



A Seminar entitled

**The English Language System in the
Law Department – Cihan University**

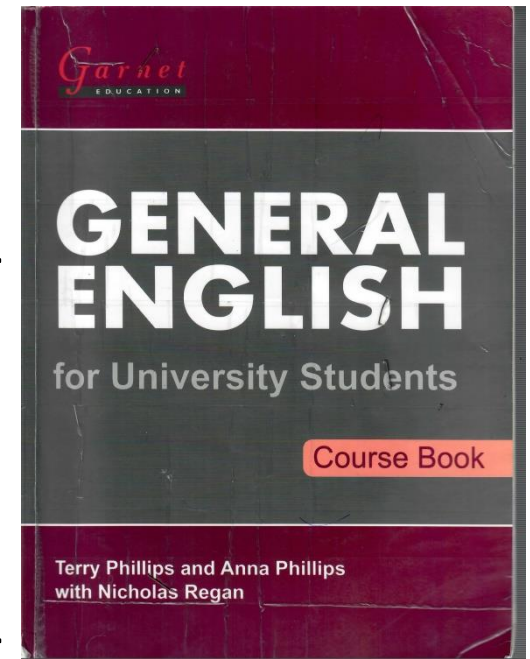
A Critical Analysis

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General English for University Students (GEfUS)

- General English is an Academic book for teaching EL with an activity book and both have CDs and DVDs for audio lessons and activities.
- GEfUS is set to prepare students to learn an academic English so as to use it in their academic life. For example, writing assignments, understanding tutorials, and reading other English resources as well as to communicate with English speakers.
- GEfUS is taught 4 hours per week.



The Title

The term **General** is often misinterpreted to mean everyday English. However, it is meant to offer an academic English and the word “General” is used to mean learning the basics of English Language in all departments of Cihan University.

Disadvantages of “GEFUS”

Cultural and social differences

The book, especially the first theme, does not reflect the study and social life of students of Law department - Cihan university.

- **Vice chancellor (p11)**
- **JCR (p12)**
- **SCR (p12)**
- **A Vending Machine (15)**

- **On the level of sentences:**
- Some Children take examinations in Drama at GCSE or A level.
- WE did a lot of drama games, and we put on a play every term.

- **Implementation of Vocabularies:**
- There is a list of vocabularies at the beginning of every chapter, which is called themes, that are not implemented.

Listening: The scientific method

4.1 Vocabulary for listening Tables, graphs, experiments

Table 1: Average temperature (in degrees C)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Abu Dhabi	19	20	23	27	31	33	35	34	32	29	25	20
London												

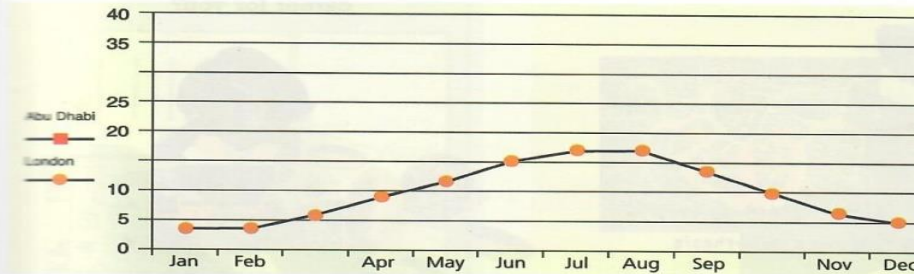


Figure 1: Average temperature (in degrees C)

A Developing vocabulary

Look at the table and the graph above. What do they show?

- 4.1 Listen. Add the information to the table and the graph.
- 4.2 Listen and answer the questions.

