

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

➤ **Inglés Mínimo/Minimum English**

This class is a non-academic and non-grammar based text designed for Spanish speaking persons who want an easy and quick way to learn limited amounts of everyday U.S. English. It assumes no prior knowledge of English. However, it does assume that the student has minimal literacy in Spanish – at least three to four years of primary school. The manual is divided into three components:

Speaking in English: This component will teach the students how to say practical, common phrases and questions in American English. In addition to an introductory section that deals with how to pronounce English, there are 24 different language menus covering a wide variety of English phrases, expressions, and questions for use in everyday interactions. Each language menu is divided into three columns: Spanish, English, and phonetic encoding. The English items that you choose for the class to study should be thoroughly memorized for maximum performance outcomes.

Listening in English: This component will teach the students how to comprehend many basic and common expressions, phrases, and questions used in everyday English. These language menus correspond in content and sequence with the language menus in the “Speaking in English” component. The English items that you choose for the class to study should be thoroughly learned for passive memory recognition.

U.S. Culture: This component deals with some of the most fundamental aspects of everyday U.S. culture that may be misunderstood by Latinos. Included are such topics as the U.S. surname system, holidays, school rules, health issues, driving in the U.S., filling out checks and money orders, etc.

Course Outline:

Component 1: *Speaking in English* and Component 2: *Listening in English*:

- Titles
- Greetings
- Etiquette
- Communication Strategies
- How to introduce yourself and others
- Giving personal information
- Numbers
- Covering Basic Needs
- At School: how to register your kids. Meeting your children 's instructors
- At Work
- Discussing schedules: work and school
- Shopping: Buying and returning merchandise

- Housing: how to rent an apartment
- Doctor's appointments
- Emergencies
- Phone calls
- Telling about your preferences: People, Food, Things and Activities
- How to look for a place
- At the Bank
- At the Pharmacy
- Sending items or money
- Possible answers to specific questions

Component 3

- American Political System
- The United States of America: abbreviation of the States and their capitals
- Holidays
- What's your name?
- Living in the United States: housing, making payments, the law, education system, health system, driving, alcohol and tobacco, working in the U.S.
- Money
- Banks
- Money orders and checks