



## Free English as a Second Language Courses

**usalearns.org**

Andrea Willis, Sacramento County Office of Education  
Katy Azevedo, Butte County Library




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## Katy's Mobile Library Project

### Butte County Library

A mobile library takes USA Learns to 40 adults at the Gridley Farm Labor Housing camp in California.



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## Funding - Thank you!

### USA Learns ESL Courses:

- Initial funding for USA Learns, which ended in 2008, was originally provided by the U.S. Department of Education and the California Department of Education
- Ads to help cover maintenance costs

### Libraries Helping Immigrants, a Pitch an Idea grant:

- U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, administered in California by the State Librarian
- The opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the position or policy of the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services or the California State Library, and no official endorsement by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services or the California State Library should be inferred.





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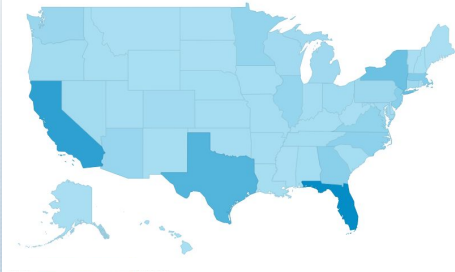
## USA Learns Statistics

- Web pages viewed since 2008: **1.6 Billion**
- Number of website users: **11 Million**
- Average amount of time per visit: **25 minutes**
- Number of users per day: **9,000**
- Accessed by every country in the world



## Top States

Florida, California, Texas, New York and Massachusetts



## Multimedia Galore!

Thousands of Multimedia Files



## What do the learners say?

I want to learn english, "USA Learns" is a great option and it's free! I like it really, thank you.

- Edward

I love you, USA Learns. You can help me learn English well. You are great and fabulous. I like learning via your website. Thanks!

- Bunthan

I love you USA Learns thanks for all, your have excelent topic. You are #1.

- July

I learn English in USA Learns because is very friendly and I can advance little by little when I have time.

- Jorge

I participated in more than 15 lessons in USA Learns site. All of my score was from 99% to 100%. I learned new words and new communications. I'm feeling in this site that I can learning English very quickly. Thanks to USA Learns team!

- Alex

(Unedited quotes from learners)

## English Courses

### The Two Sides of USA Learns

Learner Site: [usalearns.org](http://usalearns.org)

Learn English **FREE** and Prepare to Become a U.S. Citizen with USA Learns!

- Beginning and intermediate English
- Video lessons and written materials
- English speaking, listening, vocabulary, pronunciation, reading, writing and grammar
- New U.S. Citizenship course!

Start Now

Already registered?

Log In

Need U.S. Citizenship Course?

Teacher Site: [usalearns.org/teacher](http://usalearns.org/teacher)

Welcome to USA Learns for Teachers!

A Free Site for Teaching English and U.S. Citizenship to Adults. Create online English and U.S. Citizenship classes, monitor your students' progress and use many interactive tools.

Register

Already registered?

Log In

## 1<sup>st</sup> English Course

### Beginning English Course



- Activities using video, photos, sound, charts and text teach vocabulary, grammar, spelling, and life skills
- Practice in English listening, speaking, reading and writing
- 20 units - basic topics like time, clothes, weather, places in the neighborhood and more

## 1<sup>st</sup> English Course

### Beginning English Course



- Low to High Beginner ESL – National Reporting System (NRS) 2-3
- 192 lessons and 639 activities

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## 1<sup>st</sup> English Course



Let's check it out as a learner!

[usalearns.org](http://usalearns.org)

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## FAQ

"I'm not a trained teacher.  
Am I qualified to help  
people learn English?"

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## FAQ

"I'm not a trained teacher.  
Am I qualified to help  
people learn English?"

**Yes!** USA Learns  
gives you the tools  
and content.

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## FAQ

Is there a  
USA Learns  
app to support  
the 1st English  
Course?

**Yes!** The free **USA  
Learns English Apps**  
(1-4).



[www.usalearns.org/apps](http://www.usalearns.org/apps)

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## 1<sup>st</sup> English Course



How might you use the  
**1st English Course**  
in your library?

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1<sup>st</sup> English Course

Scenario 1



"I want to learn English, but I am too busy to come to classes."

You:

"\_\_\_\_\_"

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Sacramento  
County

USA  
Learns

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1<sup>st</sup> English Course

Scenario 1



"I want to learn English, but I am too busy to come to classes."

You:

"Have you tried USA Learns? Let me show you how to get started..."

