“Represents a breakthrough in the variety of support provided, and in user-friendliness.”

Chi-Fan Lin, Ph.D., Shih Hsin University, Taipei, Taiwan
Top Notch is an award-winning communicative course for adults and young adults that sets new standards for reflecting how English is used as an international language. Over 3 million students worldwide have learned English using the Top Notch program.

WHAT TEACHERS SAY ABOUT TOP NOTCH

“We like Top Notch for several reasons. The communicative approach it uses allows students to apply the grammar and vocabulary learned to real communicative situations. Supplemental materials (Top Notch TV, Workbook) are great tools.”

Paula Medina, London Language Institute, Ontario, Canada

“Our staff are so thrilled about this book series. But as everyone in this area knows, at the end of the day it all comes down to how satisfied our students are. In a satisfaction survey recently carried out among our students, Top Notch had a resounding 9.1 (on a 0 to 10 scale)! Let the numbers speak for themselves!”

Teacher in Brazil

“Top Notch revolutionized our program. Enrollment has gone up since we started with the series. Teachers feel revitalized, and they feel better about themselves as teachers. We had been using a series for 15 years and Top Notch has changed our program.”

Teacher in Peru
Be a Part of It

Join the Top Notch Teacher Community

- Connect with other Top Notch teachers
- Contribute your views and share ideas
- Attend professional development sessions
- Download resources and find practical teaching tips

Access a bank of resources specifically designed to support teachers using the Top Notch program:

- Sample units
- Teaching tips
- Correlation charts mapping Top Notch Second Edition against the CEF and major international exams
- Links through to our ELT Community where you can engage in discussion with our author team and other users of the course
- Videos and podcasts detailing how to use the Top Notch program
- Academic articles by the Top Notch authors

MEET THE AUTHORS

JOAN SASLOW
Joan Saslow has taught in a variety of programs in South America and the United States. She currently participates in the English Language Specialist Program in the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. She is author of a number of multi-level integrated-skills courses: Ready to Go; Workplace Plus; and Literacy Plus. Joan is the series director of True Colors and True Voices.

ALLEN ASCHER
Allen Ascher has been a teacher and a teacher trainer in China and the United States and taught in the TESOL Certificate Program at the New School in New York. He was also academic director of the International English Language Institute at Hunter College. Allen is author of the “Teaching Speaking” module of Teacher Development Interactive, an innovative online multimedia teacher-training program, and of Think about Editing: A Grammar Editing Guide for ESL.

Proven Pedagogy, Demonstrated Results

**SCOPE**

*Top Notch* (together with *Summit*) is a six-level communicative English course for adults and young adults.

- **Top Notch Fundamentals**: for true beginners or very weak false beginners
- **Top Notch 1**: for false beginners or for students who have completed *Top Notch* Fundamentals
- **Top Notch 2**: for high-beginning students
- **Top Notch 3**: for low-intermediate students
- **Summit 1**: for high-intermediate students
- **Summit 2**: for advanced students

Each level of the *Top Notch* course contains enough material for 60 to 90 hours of classroom instruction.

**GOAL**

The goal of the course is to make English unforgettable, enabling learners to understand, speak, read, and write English accurately, confidently, and fluently. Three key features are emblematic of the *Top Notch* course:

- Multiple exposures to new language
- Numerous opportunities to practice it
- Deliberate and intensive recycling

**INTEGRATION**

Grammar, vocabulary, and social language are integrated around practical and informational topics that prepare students for using English in today's world. Goals- and achievement-based lessons with can-do statements enable students to confirm their progress.

*A real strength of the series in general is the development of topics . . . real-world, interesting . . . the goals fit together nicely and are developed in a way which I have yet to see in other series at this level. I can really picture my students being able to achieve the goals.*

Teacher in Columbia
The Leader in Global Communication

*Top Notch* prepares students to communicate in English with a diverse array of speakers around the world who have a wide range of native and non-native accents. While all language models in *Top Notch* are in standard American English, the course takes a proactive approach to integrating a variety of regional, national, and non-native accents throughout the listening texts and in the video program, *Top Notch TV*.

Cultural fluency with speakers of English from around the world

*Top Notch* is unique in including a cultural fluency syllabus in which students learn to navigate dealing with people of different languages and cultures. This emphasis helps students to build the communication skills and self-confidence needed to navigate social, travel, and business situations in unfamiliar cultural settings.

“Culture and intercultural issues are everywhere in the series . . . so important, interesting, relevant, and motivating for students. At the same time, you manage to remain culturally neutral, and I can imagine that the book will work both in Asia and Latin America.”

