



# FREE PRESS

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## i-learning programme – fun, interesting, useful online learning & practice

Good news! Our interactive e-books are back on the iSpring Learning Management System (LMS), which now offers **teacher access to individual class reports**. And the cost per student is lower than ever – as low as **HK\$6** per student per month for volume or six-month subscriptions.

### About the i-Spring LMS

The I-Spring system is used by thousand of organisations around the world, including 27 Fortune 500 companies, and 40 top universities, such as Oxford, Cambridge, Harvard, Yale, Stanford and MIT. In the four years we have been using it, it has been 100% stable and whenever we have suggested changes, as small as we are compared to their other clients, they have made them within 24 hours. The company designs elegant software and provides a flexible, full-featured LMS that can be adapted to the needs Hong Kong schools as easily as for the world's top corporations and universities.

### Current i-books on the iSpring LMS (folder: <http://learningaboutenglish.ispringlearn.com/content>)

Please go to the front page of [www.learningaboutenglish.com](http://www.learningaboutenglish.com) for a PDF of this letter with live links. Go [here](#) for a complete list of each i-book with links to free samples and columns for teacher record keeping.

|     | Course/book                       | Level | No. of quizzes | No. of quest. | Learning materials | Detailed answers | Free samples (click on link)       |
|-----|-----------------------------------|-------|----------------|---------------|--------------------|------------------|------------------------------------|
| 01  | Grammar with the first 500 words  | F1-2  | 55             | 1,191         | 120 slides         |                  | <a href="#">04, 06, 10, 23</a>     |
| 02  | The 250 Most Important Adjectives | F1-4  | 32             | 970           | 526 slides         | ✓                | <a href="#">01, learn</a>          |
| 03  | Proofreading with hints           | F2-5  | 68             | 1,350         |                    | ✓                | <a href="#">01, 02, 03, 04, 05</a> |
| 04  | Proofreading F3-4                 | F3-4  | 55             | 1,193         |                    | ✓                | <a href="#">01</a>                 |
| 05  | Proofreading F4-5                 | F4-5  | 40             | 954           |                    | ✓                | <a href="#">01</a>                 |
| 06  | Oral Proofreading                 | F4-6  | 9              | 229           |                    |                  | <a href="#">01</a>                 |
| 07  | Cloze (Fill in the blank)         | F3-4  | 14             | 275           |                    |                  | <a href="#">01</a>                 |
| 08  | Cloze and Cloze Summary           | F4-5  | 30             | 514           |                    |                  | <a href="#">08</a>                 |
| 09  | Cloze Summary Adv. + vocab. dev.  | F6    | 36             | 620           |                    |                  | <a href="#">01</a>                 |
| 10  | Reading Comprehension 1           | F3-5  | 71             | 616           | 23 slides          |                  | <a href="#">02</a>                 |
| 11  | Reading Comprehension 2           | F4-6  | 20*            | 111           |                    |                  | <a href="#">01</a>                 |
| 12  | M-C Cloze F4-5                    | F4-5  | 40             | 720           |                    | ✓                | <a href="#">01</a>                 |
| 13  | M-C Cloze Advanced                | F5-6  | 30             | 252           |                    | ✓                | <a href="#">01</a>                 |
| 14a | Listening with YouTube videos     | F3-6  | 38             | 790           |                    |                  | <a href="#">14a, 14b, 35</a>       |
| 14b | Proofreading from transcripts     | F4-6  | 10             | 229           |                    |                  | <a href="#">14b</a>                |
| 15  | Vocabulary through the News       | F4-6  | 27             | 873           |                    |                  | <a href="#">06, 27</a>             |
| 16  | Inversion Practice                | F4-6  | 38             | 642           | 44 slides          |                  | <a href="#">01, 09</a>             |
|     | <b>Total</b>                      |       | <b>566</b>     | <b>11,529</b> |                    |                  |                                    |

\* two units - more added each week

### Monthly subscription cost

This gives each class access to four interactive e-books per month, as well as any new ones added.

| No. of students per school | Monthly cost per student HK\$* | Free teacher passwords which also allow access to class reports |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| 30                         | \$10                           | 1   |
| 60                         | \$9                            | 2   |
| 100                        | \$8                            | 3   |
| 300                        | \$7                            | 10  |
| 500+                       | \$6                            | 16  |

\*\$6/mo per student for any size class if you subscribe for six consecutive months or more.

