



## Islands, a new adventure to learn English... in English!

As the author of this new English course, I would like to talk about what Islands means to me, who it's for, and the strong points that make Islands different from any other English course in the market.

Islands was created to cover the needs of an intensive foreign language course and to support the methodological development of CLIL (Content and Language Integrated Learning). As such, Islands offers all of the following advantages:

1. ... A lexical and grammatical syllabus in line with the syllabus of the most important external international examiners.
2. ... A **Phonics** section for all six levels, with additional reinforcement for spelling in the final two levels.
3. ... **CLIL** lessons to extend and link knowledge of other subjects, favouring and strengthening the development of cognitive strategies in the target language as well as reinforcing the functional language to complete the tasks.
4. ... **Cross-cultural** lessons that connect the themes of each unit with the real world of the students. These lessons always move from the general to the specific, personal experience of the child and their class to provide a context for the exchange of real language.
5. ... An **Extensive Reading** section to consolidate the content of the unit at the same time that the pupils develop reading comprehension, a fundamental skill for external examinations

from international Institutes such as Trinity or Cambridge. The method also includes **Reading Booklets**, for more in-depth work on reading skills.

6. ... A **dictionary section** where the pupils can reinforce the vocabulary they have worked on in each unit, and which can later be used as a reference as they progress through the course.
7. ... **Grammar Summaries** of the structures that have been worked on in each unit and **Grammar Booklets** in which the pupils can develop their use.
8. ... **Photocopiable material** which caters for mixed-ability groups, both as a strategy for dealing with gifted students and fast finishers as well as those students needing remedial work to reach the necessary level. In levels 5 and 6, these materials offer a variety of charts which help students select and organize information as well as exercises that promote the use of the dictionary. This favours the development of the academic language the children will need to learn other curricular areas through English.
9. ... A **Test Booklet** for each level that goes beyond a unit-by-unit evaluation and offers, in addition to the initial placement test at the beginning and the end of each unit, extra evaluations and model exams so that pupils can practice for external examinations using the same typology.
- 10.... And of course it Includes **stories, songs, festivals, games** and a great variety of **activities** throughout the six levels.

But, from my point of view, what makes Islands most attractive is its ample digital platform, which fits the profiles of the learners, teachers and schools for which it was devised perfectly. This component of Islands is extraordinarily motivating for a generation of students that has grown up with new technologies.

Although, I believe that what makes Islands stand out is its technological and digital support. It is highly motivating to the new

generation of students digitally connected whose digital skills can find in *Islands* an academic and pedagogical training and development.

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