Workbook Workbook

Third Year

General Sciences - Life Sciences Sections



THEMES

Workbook

Secondary Education

Third Year Life Science and General Science Sections

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The National Textbook Project

This is the second installment of textbooks completed by the Center as part of a three-stage effort to produce the books called for by the New Curricula. We are placing these books in the hands of students with the great hope that we are moving, step by step, toward the goal of acquiring sound and modern learning, using sophisticated educational means and up-to-date methodology that encourage and reinforce individual thinking and research, the acquisition of skills, the development of ethical and national attitudes, the feeling of national belonging as well as the feeling of belonging to humanity at large.

The on-going revolution in information, communication and educational technology has undoubtedly limited the role of the textbook and lowered the rank it used so recently to occupy. However, in our society and in many other societies, the textbook remains the basic means of education, and it is our duty to exert our utmost effort and care to come up with the best product as to form and content. Yet we should not lose sight of the fact that the textbook is not sufficient by itself but should rather be used as a stepping stone to access other sources of information. What is important is to keep a clear vision and maintain the right course toward our objective. The means should not turn into the end and the student should always remain the focus of the learning/teaching process.

No one ignores or denies the fact that textbook writing requires very high academic and educational qualifications and very wide field experience. The authors committees undeniably possess such qualifications and qualities, yet last year's textbooks did contain some faults and gaps which were duly pointed out by researchers in many articles, and, indeed, we have benefited from some of them. Such is the nature of human work, no matter how good the intentions or how great the effort exerted.

Constructive criticism is a real contribution to raising the standard of authorship, minimizing errors and filling gaps. We only hope that criticism will always be objective and motivated by a desire to enhance educational reform in order to achieve better products.

A favorite adage handed down from our old scholars: "He who criticizes you is as helpful as a co-author". Let all criticism directed at the Center be of this caliber.

In closing, we hope that we all will have benefited from our experience and that the textbooks of the third and final stage be closer to realizing our hopes and more beneficial to our students. We are now preparing ourselves to assess the parts so far achieved of the new curricula and to assure that our educational movement is proceeding on the right track for achieving the best results.

June 2, 1999

President, Educational Center for Research and Development

Introduction

To the Student

Themes is a series of textbooks designed for students studying English as a first foreign language. This is the third book for the Secondary Cycle in the new National Curriculum.

The aim of the Workbook is mainly to provide practice in the language. More specifically, the objective is to provide reinforcement of the skills introduced in the Student's Book as well as to give further practice on certain language items in writing, reading, and listening comprehension that may or may not have appeared in the Student's Book. The Workbook provides the students with exercises corresponding to each lesson in the Student's Book.

The exercises in the Workbook are to be done either in class or at home depending upon the teacher's directives. A table of contents has been included which corresponds to the Student's Book.

The authors believe that the Workbook is in no way exhaustive but only suggestive of how students can further their practical application in learning the language.

The Authors

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