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# A Vivid

**Reading Comprehension Repertoire**

**in**

## **Advanced Medical Sciences**

**Biology  
Genetics  
Biochemistry  
Microbiology**

**Volume II**

**An ESP Course Book for the Students of Advanced Medical Sciences**

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# Preface

English for Specific Purposes (ESP) is a multidisciplinary approach that offers promising possibilities for an EFL educational environment. ESP is often mistaken as simply being the drilling of technical terms and grammatical structures for science and technology majors or the teaching of business English. ESP in medical science is so risky a domain, that the practitioners are no more involved in a win-n-loose game; rather the lives of people may be endangered and put in a devastating game of decisions which in most part is a function of the practitioner's command over the ESP texts and tasks.

ESP actually can offer a viable approach for enabling tertiary-level or adult language learners to efficiently acquire a sufficient level of mastery in the communicative forms of language required for their professional or occupational needs. When presented as an approach to observing and classifying such linguistic needs, ESP can also help equip students with the tools necessary to continue their linguistic development outside the classroom.

Coming to a comprehensive understanding of technical texts, i.e. ESP texts, is an inevitable part of the experts' repertoire in any fields of activity and profession. In advanced medical sciences, for instance, the mastery over ESP texts is not considered as passing some credits at university and then having the knowledge of some technical terms in mind while speaking, the academic students of this field are dealing with ESP texts every single moment of their job or education life, so this may highlight the importance and inevitable nature of ESP texts.

The importance of ESP genre is crystal clear, but developing an appropriate approach of teaching this genre for all academic students, who are intensively exposed to ESP texts, is really a tough task. The students' exposure rate to

the ESP genre is very much in this field, just because they are all are going to work with varieties of manuscripts and reference books.

The present textbook, *A Vivid Reading Comprehension Repertoire in Advanced Medical Sciences*, is an ESP English course book for the students of **Advanced Medical Sciences**, i.e. biology, biochemistry, genetics, and microbiology. This textbook encompasses **8 units** on various topics, which offers freedom of selection for teachers in lesson plans to come up with a desired fruitful syllabus for classroom settings attended by divergent proficient and competent learners.

In advanced medical sciences, all skills of language proficiency are not paid attention equally. The most significant one is reading comprehension skill. The genre of ESP texts is considered as a file of technical terms together which are bound together by simple structure, but in reality, it is completely vice-versa. Unfortunately, it is assumed by many teachers, especially in the Iranian context, that knowing technical terms in the related field is just enough, certainly, it is not useless, but it is not sufficient at all, i.e. grammar is considered as just the knowing of structure and it is, unfortunately, assumed that it seems not to affect the reading comprehension of the students; meanwhile, the Grammar Translation Method is widely used through the ESP classes, which is not only out-dated, but also it would not be able to provide academic students in this field of study with a suitable guideline to pave the unpredictable path in this genre.

The features covered in the present book are focused on enhancing the reading comprehension ability of the learners in all sections. So “Translation Tasks” are avoided for the sake of the emphasis on enhancing the required reading comprehension skill while comprehension exercises are highlighted. Each of the eight units in this book has followed a uniform fashion presented as follows:

The process of selection and gradation of the materials provided in the present book was based on the meticulous investigations and the needs analysis performed in order to enhance the conformity and the practicality level of the book. Of course the gradation has been done carefully through consultations with our dear colleagues, whose contributions are greatly appreciated here.

Although the authors have tried their best to present a comprehensive manual, for sure there are some shortcomings and deficiencies. The authors earnestly expect their dear colleagues or experts in the field to send their constructive suggestions to: **teimourtash@irib.ir** in order to improve the next print.

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