

FAQ's about Joy Two Publications TESOL Curriculum

1. Why were these ESL materials created, when there are bible-oriented ESL materials already available?

Gail Tiessen was the professor of TESOL at Providence University College and Seminary. Many individuals and programs were asking her to recommend materials to use in their ESL programs and outreaches. However, there were very few materials that used the Bible as the key text for teaching English.

Furthermore, they saw the need for curricula that addressed all the language skills (listening, speaking, reading & writing) in an integrated way. However, many teachers not only do not have an understanding of the basic structures of English (grammar, pronunciation, vocabulary) but also do not have the training in the best methodology for enhancing English acquisition; we wanted to provide both this knowledge and guidance for the teacher within the curriculum. Another feature that we feel is important is that we have provided not only clear instructions and good slides for the teacher but also interactive learner activities for encouraging learner participation and learning.

There was a need for curricula that met all the levels of proficiency from beginners to advanced and academic. Also, there was a need for curricula of different lengths (number of hours in the classroom). Joy Two Publications has curricula that cover 14 hours of class time to those that cover 160 hours of class time and everything in between.

2. What is unique about Joy Two Publications?

Two people with unique gifts have been brought together to create professional materials for teachers and students to enjoy and learn English.

- Gail Tiessen has taught English, trained English teachers, and written ESL curricula for 30 years in many contexts.
- Joyce Goertzen has produced materials for 12 years.

Our materials are designed for beginner to advanced users, with extensive Bible-based topics. Each is offered at a reasonable cost electronically.

3. Who are the materials designed for?

These materials are designed not only for teachers who have had TESOL training but also for those who have not had formal training. Teachers whose first language is not English also appreciate the clear instructions and explanations and audios. So these can be used by teachers of English in English speaking countries, teachers of English in non-English speaking countries, and teachers of English in countries where English is a *lingua franca*.

4. Describe the teaching philosophy found in your materials?

1. We believe that the English Bible is an ideal text for teaching English. Not only is it beautiful English but also it addresses every aspect of human life. The biblical narratives are exciting and varied. Moreover, the English Bible has impacted the English language and culture. Since we believe that the Bible is the revelation of God, we believe that it is important that people be able to read it.
2. We believe that learning a language is learning a skill like learning to play the piano or learning to play basketball. Therefore the teacher is like a coach guiding the learner through various skill building and skill using activities. Our materials are designed so that learners are actively listening, reading, speaking, or writing English: a task-based teaching methodology is essential.
3. We believe that there is a progression in learning so we have developed every unit according to that progression: link or hook to personal life; new knowledge/information; practice; application to and use in personal life.
4. We believe that learners are learning English for particular purposes in their own lives so we link units to real life needs.

5. We believe that English is a beautiful, systematic, consistent language that can be taught and understood. Learners need to be given clear explanations of the systems of English. Learners are coming to our classes for this- let's give them what they need and want.

5 What have teachers been saying about using Joy Two Publications?

- "I am very impressed with the work you do and how God has used your abilities for His service. ... *our* ESL program would not be what it has grown to be without your input. Our learners just love the lessons we use and I can't thank you enough for all your hard work.'
- 'These materials are well received by my learners because the activities keep them engaged.'
- `` As an ESL teacher, I love these materials because there is such a variety of activities that I can use with my learners.``
- `` I am very pleased that people can learn to speak and write English for *daily* use while they are learning the Bible.``
- ``The clear instructions for the teachers give me confidence in the classroom. I have not been trained in TESOL so the explanations of the grammar and pronunciation are invaluable. I know that the methodology is sound. All the worksheet and slides have been prepared for me so these curricula are very teacher-friendly.``
- `Thank you for the variety of levels and variety of texts.``

6. Where is this being used and in which contexts?

- Colleges and Seminaries in Canada, India, Uganda, Australia, Cuba, Paraguay, Korea, China, Philippines, Indonesia, United States, Dominican Republic, Ukraine, United States and more
- English Language Institutes
- Christian Elementary and Secondary Schools in Canada and the United States
- Church ESL programs here and abroad
- Outreach programs in North America, Europe, Africa, Australia, South America, and Asia
- Tutoring situations here and abroad
- Home discussion groups/conversation classes

7. When purchasing a CD or electronic download what are the allowed permissions to use the materials?

Each resource may be printed or photocopied by the **purchasing teacher** for his/her EAL (English as an Additional Language) learners **only**. Any duplication beyond these parameters is strictly prohibited without prior written authorization from the publisher. (One CD for One Teacher for One Class)