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Sacramento  
County

USA  
Learns

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1<sup>st</sup> English Course

Tip from Katy

Getting Started

Learners Need

1. A computer or tablet

2. The URL (www.usalearns.org)

3. An email address

3. Very basic computer skills

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Sacramento  
County

USA  
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## 2nd English Course

### Intermediate English Course



- Five engaging video stories about the situations of different characters living in the U.S.
- 20 units - topics like Workers and the Workplace, Housing and Family Life, Taxes, Law and Community Issues and more

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## 2nd English Course

### Intermediate English Course



- Activities combine video, sound, charts and pictures to teach vocabulary, grammar, and life skills in all language skills – listening, speaking, reading and writing
- Low to High Intermediate ESL - NRS 4-5
- 141 lessons, 848 activities

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## 2nd English Course



**It's tour time!**

[usalearns.org](http://usalearns.org)

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## 2nd English Course



How might you use the  
**2nd English Course**  
in your library?



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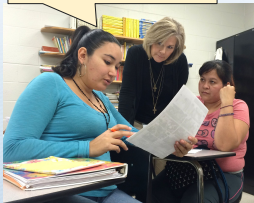
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## 2nd English Course



"We want to learn to  
speak English. Do  
you have classes?"

Scenario 2



You:

"\_\_\_\_\_?"



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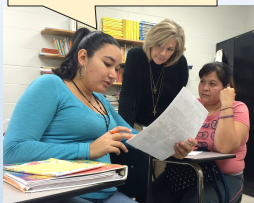
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## 2nd English Course



"We want to learn to  
speak English. Do  
you have classes?"

Scenario 2



You:

"Have you tried our  
English learning  
circle?"



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## English Courses

### Learning Circles at Providence Public Library



- Lightly facilitated
- Peer-learning
- Work through course materials face-to-face

**"All you need is a facilitator, space & the technology!"**

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## Learning Circles

Try one!

**Tip from Katy**



1st: Ask the group what they want to learn and how they want to study.

2nd: Invite learners to study specific vocabulary at home or together.

3rd: Review meanings with a partner during learning circle time.

4th: Use those words in a semi-facilitated conversation with the entire learning circle.

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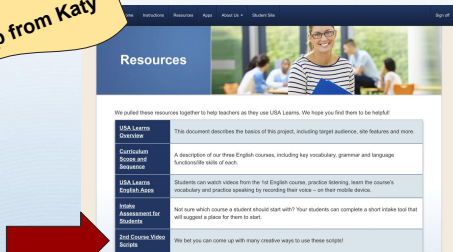
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## English Courses

### Scripts



**Tip from Katy**



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# Vocabulary Activity

Imagine... Your patrons want to learn English words about finding a job:

- job agency
- job counselor
- newspaper
- classified ads
- Help Wanted signs




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# Role Play Dialogue

MauDe: There are many ways to find a new job. For example, you can go to a **job agency** and see a job counselor. **Job counselors** help many people find a new job. Or you can look in the **newspaper**. There are a lot of jobs listed in the **classified ads**.

James: Hey--

MauDe: Or you can tell your family and your friends you're looking for a job.

James: You guys, look!

Alejandro: Assistant Manager needed.

MauDe: And sometimes you have to look for **"help wanted" signs**.

James: Go on, Alejandro. Well, what are you waiting for?

Alejandro: But that's the competition, Mr. Miller will be angry.

MauDe: There's no time like the present.




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# Vocabulary Activity

## Discussion Topic

"What is your experience in looking for a job in the past?  
Give me 3 examples from your home country or the U.S."

- 15 minutes
- team up
- rotate
- report out for your partner

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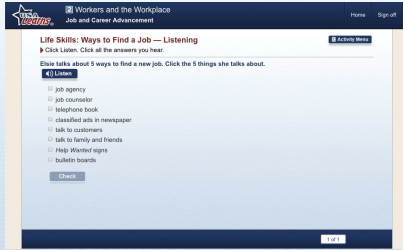
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# Vocabulary Activity

Back to USA Learns for more practice!



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## Practice English and Reading

Get more English practice reading real news stories!



- Stories originally came from news reports.
- Each unit contains a reading, vocabulary and spelling practice, comprehension questions, pronunciation and a writing activity.
- Dozens of stories in 11 different topics

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## Practice English and Reading



How might you use the **Practice English and Reading** course in your library?

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## Practice English and Reading

### Scenario 3



"My English is OK,  
but I need to  
practice reading and  
understanding it."

**You:**

"\_\_\_\_\_"

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## Practice English and Reading

### Scenario 3



"My English is OK,  
but I need to  
practice reading and  
understanding it."