## Payment

Invoiced monthly or according to your preference. Payment terms are 30 days. Payment can be made by check or e-transfer (HSBC). We send invoices and receipts by email. If you require hard copies, please tell us.

## Features

**Beautiful quiz system.** We tried every quiz system on the market before choosing i-Spring. It is by far the most flexible, varied and visually appealing, and allows us to put almost anything in quiz format, including complete HKDSEE-style reading papers.

**Great range of quiz types.** (1) true-false, (2) M-C, (3) M-C text, (4) multiple response, (5) type in (6) matching, (7) sequence, (8) fill in the blank, and (9) word bank

**Detailed quiz results.** Teachers can track their class's activities (see below).

**Quizzes designed for HK students.** Our grammar course is the only grammar course in the world which uses only the most frequent 500 words to explain and test English grammar, and reinforces their use and collocations in useful sentences that students can use in discussions and conversations, allowing them to focus on grammar, usage and functions instead of being slowed down by unfamiliar vocabulary. Our upper-form materials focus on preparation for the HKDSEE reading, listening and oral papers. Our vocabulary courses complement the many excellent online dictionaries, offering lots of practice.

## Using our system

**Format.** The quizzes are great on computers and tablets, but matching quizzes, for example, are not very good on mobile phones.

**Browsers.** The quizzes work on the Chrome, Firefox, Explorer and Safari browsers.

**Mobile requirements.** Android 3.x or higher, iOS 5.x or higher, Windows phone 7.5 or higher.

**Updates.** Check the 'Secondary' section in the top header of our website [learningaboutenglish.com](http://learningaboutenglish.com) for updates on new materials added each month.

## Generating reports for your class

We offer a free teacher's account for each class of 30. You can track your students' results, specifying the date range you want the report to cover: the past day, week, month, quarter or year. You can print (via PDF),

email or convert your report to CSV, XML or PDF format. You can generate a wide range of reports, but the one most teachers will be interested in is the class and individual Score Results report

## Report format

| July 30, 2016       |                      |                         |           | Print  | Email  | Export          |
|---------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|-----------|--------|--------|-----------------|
| Passed/Failed: 7/10 |                      | Average Score: 70.75%   |           |        |        |                 |
| Date                | Title                | User                    | Duration  | Status | Score  | Correct answers |
| July 30, 2016       | 04.PR3-4.quizzes 1-2 | amy16@abcschool.edu.hk  | 00:015:48 | Passed | 80.00% | 32              |
| July 30, 2016       | 04.PR3-4.quizzes 1-2 | jon16@abcschool.edu.hk  | 00:012:36 | Passed | 87.50% | 35              |
| July 30, 2016       | 04.PR3-4.quizzes 1-2 | sam16@abcschool.edu.hk  | 00:019:17 | Passed | 67.50% | 27              |
| July 30, 2016       | 04.PR3-4.quizzes 1-2 | tim16@abcschool.edu.hk  | 00:022:02 | Failed | 47.50% | 19              |
| July 30, 2016       | 04.PR3-4.quizzes 1-2 | kim16@abcschool.edu.hk  | 00:015:27 | Passed | 97.50% | 39              |
| July 30, 2016       | 04.PR3-4.quizzes 1-2 | vic16@abcschool.edu.hk  | 00:012:48 | Passed | 85.00% | 34              |
| July 30, 2016       | 04.PR3-4.quizzes 1-2 | joe16@abcschool.edu.hk  | 00:017:48 | Failed | 42.50% | 17              |
| July 30, 2016       | 04.PR3-4.quizzes 1-2 | ben16@abcschool.edu.hk  | 00:013:48 | Passed | 75.00% | 30              |
| July 30, 2016       | 04.PR3-4.quizzes 1-2 | jane16@abcschool.edu.hk | 00:021:48 | Passed | 85.00% | 34              |

