

Develop Your English Competence
A General English Course
For University Students

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قربانی، مجید، ۱۳۶۰ -
Develop Your English Competence/Majid Ghorbani

تهران: خورشیدآفرین، ۱۳۸۹=۲۰۱۰م.

۱۳۶ص: مصور، جدول

ISBN: 978-964-8482-29-4 ۹۷۸۹۶۴۸۴۸۲۲۹۴

فهرست نویسی بر اساس اطلاعات فیبا.

انگلیسی

دولوپ یور انگلیش کامپیتنس

زبان انگلیسی -- راهنمای آموزشی (عالی)

PE۶۵/۴۵۹ ۱۳۸۹

۴۲۸/۰۰۷۱۱

کتابخانه ملی ایران

۳۰۶۹۱۸۱



انتشارات خورشیدآفرین

Develop Your English Competence

نویسنده: مجید قربانی

طراح گرافیک: بهنام زنگی

صفحه آرای: آتلیه سابا گرافیک- نوید زرین

چاپ اول: ۱۳۸۹

شمارگان: ۲۲۰۰

لیتوگرافی: طاووس رایانه

چاپ: سارتگ

صحافی: علایی

شابک: ۹۷۸-۹۶۴-۸۴۸۲-۲۹-۴ ISBN: 978-964-8482-29-4

قیمت: ۲۸۰۰ تومان

حق چاپ برای مؤلف محفوظ است.

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**IN THE NAME OF GOD
THE COMPASSIONATE THE MERCIFUL**

Develop Your English Competence

Preface

A new course in English today should be ideally suited for the changing roles and functions of the language in Iran and relevant to the present and future needs of EFL learners in the country.

The present book is meant for university-level students. Reading texts have been selected from a wide variety of sources suitable and also challenging for university levels. It is hoped that students will be stimulated into reading for pleasure, making use of the libraries and eventually forming the reading habit. The 14 reading texts deal with social and contemporary issues of interest and practical value to provide the very necessary practice in reading for information. The book is also designed to help learners communicate effectively and accurately in English and to take them to the threshold of proficiency in the language where they can confidently look forward to dealing with pressing areas of communication.

*Each chapter begins with three **pre-reading questions** to provide a motivation for the reading of the texts. The questions are designed for students to work in pairs to develop their ability to make predictions by drawing on their own knowledge and experience. This section also provides the **definitions** of all the new words of the Reading Text in the form of a simple matching exercise. **Vocabulary building** is an essential tool for the ease and rapidity of reading; hence the two vocabulary sections included in each unit aim for the preceding goals by providing enough practice in all of the new words introduced in the reading text. Additionally, the **Reading Comprehension** exercise in MCQ format as well as the open-ended **Questions** attempt to assess students' understanding of the Reading Texts by asking about the stated and implied details of the texts. Furthermore, the **Vocabulary Expansion** exercise introduces different topics to reinforce and expand the vocabulary knowledge of students such as Word Forms, Collocations, Phrasal Verbs, Idiomatic Expressions etc. Of course this section is not intended to be comprehensive, but just to make students familiar with the aforementioned topics. Finally each chapter ends with an inspirational and motivational story or quotation. The **Further Reading** section is intended to make students more interested in reading and also to ponder about the thought-provoking messages of each quotation or story.*

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Unit One



BEFORE YOU READ

Answer the following questions.

- 1) What is your favorite animal?
- 2) Can you name some members of the big cat family?
- 3) What do you know about cheetahs?

Match these words from the Reading with their definitions.

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| 1) accelerate | a. the amount of space between two places or things |
| 2) harsh | b. speed up; go faster |
| 3) distance | c. to make a deep & very loud noise |
| 4) roar | d. severe & difficult |
| 5) groom | e. an animal or bird that is hunted and eaten by another animal |
| 6) prey | f. not sharp or pointed |
| 7) blunt | g. to clean |
| 8) aggressive | h. violent |