**You:**

"I have just the  
course for you!"

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## English Courses



**Tip from Katy**

By learning together, we are  
helping develop peer  
leaders and community  
support.

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[illegible][illegible]

# USA Learns - Teacher Side

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# USA Learns - Teacher Side

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# USA Learns - Teacher Side

**USA Learns**  
Classroom Library

Home Instructions Resources Apps About Us Student Site Sign Off

## My Home

enrollment set

Start a New Class or manage your existing classes on this page. Select a class title to access your class roster, view scores, write messages, and more.  
(Press the class title again to close the menu.)

**Class Overview**

**Start a New Class** Manage 1st English Course

Title	View Class Details	Enrollment	Class Key
1st English Course	n/a	0	26d27249
2nd English Course	n/a	1	64f919f
Andrew's Demo Class	n/a	2	531018b

**New for teachers**

- Downloadable PDFs of the writing prompts for all Writing Activities are now available.
- We've added a new student activity report
- 2 writing activities to grade
  - Messages
  - Change my password
  - Change my email address
  - Change my name

Select a course name for more details

Share your class key with learners

**Sacramento**  
Office of Education

**Butte County**  
Library

**USA**  
Learns

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# USA Learns - Teacher Side

**USA Learns**  
Office of Education

Home Introduction Resources About About Us Student Site

Wills, Andrea 11/22/2017

## Student Gradebook

2nd English Course

Title	Attempts	Completed	Time	Score
<b>Unit 1: Workers and the Workplace — Job and Career Advancement — Introduction &amp; Vocabulary</b>				
Let's Watch	6	11/22/2017	00:04:32	—
Learning Goals	7	10/22/2018	00:01:03	—
Learn New Words	1	2/23/2017	00:01:54	—
Definition Match	1	2/27/2017	00:01:34	100%
Listening Match				—
Say It				—
Spell It				—
<b>Unit 1: Workers and the Workplace — Job and Career Advancement — Story Start-Up</b>				
Listen for It				—
Getting Ready				—
Let's Watch	6	11/22/2017	00:09:06	—
Comprehension Check	1	12/09/2018	00:00:52	75%
What did they say?				—
<b>Unit 1: Workers and the Workplace — Job and Career Advancement — Vocabulary Part 2</b>				

**Sacramento County**  
Office of Education

**Butte County**  
Library

**USA Learns**

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# Not sure which course?



**Tip from Katy**

We pulled these resources together to help teachers as they view USA Learns. We hope you find them to be helpful!

	Home	Vocabulary	Resources	Apps	About Us	Contact Us	Sign Up
<b>Resources</b>							
<b>USA Learns Overview</b>	This document describes the basics of this project, including target audience, site features and more.						
<b>Curriculum Scope and Sequence</b>	A description of our three English courses, including key vocabulary, grammar and language fundamentals with of each.						
<b>USA Learns English Assess</b>	Students can watch videos from the 1st English course, practice listening, hear the country's vocabulary and practice speaking by recording their voice -- on their mobile device.						
<b>Formative Assessment for Students</b>	Not sure which course a student should start with? Your students can complete a short intake test that will suggest a place for them to start.						
<b>2nd Course Skills Goals</b>	Get by now you come up with many creative ways to use these support!						



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## Libraries Helping Immigrants

- **Objective 1:** Train library staff to utilize USA Learns as an educational tool
- **Objective 2:** Utilize New Americans Campaign, ILRC, USCIS resources, including webinars & training for library staff to make referrals assisting immigrants with the naturalization process & legal issues
- **Objective 3:** Distribute multilingual flyers, posters, bookmarks and animations that support target groups
- **Objective 4:** Deliver an awareness campaign to libraries across California sharing this project & related resources




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## USA Learns in Libraries

### Many ways to use it!

- Conversation groups
- Drop-in sessions
- Online learning
- Blended learning
- Learning circles




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## USA Learns Citizenship Statistics

November 2017 – October 2018

- Almost 100,000 learners
- Nearly 1 million activities



Largely Funded by  
CA State Library  
Thank you!

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## Common Questions

Is USA Learns website really free? Is the app free?

Do I need to be an official, credentialed teacher to use USA Learns?

Can we link to USA Learns from our website?

Why are there ads?

Can learners use USA Learns at home?

Do you have flyers I can share in my library?

<https://usalearns.org/usa-learns-share-page>

## Thank You!



**Andrea Willis**  
awillis@scoe.net

**Tech Support**  
help@usalearns.org

**Katy Azevedo**  
kazevedo@buttecounty.net