## Videos that explain the iSpring LMS and report functions

**Schools and classes.** We put your school in the category 'Organization', and we put your class in the category 'Group' (see video: iSpring <https://vimeo.com/album/3820437/video/159303564>)

**Teachers can run reports for their classes.** We can allow teachers to run reports for their school (organization) or class (group) (see from 2:20 to 2:35 - <https://vimeo.com/album/3820437/video/159303564>). Tell us which email addresses are teachers' and which classes you want them to have access to. We then tick the box for those teachers, giving them access to all user reports for the group(s) you specified.

**How teachers access and run quiz reports.** <https://vimeo.com/album/3820437/video/159303535> Also see Quiz Reports: <http://www.ispringsolutions.com/docs/display/learn/report+list>

**How to provide class lists (MS Excel file, please).** <https://vimeo.com/album/3820437/video/160990081>

**Passwords.** A password is issued automatically to each user. Your students can change their passwords in the user portal. (A password must contain at least six characters with one uppercase letter (A-Z) and a number (0-9). You can create a more secure password by adding special characters: !@#\$%^&\*()-\_+=;,:./?'"\|~[]{}<>)

## How many i-books you have access to

You can choose **four i-books each consecutive month** you are enrolled, so if you subscribe for four months or more, your class will have access to all 16 books for as long as you subscribe. Permission for each quiz is given manually, so if you stop for a month, the process starts again, with four i-books added each month.

## List of i-learning materials (as at 1 Aug 2016 – much more added during the year)

### 1. Grammar and functions with the most frequent 500 words (F1-2)

This course helps students learn and practice the rules of grammar and usage without having to deal with new vocabulary. It uses only the most common 500 words (apart from basic words needed to describe and explain English grammar). For students who still have trouble with the first 500 words, the course provides ample repetition to ensure the 500 words are reinforced through constant use in context. To help motivate the students, you can tell them that these first 500 words cover roughly 65% of everything they will read.

**Communicative functions:** Many of the language examples are communicative functions that students in lower secondary will find very useful: interpersonal expressions, conversations, classroom language, questions and answers, comments and responses, and pair and group work expressions.

**Grammar and vocabulary sections:** adjectives, adverbs, articles, comparisons, compounds, conjunctions, determiners, meaning, opposites, prepositions, questions, suffixes, tense, there inversion, verbs, verbals and word order. Most quizzes involve reading, but some involve listening. Let us know what you'd like more of, and we'll add it.

### 2. The 250 Most Important Adjectives (F1-4)

- 15 learning presentations covering all 250 adjectives with details on attributive and predicative use, whether they can take object complements, as well as definitions, examples, usage and collocations.
- Appealing pictures to illustrate 95% of the adjectives, many also used in matching exercises.
- Each adjective tested at least twice.

### 3. Proofreading (F2-4)

Different types of hints, providing a step-by-step approach to careful proofreading.

**Section 1: word forms** – provides the right word but the wrong word form

**Section 2: incomplete word** – one word in each line is missing one or more letters from the ending

**Section 3: wrong word** – one word in each numbered line is wrong and must be replaced

**Section 4: extra word** – one word must be removed from each numbered line

**Section 5: no hints** – regular proofreading with one word in each line missing, extra or wrong

Good for a wide range of classes, from strong F2 to weak F5. Free pre-tests allow you to see whether or not this is the appropriate level for your class before subscribing. Explanation for each question.

### 4. Proofreading (F3-4)

Practice in identifying and avoiding common errors, and in using vocabulary appropriately

### 5. Proofreading (F4-5)

Practice in identifying and avoiding common errors, and in using vocabulary appropriately

### 6. Oral Proofreading (F4-6)

**Individual response.** Each proofreading passage is a one-minute individual response to the topics in the 2014 and 2015 oral papers, with 20-30 questions per quiz.

