

# **PRE-UNIVERSITY ENGLISH READINGS**

**Written by:**

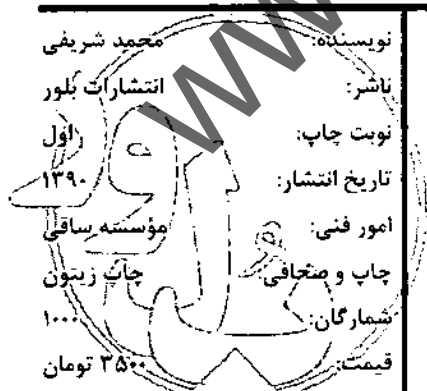
**MOHAMMAD SHARIF, M.A.**

**A book which is :**

- ✓ Diverse in content**
- ✓ Presentable in EFL Classes**
- ✓ Unique in manner of presentation**
- ✓ Affluent in Synonyms and Antonyms**
- ✓ Coverable at tertiary level of education**
- ✓ Appropriate for General English Promotion**

|                     |                                                                                    |
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# pre-university English readings



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## In the name of God

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## Preface

The book **THE PRE-UNIVERSITY ENGLISH READINGS** encompasses 10 units each of which entails seven sections as follows:

**1. Reading**-In this section a reading material is presented which should be propounded and expounded in the classroom. Before attending the class, dear students are advised to have pre-reading activities in relationship with the reading materials in the book.

**2. Comprehension Check**-In this section, 5-10 multiple-choice questions concerning the reading material are mooted. The aim is to check learners' rate of reading comprehension.

**3. Synonym Exploration**-In this section, learners are asked to explore the text and find synonyms for the words specified. The number of synonyms to be found is not fixed throughout the twelve units; it varies from unit to unit depending on the text which is being covered.

**4. Antonym Exploration**-In this section, learners are required to explore the text and find antonyms for some lexical items specified. The number of antonyms to be located is variable from one unit to another.

**5. Sentence Completion**-In this section, some incomplete sentences are presented. The learners are asked to complete them using certain words in a box. The words to be chosen are familiar because they have been encountered in the text. The aim is to check the ability to apply familiar vocabulary items in unfamiliar contexts.

**6. Cloze Procedure**-In this section, learners are asked to fill in the blanks of an incomplete text by choosing appropriate words provided in the form of certain choices. The aim is to check both lexical and cognitive knowledge of the students.

**7. Now Test Yourself**-In this section, learners are provided with some multiple-choice questions varying from 10 to 20 in number. The aim is to check how well the student has learned the lexical items encountered and/or practiced in sections 1-6. In a nutshell, this section acts as a self-assessment.

The book is unique in some respects. First, unlike most general English related books, it avoids providing definitions in the name of synonyms. Instead, it presents single words as synonyms of some lexical items. The advantage of this method is the simplicity of memorizing the related synonyms. In this way, the learner is encouraged to increase and reinforce his/her vocabulary knowledge. Second, it presents and/or teaches a considerable number of antonyms to the learners. This is a task which is scarcely approached in similar books available in the market. Third, it challenges the lexical knowledge of respectable English instructors and motivate them to revise, revive and promote their vocabulary awareness. Fourth, it is also presentable to the students of English as a foreign language because it is affluent in view of vocabulary exercises. Sixth, it is compact. Most similar books are in possession of several lengthy texts which are not coverable during a semester. **THE PRE-UNIVERSITY ENGLISH READINGS**, however, can be wholly covered in a period of 3 months. The last uniqueness of the book may be related to the existence of a self-assessment under the rubric of **NOW TEST YOURSELF** at the end of each unit. Although there exist certain English textbooks that provide the learners with the opportunity to appraise themselves, the number of such books is scarce in the market.

Mohammad Sharifi, M.A.

## UNIT 1

### SECTION ONE : READING

## THE SUN

The sun is a sphere of hot gases. It is nearly 150 million kilometers from the earth.

Solar energy is produced in the central core of the sun. The surface of the sun is called the photosphere. On the surface the temperature is about 6000 °C. Below the surface the temperature is about 35 million degrees centigrade. Above the photosphere is a thin layer of gas known as the chromosphere. The chromosphere is only a few thousand miles thick. It is located between the photosphere and the corona, the outer atmosphere, extends millions of miles into space.

### SECTION TWO : COMPREHENSION CHECK

Now that you have read and comprehended the text, check the correct answers.

1. Solar energy refers to the energy \_\_\_\_\_.

- |                                 |                                |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| a. produced by the sun          | b. made in the photosphere     |
| c. consumed by the central core | d. developed in the atmosphere |

2. The writer calls the surface of the sun \_\_\_\_\_.

- |                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| a. the corona      | b. the atmosphere   |
| c. the photosphere | d. the chromosphere |

3. The chromosphere lies \_\_\_\_\_.

- |                                           |
|-------------------------------------------|
| a. at the central core of the sun         |
| b. between the corona and the photosphere |