

IRELAND - TV AND ADULT BASIC EDUCATION PROJECT
TV Project Read Write Now: Learning Objectives
contact: Helen Ryan

Mission Statement

To develop and deliver a distance learning programme in adult basic education, consisting of a series of 12 television programmes supported by a printed study pack, which will help adults improve their reading and writing skills in the privacy of their own homes.

General Aims

At the end of this series the learners will

1. Improve their reading, writing and spelling skills up to NCVA Foundation Level standard.
2. Practice reading and writing skills in everyday situations
3. Continue on a lifelong learning process



Specific Learning Objectives, and Outcomes

At the end of the series the learners will be able to

1. use the support pack &

2. understand alphabetical order

For example, locate a phone number in a phone book or yellow pages, use a dictionary, use an address book, locate required data from an index or table of contents, and find a horse on the Grand National Card.

3. construct simple written sentences

For example, use full stops, capital letters / small letters, understand simple grammar and improve their spelling through such techniques as the use of syllables, vowels and word building.

4. understand basic written notes / instructions

For example, understand and respond appropriately to common signs, workplace notices, health and safety signs, forms, written instructions on convenience food, menus, timetables and advertisements for concerts.

5. write a short note / simple instructions

For example, write their own name and address, take down a telephone message, write a shopping list or a packing list for a journey, write a postcard and get well card, write a note to call a meeting at work or give instructions to a family member to collect them from the station at 8.00 p.m.

6. read and understand basic written text / letters

For example, read a simple newspaper article, TV Guide, a short magazine article, a letter, a bill, the brief contents of a convenience food, the table of contents of a lawnmower manual, read a short story to their children or help them with their homework.

7. write a letter

For example, write a short personal letter to a friend, write to a teacher excusing a child from school, and write more formal letters such as a letter applying for a job, an invitation to present trophies at the football club dinner dance.

8. improve spelling

For example, spelling tips and techniques. These will be a constant component of each programme/objective.

9. understand and complete simple forms

For example, read, understand and complete a social welfare form, a job application a membership form for a club, apply for a driving licence, write a cheque, make a lodgement at a bank, a form for PRSI benefits, and an airport immigration form to the USA.

10. improve quantitative literacy

For example, calendar, timetables, write a cheque. These will be addressed throughout the twelve programmes.

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What has been achieved?

The program began in September 2000, broadcast on Tuesday nights at 11:00 p.m. on the main TV channel and repeated on Wednesday morning at 10 a.m. Ratings were very high. The first program was viewed by 152,994 people (4.3% of the total population, or 22% of those viewing at the time). The highest ratings were in weeks 2 and 7, with 192,132 viewers.

The free telephone tutor support line had 5 tutors on the job from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday to Saturday. From the beginning of September to the end of October they had received 9000 individual calls requesting learning packs. In total, they sent more than 26,000 packs. More than 500 referrals were made to literacy programs.

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