Teacher in Columbia
Teachers asked...we listened

Extensive feedback from teachers around the world informed the Second Edition of Top Notch, setting a new standard in user-friendly course material. Now there is even more in the Second Edition to make teaching and learning easier.

Here’s what teachers asked for, and how we responded in the Second Edition:

CLEAR DIFFERENTIATION BETWEEN FUNDAMENTALS AND LEVEL 1
We differentiate the topics, vocabulary, and grammar taught in each level more clearly so that students can see their own progress.

CLEARER PAGE DESIGN, WITH MORE PHOTOS
- New design of every page with a clearer labelling of lesson parts makes instructional content & learning goals explicit.
- Higher proportion of photos to art.

MORE GRAMMAR PRACTICE
The Grammar Booster expands the presentation with additional explanations, examples, grammar points, timely reviews, as well as additional practice.
- Additional grammar exercises, including Understand the Grammar and Find the Grammar, address form, meaning, and use and ensure mastery
- Clearer integration of grammar in communication activities extends practice for memorability
MORE EXPLICIT DEVELOPMENT OF SKILLS AND STRATEGIES

An emphasis on learning strategies and critical thinking skills throughout each lesson enhances students’ ability to understand spoken and written English more effectively and communicate more successfully.

EXTRA READING COMPREHENSION.
The ActiveBook in the back of the Student’s Book contains more reading comprehension questions, both factual and critical thinking, as well as even more reading passages and exercises for all units covered.

A SYSTEMATIC WRITING SYLLABUS

The addition of an integrated writing syllabus with the all new Writing Booster teaches and practices key writing skills.

Beginning with Top Notch 1, students learn the basics of how to write sentences correctly, develop a paragraph, and move toward writing essays.

MORE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

In-built professional development in the Teacher’s Edition, and opportunities to join the authors in online webinars

- A bound-in Methods Handbook for the communicative classroom in the Teacher’s Edition and Lesson Planner
- Academic articles and webinar workshops by the authors
- An online Top Notch Teacher Community for sharing ideas and classroom-made materials
The Second Edition Student’s Book

A COMMUNICATION GOAL FOR EACH CLASS SESSION.
Each two-page lesson in Top Notch is designed for one class session of 45-60 minutes, and has a clearly stated communication goal to make each class purposeful, to demonstrate progress, and to enable a more focused evaluation. When students and teachers know the purpose of the lesson, they see value in it and are motivated to achieve a successful outcome.

A revised Preview Lesson sets the context of the unit, activates prior knowledge, and gets students thinking and talking about the topic of the unit.

ENHANCED PEDAGOGY FOR SPEAKING
A clear pedagogical pathway extends practice and maximizes the benefits of the conversation model.

CONVERSATION MODELS
Short practical conversations make target language, grammar, and vocabulary memorable.

PAIR WORK
The Conversation Model is provided in a ‘conversation guide’ with blank spaces for students’ own language, permitting them to practice the model and personalize it at the same time.

DON’T STOP!
Suggests ways to extend the conversation beyond the model, ensuring that students recycle and reuse previously learned language.

RECYCLE BOX:
Language reminders ensure use of previously learned language.

CHANGE PARTNERS
Clear directions ensure multiple opportunities for extended communication practice.

“I like the conversation models and the reading. The first provides variations and substitutions of phrases and vocabulary, which is great as students have something to ‘hold on to.’ The latter supplies real-life information that is related to the topic and actually saves us, the teachers, time looking for related materials for discussion.”

Chen-Chen Fu, National Kaohsiung First Science & Technology University, Kaohsiung, Taiwan
EXPLICIT PRESENTATIONS OF VOCABULARY, GRAMMAR, AND SOCIAL LANGUAGE.
Taking the guesswork out of form, meaning, and use, explicit presentations make teaching and learning easy and provide a concrete reference for students for study and review.

Clear grammar explanations and model sentences
Vocabulary meaning defined with clear illustrations, photos, and definitions. Presented as words, phrases, and collocations.

"The grammar rules are short and easy to understand with lots of bright examples."
Elena Sudakova, ELC (English Language Center), Kiev, Ukraine

AN EXPANSIVE LISTENING STRAND
Listening is woven throughout all the lessons, ensuring that students become accustomed to spoken English.

"The listening texts in this volume are extremely strong, probably the strongest I’ve seen in any text. The conversations are natural and realistic, and also very interesting."
Teacher in Thailand

All vocabulary presentations and reading texts are recorded to ensure that students become accustomed to authentic pronunciation and chunking.