**Topics.** We cannot use the questions used in past papers, so we have our own questions about the topics, which cover a broad range of HK, social, school, sports, technology, media and business issues.

**Explanations.** There is a brief explanation for each answer of every quiz.

### 7. Cloze F3-4

Good practice for the HKDSEE Reading Paper; practice in using appropriate vocabulary in context and in identifying collocations.

## 8. Cloze and Cloze Summary F4-5

Good practice for the HKDSEE Reading Paper; practice in using appropriate vocabulary in context and in identifying collocations.

## 9. Cloze Summary Advanced (F6)

- Paraphrasing, summarizing, vocabulary and word-form practice
- Information about academic disciplines and careers to get students thinking about JUPAS
- Practice for the HKDSEE reading paper
- Each passage has two cloze summaries, the first easier, since the required word can be found in the original passage and normally requires only a different word form, and the second harder, because the sentence has been rephrased and some of the words cannot be found in the original passage.
- There is a vocabulary section in each unit with short explanations of useful words and practice using them.

## 10. Reading Comprehension 1 (F3-5)

- Provides practice with all short-answer question types used in the HKDSEE reading paper and question types used in international exams at this level which may be added to the HKDSEE paper in the future.
- **Question types:** M-C, fill in the blanks, matching, reference, rewording, sequence, specific details
- **Vocabulary:** definitions, synonyms, antonyms
- **Literature questions:** (poetry and fiction): attitude, audience, comparison, inference, literary purpose, main point, meaning, message, mood, opposites, paraphrase, reference, setting, sequence, specific details, substitution, synonyms, theme, tone, word order
- **Wide range of genres:** news articles, classic poetry and first-chapter excerpts from classic novels

## 11. Reading Comprehension 2 (F4-6)

Practice papers modelled on the HKDSE reading paper.

## 12. M-C Cloze (F3-5)

- Excellent practice for the HKDSEE Reading Paper.
- Reinforces the grammar rules students learn in F1-4; one of our most popular paper books ever.
- The questions in each of the first 20 passages focus on errors related to one or two specific grammatical categories: prepositions, conjunctions, pronouns, relative pronouns, determiners, adjectives, adverbs, verbs, passive constructions, modal verbs, verbals, nouns or tense.
- Extensive explanations for each question; cute drawings by world-famous HK cartoonist Larry Feign.

## 13. M-C Cloze Advanced (F5-6)

Tests vocabulary, collocations, grammar and sentence structure; detailed explanations.

## 14a. Listening (F3-6)

- Popular 2-6 minute videos from YouTube, BBC, National Geographic, ed.ted.com, Viking Cruises, etc.
- HKDSE fill-in-the-blank format.
- Practice with real English instead of the unrealistically slow speech used in the exam.

## 14b. Proofreading from listening Transcripts (F3-6)

This short section takes a different approach to proofreading, turning the speech into written text and adding errors to give proofreading practice in spoken English. In several cases we had to correct the English first since there were quite a few natural errors in the transcripts.

## 15. Vocabulary learning through the news

Each news story has a vocabulary section with definitions of 10-16 words in the passage and four quizzes testing word meaning, collocations, usage, etc. The main quiz types blank filling, word bank and matching.

## 16. Inversion Practice (F4-6)

This is the only course in the world that shows students systematically how professional writers use inversion and provides practice for each type: there constructions, prepositions of place and direction, adverbs of time, rank, place, movement and direction, adverbial particles of phrasal verbs, *-ed-* and *-ing* openers, comparisons, negative adverbials, subtle negatives, reference words and conditional clauses.

Improvements over the paper book, using simpler, more natural sentences, and a wider range of question types: M-C, multiple response, matching, blank filling, word bank, and type in.

Please check the **Secondary Programme** on our <http://www.learningaboutenglish> website for updates.

**Contact.** Please email [paul@learningaboutenglish.com](mailto:paul@learningaboutenglish.com) if you have any questions or suggestions.