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# **Practical Progress**

A General English Course for University Students

Maryan Khezrinejad Neoz in Azin Son eil Khodaparasti

Faculty Members of
Islamic Azad University, Islamshahr Branch

سرشناسه : خضرىنژاد، مريم

Khezri Nejad, Maryam

/ Practical progress: a general English course for university students : عنوان و نام پدیدآور

Maryam Khezrinejad, Nooshin Azin, Soheil Khodaparasti.

مشخصات نشر : تهران: انتشارات راه، ۱۳۹۵= ۲۰۱۶م.

مشخصات ظاهری : ۱۲۰ ص.

شابک : ۸۰۰۰۰ ریال:۹78-600-427

وضعیت فهرست نویسی : فیپا

موضوع

موضوع

بادداشت : انگلیسی

آوانویسی عنوان : پرکتیکال پروگرس...

موضوع : زبان انگلیسی -- راهنمای آموزشی -- خارجیان

English language -- Study and teaching -- Foreign speakers : موضوع

: زبان انگلیسی -- راهنمای آموزشی (عالی)

(English language -- Study and teaching (Higher:

موضوع : نتوانی - استنباط Reading comprehensic : موضوع

موضوع : أن ، نود بن، ۱۳۴۸ – mReading comprehensic

شناسه افزوده : آن ، نود ن، ۱۳۴۸ – شناسه افزوده : in,NC /shi

شناسه افزوده : خدایرست سهر ۱۳۴۴ -

K ode aresti, Soheil : شناسه افزوده

رده بندی کنگره : ۹۵۱۱۲۸PE خ/

رده بندی دیویی : ۲۴/۴۲۸

شماره کتابشناسی ملی : ۴۳۸۱۳۵۱ کیا

### • نام کتاب: Practical Progress

- مؤلفان: مریم خضری نژاد نوشین آذین سهیل خداپرستی
  - صفحه آرا: محبوبه جعفری فر
    - طراح جلد: سمانه اسماعیلی
  - ليتوگرافي، چاپخانه و صحافي: مجموعه انتشارات راه
    - ناشر: راه
    - سال نشر: ۱۳۹۵
    - نوبت چاپ: اول
    - شمارگان: ۱۰۰۰ جلد
      - قیمت: ۸۰۰۰ تومان
    - شابک: ۴-۶۹-۴۲۷-۰۶۹

ISBN :978-600-427-069-4

كليه حقوق براى مولفان محفوظ است.

تکثیر تمامی یا قسمتی از این اثر به صورت حروفچینی یا چاپ مجدد، چاپ افست، فتوکپی و انواع دیگر چاپ ممنوع است و پیگرد قانونی دارد.

### **Preface**

Practical Progress is a textbook aimed particularly at university students who are majoring in fields other than English and are supposed to strengthen their basic reading skills for academic purposes. Focusing on language awareness and comprehension, this book is chiefly intended to help students become skilled readers and to prepare them for other courses such as English for specific purposes. The ultimate aim of the book is reading fluently and efficiently.

Practical Progress includes instructive, informative, fresh, and agaging texts which are followed by a variety of exercises to develop students' reading skill, vocabulary knowledge and the structure of sentences. It comprises 10 units. Each unit opens with a picture related to its topic and accompanying pre-reading questions. The reading passage is preceded by a list of vocabulary with definitions as well as a picture are suppressed to prevent comprehension failure. The reading passage is forward by comprehension exercises which concentrate mainly on two areas of reading skills development: relational and inferential analysis. Vocabulary exercises are meant to extend students' vocabulary and improve their command of vocabulary. The last part of each unit presents basic grammar points and grammatical structures with cones, inding exercises.

Soheil Khodaparasti has been responsible for the selection and edition of texts as well as pre-paring questions and comprehension exercises. Maryam Khezrinej, da times responsibility for word definitions and vocabulary exercises. Nooshin Azin has also been responsible for focus on grammar and its precises.

The authors hope that both instructors and students would find the book useful. However, we would like to encourage all instructors not to hesitate commenting on any aspect of the book. We also welcome constructive suggestions for the improvements in later editions through the following email addresses:

soheil.khodaparasti@gmail.com khezri53@gmail.com nooshinazin@yahoo.com

## **PRONUNCIATION KEY**

#### Consonants

- p pen, copy, happen
- b back, baby, job
- t tea,
- d day, ladder, odd
- k key, clock, school
- g get, giggle, ghost
- tf church, match, nature
- d3 judge, age, soldier
- f fat, coffee, rough, photo
- v view, heavy, move
- θ thing, author, path
- ð this, other, smooth
- s soon, cease, sister
- z zero, music, roses, buzz
- ship, sure, national
- 3 pleasure, vision
- h hot, whole, ahead
- m more, hammer, sum
- n nice, know, funny, s in
- n ring, anger, than . , sung
- I light, valley, fee!
- r right, wro a.sarry, arrange
- j yet, usc, he vuc, few
- w wet, one, when, queen

#### Vowels

- kit, bid, hymn, minute
- e dress, bed, head, many
- æ trap, bad
- p lot, odd, wash
- A strut, mud, love, blood
- o foot, good, put
- i: fleece, sea, machin ?
- er face, day, break
- ai price, high, ty
- or choice, boy
- u: goose cw. bice, group
- əσ go , sh ıw no
- ao Thur. now
- ia real here, weary
- ea \_\_\_are. fair, various
- a: start, father
- o: thought, law, north, war
- və poor, jury, cure
- 3: nurse, stir, learn, refer
- about, common, standard
- i happy, radiate, glorious
- u thank you, influence, situation
- ' (stress mark)

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