Every unit includes a pronunciation focus that prepares students to both understand natural spoken English and produce it accurately.
NEW READING TEXTS
Most readings have been replaced or updated, giving fresh topics for student engagement.

CRITICAL THINKING
A range of reading skills and strategies are covered.

AUTHENTIC READINGS
Authentic readings from identified sources prepare students to comprehend real reading materials in English.

“Authenticity is all over the place through the topics, dialogues, readings realia, etc. Vocabulary building and integrating is ‘Top Notch.’”
Teacher in Colombia

MULTI-SKILL REVIEW
Interactive self-study activities on ActiveBook continue speaking, pronunciation, listening, reading, grammar, and vocabulary practice outside the classroom.

LISTENING
Review always starts with a listening activity.

ORAL REVIEW
Activities recycle grammar, vocabulary, and social language and make speaking assessment easy.

WRITING
End-of-unit writing topics provide a free production opportunity for recycling previously taught language and communicating ideas.

SELF-ASSESSMENT
ensures that students see their own progress and motivates them to continue.

“The Writing Booster is exceptional.”
Manal Al Jordi, Expression Training Company, Kuwait

“The writing is wonderful – this was lacking in the first edition.”
Paula Medina, London Language Institute, Ontario, Canada
A Digital Learning Tool

Every Student’s Book comes with an ActiveBook, a self-study disc that reinforces language learning outside the classroom.

- A Student’s Book in digital format with full audio
- Record-yourself speaking practice
- NEW listening and reading comprehension activities
- Extra grammar and vocabulary practice
- Top Notch Pop and karaoke
- NEW daily activity records
- NEW printable unit study guides

“I’m especially excited about the new CD-ROM [ActiveBook]. A lot of students ask for more digital support work.”
Robert Labelle, Dawson College, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

“The replacement of the Super CDROM in the back of the Student’s Book with an “ActiveBook” Self-Study Disc is a great idea.”
Elena Sudakova, ELC (English Language Center), Kiev, Ukraine
Complete and Flexible

Each level of the Top Notch course contains enough material for 60 to 90 hours of classroom instruction. Split editions with bound-in workbooks are also available. A wide choice of supplementary components makes it easy to tailor Top Notch to the needs of diverse classes and programs or to expand the total number of hours.

COMPLETE ASSESSMENT PACKAGE WITH EXAMVIEW® SOFTWARE

Easy-to-score photocopiable unit achievement tests assess listening, vocabulary, grammar, social language, reading, and writing. In addition to the paper tests, ExamView® software enables teachers to delete, edit, or add items to customize the tests to meet their own needs.

FULL-COURSE PLACEMENT TESTS

A combined Listening, Reading and General test accurately places students into the Top Notch and Summit program. Optional Speaking tests are also available.
- A new shorter test makes it easier and faster to administer and score
- Four forms of the test ensure security and allow re-testing if necessary
- Detailed instructions and guidelines for scoring are included

COPY & GO

Photocopiable games, puzzles and information gaps for each Student’s Book lesson ensure communicative interaction in the classroom and provide a welcome change of pace. Just copy, and you’re ready to go!
- Detailed teaching notes for each activity
- Extra “Find someone who” activities in the back

TOP NOTCH TV VIDEO PROGRAM

- TV-style situation comedy
- Authentic, unrehearsed on-the-street interviews featuring a variety of regional and non-native accents
- Top Notch Pop karaoke

“Top Notch is an innovative course that is full of extra components and surprise elements that help transform a class into a moment of great discovery and learning. The videos that accompany every unit are amazing and funny. Students just absolutely love them. The on-the-street interviews are really nice because students listen to a variety of authentic accents and natural expressions. All Top Notch components I have used have been of great help and value.”

Teacher in Brazil
Loaded with Teacher Support

The **Teacher’s Edition and Lesson Planner** is a complete classroom management tool with detailed timed lesson plans and cross-references to all components.

**INCLUDES**
- A bound-in Methods Handbook
- Correlations to international standards and exams
- Language, culture, and corpus notes with usage information about American and British English
- **Top Notch TV** Teaching Notes
- ActiveTeach

**ActiveTeach**
A digital teaching tool for lesson planning and in-class presentation that includes:

- A complete menu of optional resources
  - A Digital Student’s Book with interactive whiteboard tools that allow you to zoom, write, highlight, save, and more for a dynamic lesson
  - Instant access to the Classroom Audio Program and **Top Notch TV**
  - All the interactive activities from ActiveBook for in-class practice
  - A menu of printable extension activities for writing, speaking, pronunciation, grammar, learning strategies, vocabulary, video viewing, and more
  - Printable Student’s Book audio scripts and Workbook answer keys
  - Academic articles by the Top Notch authors

“It took us over two years to choose a series that would match our expectations. We carefully considered many elements, and decided for Top Notch. Teachers have many options and components to present the target language. We’ve been using the Top Notch series, and the results are amazing. Both teachers and students are extremely happy...”

