level learners. Lots of varied activities. The students find it demanding but very rewarding.-**Irene Nardiello, ELS Services, Potenza, Italy**

A great addition to our library of materials. Our students find the exercises very demanding but also very rewarding. The language extensions are superb.
Sister Bernadette, St. Francis School, Mumbai, India

Lots of exercises and a variety of exercise types makes Active Listening a really useful addition to our computer lab.- **Stelios Ioannou, F.L.P., Athens, Greece**

I have used Active Listening in English and recommend it to students for outside class use -
Barbara, University of Edinburgh

TENSE TESTER

Elementary, Intermediate and Advanced Interactive Grammar program for English Language Learning

available for
iPhones and iPads

Windows XP and newer
- Online
- Off line
- Network

Tense Tester is a tool for helping learners to improve their ability in choosing the correct tense in English. All tenses, as well as modal verbs, are tested.

FEATURES AND FUNCTIONS:

Each test comprises 20 multiple-choice items, randomly generated from a bank of over 500 options, which appear automatically.

- Environment:- Just like in a classroom test.
- Detailed test score – Learner gets their score and a breakdown of the test in terms of how well they did in the various tenses covered
- Feedback with correct grammar use - They can then see their mistakes one at a time, with a grammatical explanation for each, and two more examples of the correct use of the grammatical point in question.
- Result tracking - Each time they do the test the learner's scores are recorded so they can see their scores from all previous tests and check their progress. Teachers can access these scores to assess learner progress and help learners to pinpoint areas to review and work on.
- Follow up quiz to check learner's comprehension - the learner can access a larger grammar section which highlights the particular areas where the learner has made mistakes. The learner can then study these areas. Each tense covered in the grammar section has a quiz to check the learner's comprehension.
- Large test bank - means that each time the learner does the test they will get a different set of questions. This means that the learner can do the test again and again and can continue to trust the validity of the test.

READ UP –SPEED UP

Read up-Speed up is developed to improve learner reading speeds, text-chunking skills and counter sub-vocalisation.

In this program, there is a bank of 60 dedicated texts, which can be read in a variety of ways.

Contents and Levels

There are 4 levels : Elementary, Pre-Intermediate, Intermediate, and Post Intermediate with the accompanying tests graded in terms of difficulty.

Features and Functions

- a variable speed control
- a test feature for each text
- an easy-to-use text and test-creation AUTHORING facility
- suitable for IELTS, FCE, Skills for Life preparation

POLICE INVESTIGATION

This is a unique programe for learners of English

It is designed for pre-intermediate level learners in which they must listen and decide who has done a murder.

The learners first study the story of a murder. This sets the scene of the murder of Dolly Dee.

Learners must listen to each suspect in turn and then take notes on **where** they were, **who** they were with and **what** they were doing at the time.

These notes are collected together. When they have heard everything, the learners must study the notes and find the person who tells two lies.

Learners must then study the policeman's report and compare this with what the suspects said.

Finally, the learner must decide who murdered Dolly Dee. They will only get two chances to get it right.

Using Police Investigation Program will help learners to build their ability in a number of areas:

- **to listen for the main idea**
- **to take concise notes based on what they have heard**
- **to scan texts in order to find relevant information**
- **to evaluate texts so as to reach correct conclusions**