

## Activity Template

- **Title**

**An ESL Yearbook!**

- **Author**

**Deborah Sams**

- **Proficiency level**

Beginning  Intermediate  Advanced

- **Grade level**

Middle school and high school students can do this activity.

- **Purpose of the activity**

To do the ultimate task based activity that students will keep forever. It also allows students who can't buy yearbooks to have one, socially making things equal.

- **Type of activity**

- Some parts of this activity are good for individuals and other parts for pair or group work. The teacher can use their discretion.
- Students can finish the class survey at their desks. Computers will assist writing and legibility.

- **Objective**

- The lesson focus will be on spelling, grammar, and meaning.
- TESOL ESL Standards Goal 1, Standard 1  
To use English to communicate in social settings: Students will use English to participate in social interactions.
- Goal 1, Standard 2  
To use English to communicate in social settings: Students will interact in, through, and with spoken and written English for personal expression and enjoyment
- Goal 3, Standard 3  
To use English in socially and culturally appropriate ways: Students will use appropriate learning strategies to extend their sociolinguistic and sociocultural competence.

- **Duration**

The entire project will take at least 4 weeks.

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- **Materials and technology**

Computers or laptops  
Survey questions included.

- **Activity**

An ESL Yearbook

(allow at least 4-6 weeks to complete this project)

Steps to make an ESL yearbook

1. Students will fill out the pre-made survey with pencil and help them edit the answers in English. (You should allow 1 or more class periods for students to complete the student survey.)
2. Take digital photos of individual students, group shots, and other candid shots. Include photos taken around the school, with teachers, the principal, comical shots, etc.
3. Allow time for students to type the entire survey and their answers (see next page).  
Find  
a way to conveniently store student work and to print copies later. If necessary, copy student work to portable electronic device and also copy the work to a folder for each student on the computer with which they will work each day.
4. To create picture pages with captions, reduce photos of groups and candid shots to small sizes, 6 or more per page.  
Create a line under each picture for students to write a caption.  
Save. Print a copy and then go to the copy machine to print one page for each student.
5. Introduce real captions from newspapers and old yearbooks to the students.  
Pass out sheets from #4 above.  
Write examples of captions on the board from the sheet they just received.  
Students may work alone or in groups to write original captions on the sheet.  
Next, discuss and share results in class. Give participation grades, if you like.  
Take up student work and use the best captions for the yearbook.  
Put the student's name by the caption and under each picture so they will know the author.
6. Take a group shot of the class.  
Have a student type the names of classmates under the picture for a page in the yearbook representing that class period. Create a page for each class period.
7. Decide the name of the yearbook.  
Have a student design the cover by hand or by computer.  
Decide whether students can personalize it and color it, or print covers on colored

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paper for a professional look.

8. Consider how to transfer photos and make them easily accessible for students to work with them, label, list names, etc.  
Transferring photos with more than 2 computers can be difficult, so consider what will be easiest for you. Scissors and glue sometimes is easier, then copy on a copy machine.
9. Create mostly blank pages titled Memories and Signatures, For Friends Only, Teachers and any other title that you would like to place in the back of each yearbook for signatures and autographs.  
Copy at least 4 autograph pages per yearbook to allow friends to sign, hopefully many in English!  
Consider doing a mini-lesson on year book signing, both written saying and oral responses to friends who ask for signatures. On the board, list some nice ways to sign yearbooks. Don't forget acronyms:  
lylas, bff, 4ever, hags...
10. Collate books and staple or bind. (I found a machine at school, but Staples will do this for a dollar per book.)
11. Get nice pens for the class to sign each other's books. School colors are best!
12. Try to co-ordinate the ESL Yearbook with the school yearbook day and allow a class period to read and sign books. Encourage students to ask teachers and the principal to also sign their books. Teach students how to ask someone to sign their yearbooks and how to respond in kind.

Dedicate the book to someone?

Have a ceremony?

Be sure to make a copy for yourself, the principals, and one for the library.

Sit back and enjoy the result of your hard work!

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Questions for Yearbook Survey

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Nickname (Apodo): \_\_\_\_\_

City : \_\_\_\_\_

grade level : \_\_\_\_\_

plans for the summer: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Favorite class this year: \_\_\_\_\_

Favorite school lunch: \_\_\_\_\_

Best friends: \_\_\_\_\_

Clubs or special classes \_\_\_\_\_

Favorite book: \_\_\_\_\_

Why? \_\_\_\_\_

Favorite movie this year: \_\_\_\_\_

Favorite kind of music: \_\_\_\_\_

Favorite music performer or group: \_\_\_\_\_

Favorite TV show: \_\_\_\_\_

Favorite color: \_\_\_\_\_

Favorite clothes and accessories: \_\_\_\_\_

Favorite store: \_\_\_\_\_

Why? \_\_\_\_\_

Favorite restaurant: \_\_\_\_\_

Favorite place to go with friends: \_\_\_\_\_

Why? \_\_\_\_\_

Favorite place to go with family: \_\_\_\_\_

Why? \_\_\_\_\_

Favorite place to read a book: \_\_\_\_\_

Favorite lesson in ESL class this year: \_\_\_\_\_

Favorite actor or actress: \_\_\_\_\_

Funniest moment in school this year: \_\_\_\_\_

Place where I am most happy: \_\_\_\_\_

Why? \_\_\_\_\_

Most interesting book or novel: \_\_\_\_\_

Person who helped me the most this year: \_\_\_\_\_

Person who made me laugh the most this year: \_\_\_\_\_

My favorite saying or 'dicho' \_\_\_\_\_

What people would be surprised to know about me: \_\_\_\_\_

What I hope for next year: \_\_\_\_\_

Advice that I would give new students next year: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Three words that describe me are \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.

## TESOL Resource Center – Resource Templates and Guidelines

- **References**

TESOL (1997). ESL Standards for Pre-K Students. Alexandria, VA: Author.