Teacher in Colombia
Blended Learning

Over 5 million students around the world are using MyLabs, Pearson Longman’s online homework and assessment programs, in a wide range of subjects. Studies show that the use of MyLabs has significantly improved student test scores and leads institutions to higher success rates.

INCREASED STUDENT SUCCESS RATES
Motivate students with a wide-range of interactive exercises with immediate automatic grading. Students can study at their own pace, and keep track of their progress through their gradebook.

BETTER MAPPING OF STUDENT PROGRESS
The gradebook gives you an instant record of scores and keeps track of progress. Ideal for writing student reports. Unit tests, progress, mid-course and end of course tests can be assigned at the touch of a button.

INCREASED PERSONALIZATION FOR LEARNERS
Identify where your students need extra support and assign relevant activities.

COMMUNICATE WITH YOUR STUDENTS AND SAVE VALUABLE CLASSROOM TIME
A range of communication tools enable you to give learning tips, set discussion topics, share student ideas and give feedback outside of the classroom.
For those who prefer to work offline, the paper Workbook provides intensive language practice and reinforcement for every lesson in the Student’s Book, including the Grammar Booster and Writing Booster.
## Top Notch 1
- **Student’s Book with ActiveBook CD-ROM**: 978 0 138 14083 0
- **Student’s Book with ActiveBook & MyLab**: 978 0 138 14084 7
- **Student’s Book / Workbook Split A with ActiveBook and MyLab**: 978 0 138 14085 4
- **Student’s Book / Workbook Split B with ActiveBook and MyLab**: 978 0 138 14086 1
- **Student’s Book / Workbook Split Edition A with ActiveBook and MyLab**: 978 0 138 14087 8
- **Student’s Book / Workbook Split Edition B with ActiveBook and MyLab**: 978 0 138 14088 5
- **Workbook**: 978 0 138 14092 8
- **Classroom Audio Program**: 978 0 138 14093 5
- **Teacher’s Edition and Lesson Planner with ActiveTeach**: 978 0 138 14094 2
- **Complete Assessment Package with ExamView® CD-ROM**: 978 0 138 14095 9
- **Copy & Go**: 978 0 138 14096 6

### 2nd Edition

## Top Notch 2
- **Student’s Book with ActiveBook CD-ROM**: 978 0 132 45558 9
- **Student’s Book with ActiveBook & MyLab**: 978 0 132 47048 3
- **Student’s Book / Workbook Split A with ActiveBook and MyLab**: 978 0 132 46991 3
- **Student’s Book / Workbook Split B with ActiveBook and MyLab**: 978 0 132 46990 6
- **Student’s Book / Workbook Split Edition A with ActiveBook and MyLab**: 978 0 132 67924 4
- **Student’s Book / Workbook Split Edition B with ActiveBook and MyLab**: 978 0 132 67925 1
- **Workbook**: 978 0 132 47052 0
- **Classroom Audio Program**: 978 0 132 47053 7
- **Teacher’s Edition and Lesson Planner with ActiveTeach**: 978 0 132 47054 4
- **Complete Assessment Package with ExamView® CD-ROM**: 978 0 132 47055 1
- **Copy & Go**: 978 0 132 47056 9

## Top Notch 3
- **Student’s Book with ActiveBook CD-ROM**: 978 0 132 46987 6
- **Student’s Book with ActiveBook & MyLab**: 978 0 132 47027 8
- **Student’s Book / Workbook Split A with ActiveBook and MyLab**: 978 0 132 47077 3
- **Student’s Book / Workbook Split B with ActiveBook and MyLab**: 978 0 132 47076 6
- **Student’s Book / Workbook Split Edition A with ActiveBook and MyLab**: 978 0 132 67926 8
- **Student’s Book / Workbook Split Edition B with ActiveBook and MyLab**: 978 0 132 67927 5
- **Workbook**: 978 0 132 47074 2
- **Classroom Audio Program**: 978 0 132 47075 9
- **Teacher’s Edition and Lesson Planner with ActiveTeach**: 978 0 132 47073 5
- **Complete Assessment Package with ExamView® CD-ROM**: 978 0 132 47071 1
- **Copy & Go**: 978 0 132 47070 4

### All Levels
- **Placement Test**: 978 0 132 47029 2
- **Top Notch Companion Website**: 978 0 132 47066 7