B Improving listening skills

4.3 Listen. Tick the correct column to show the stressed syllable.

		Oo	oO			Oo	oO
1.	average	✓		6.	data		
2.	axis			7.	display		
3.	circle			8.	research		
4.	column			9.	result		
5.	compare			10.	table		

C Understanding vocabulary in context

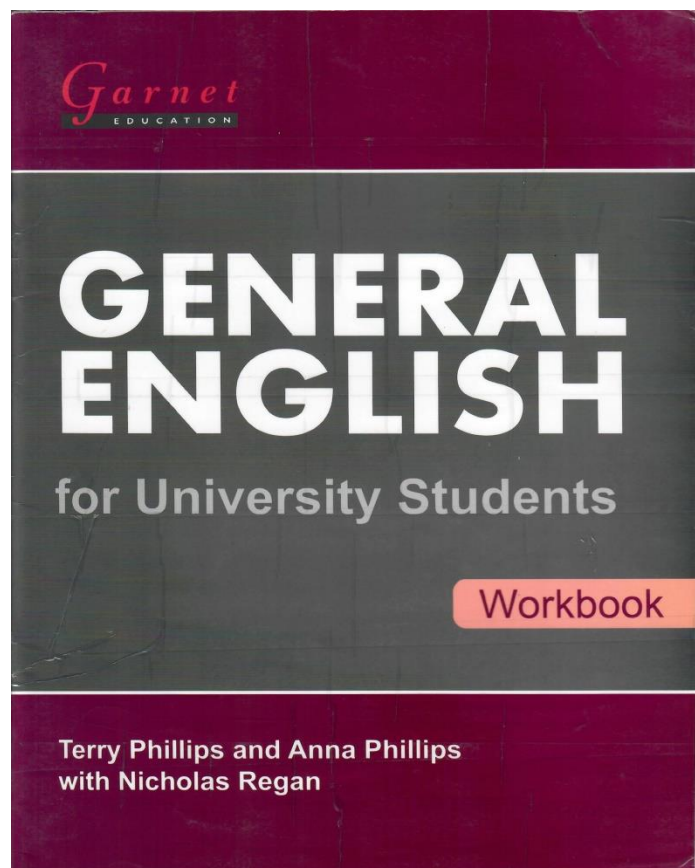
4.4 Listen. Complete the text with words from the list on the right.

Science is the study of how things work in the world. A _____ usually works in a _____. He/she works with many different kinds of _____, for example plastic or metal, and _____. A scientist _____ things to _____ a hypothesis. A hypothesis is an idea that something is _____. Scientists must _____ all the facts first. Then he/she often puts the facts in a _____ with columns of information, or in a _____, with blocks or lines that _____ the information.

average (adj)
 axis (n)
 block (n)
 collect (v)
 column (n)
 compare (v)
 conclusion (n)
 damage (n and v)
 data (n)
 display (n and v)
 disprove (v)
 draw (v)
 experiment (n and v)
 fact (n)
 graph (n)
 horizontal (adj)
 hypothesis (n)
 laboratory (n)
 line (n)
 liquid (n)
 look up (v)
 material (n)
 method (n)
 organize (v)
 prove (v)
 represent (v)
 research (n)
 result (n)
 science (n)
 scientific (adj)
 scientist (n)
 soft (adj)
 sunlight (n)
 table (n) [data]
 test (n and v)
 true (adj)
 truth (n)
 vertical (adj)

The Negligence of The Activity Book:

The activity book is neglected by the ministry of higher education.



- **Gaps in Grammatical issues:**
- The book displays some main grammatical issues, while it does not explain them. For example “verb to be” (P 21)

1.9 Grammar for speaking Present simple and past simple: with *be* and other verbs

In English, there are two kinds of verb, the verb *be* and other verbs.

1. The verb *be*: present simple

subject	verb	complement*	extra information
The 11+	is	an exam.	
A levels	are	exams.	
School	isn't	compulsory	after 16.
Classes	aren't	small	at secondary school.

*The correct name for any words after the verb *be* is the *complement*.

2. Other verbs: present simple

subject	verb	object	extra information
Many children	begin	school	at five.
Primary school	lasts	six years,	from five to 11.
Children	don't take	exams	at nursery school.
Primary	doesn't mean	second.	

A Talking about general facts

Read the facts below about the education system in Britain. Give a general fact about the education system in Kurdistan.

1. Britain has four kinds of school.
2. They are nursery, primary, secondary and sixth form.
3. Many British children start school at four or five.
4. Education is compulsory up to the age of 16.
5. Pupils can leave school at 16.
6. Many pupils go on to sixth form.
7. There are exams called A levels at 18.
8. Fifty per cent of pupils go on to university.

Kurdistan has different kinds of school.

1. The verb *be*: past simple

subject	verb	complement	extra information
I	was(n't)	good	at primary school.
The exams	were(n't)	easy	at 16.
I	was(n't)	a prefect	in the sixth form.

2. Other verbs: past simple

subject	verb	object	extra information
I	started	school	at five.
I	took	ten GCSEs	at the end of secondary school.
I	didn't leave	school	at 16.

B Talking about past facts

Read each fact about the education system in Britain. Give true information about your own education in the past.

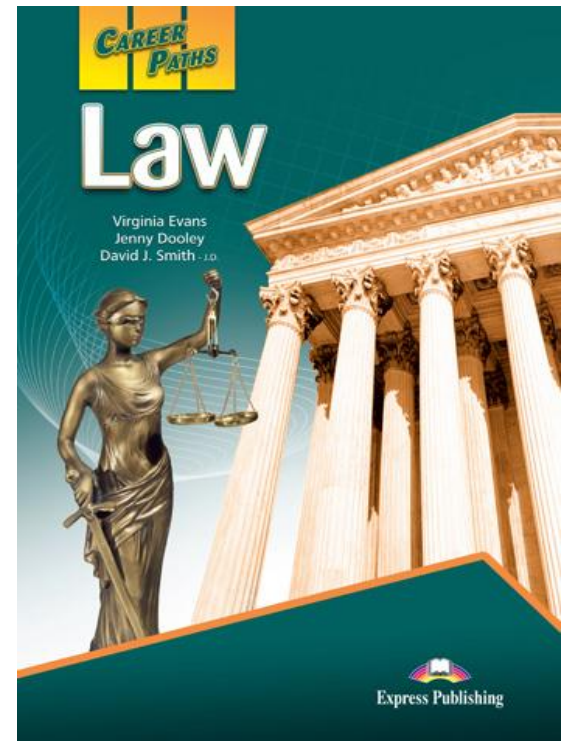
1. Many British children start school at four or five.
2. Many children like their first school.
3. Pupils take exams at 16.
4. Many pupils don't like doing exams.
5. Some pupils leave school at 16.
6. Many pupils stay at school up to the age of 18.

I started school at four.

- GEfUS is set for all freshers, while the level of the students are not equal and even the departments have their own specializations.
- The shortage of the teaching hours: It is not enough to cover all the activities and excersizes.

Career Path - Law

- **Shortages of Academic English**
- The shortage of the teaching hours. 2h per week
- The Difficulty of vocabularies: level of the students is different.
- The law system is in Arabic in Kurdistan.
- The absence of motivation: Lack of desire by the students to learn English.



SURVEY

QUESTIONS	1- Strongly Agree	2- Agree	3- Neutral	4- Disagree	5- Strongly disagree
1- The department has improved my English skills.	%8	%10	%2	%62	%18
2- It has taught me English so that I can speak English.	%0	%8	%0	%10	%82
3- It has taught me English so that I can write a paragraph in English.	%4	%8	%0	%60	%28
4- The system motivates the students to study English.	%10	%14	%30	%36	%10
5- The language is required for my future career.	%18	%2	%32	%36	%12
6- There are other languages that are more important than English like Arabic.	%84	%2	%6	%8	%0
7- I have studied English language in the department to learn English.	%20	%12	%0	%26	%42
8- I have studied English language in the department to pass the exams.	%66	%18	%0	%10	%6

- **Results**

- There is no connection between the two textbooks.
- Shortage of hours of teaching.
- It is not set specifically for students of law department- Cihan University. Therefore, there are too much gaps and shortages.
- The lack of motivation due to the up to date marketing requirements.

Recommendations

- The university needs to set a committee from linguists and law experts so as to put a unified system for English language in the law department.
- The committee is expected to increase the teaching hours of English language that can fit the program.
- To make studying English optional and to have alternatives for the language like Arabic because most of the students have preferred to study Arabic instead of English.

Thank You