NEW

Breakthrough Spanish Teacher's Guide

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Introduction

Breakthrough

The first courses in the *Breakthrough* series were published in 1982. The original courses have been frequently revised over the years and new languages and levels added. To supplement the core courses, additional videos and activity books have been produced in French, Spanish and German to add variety and to increase the potential for extension and reinforcement. Teachers may be interested to note that we have introduced a policy of free copying of cassettes for use within the classroom/institution. A form to apply for permission to copy is available from Macmillan at the address on the second page of this book.

Breakthrough language courses have proved popular and effective. Several million learners have used both the UK versions and the special editions which have been published in Germany, France, Italy, Spain and the USA.

Why Breakthrough?

Learners have welcomed:

- ▶ the clear structure to facilitate effective learning
- ▶ the combination of authentic location recordings to present material and scripted studio recordings to practise the language
- ▶ the focus on promoting effective communication
- ▶ the lively and varied activities
- ▶ the fact that the courses can be used both in the classroom and for independent study

The Teacher's Guide

An increasing number of teachers have found that *Breakthrough* works well for them, but feedback has suggested that more specific help in classroom exploitation would be welcome. This *Guide*, therefore, provides a range of suggestions for using the basic course, together with photocopiable Exercise and Roleplay sheets to help reinforce and extend the material. The *Guide* is meant to be used in conjunction with the third edition of the main *Breakthrough* course, with some additional references to the second edition of the *Breakthrough Activity Book*.

Structure of the Teacher's Guide

Each unit of the *Guide* relates to the same unit in the main course book. There are, therefore, 15 units covering the same topics, functions, structures and vocabulary.

For the sake of clarity and ease of use, each of the individual units in the *Guide* has the same layout.

First two pages (part one)

Aims of the Unit	These are briefly set out at the beginning to clarify what learners are expected to get out of each unit.
Grammar	Although <i>Breakthrough</i> is not a grammar-based course, grammar is introduced primarily as the cement to help fix what has already been learnt. Each unit in the <i>Guide</i> has a list of the key grammar points which occur in the main course.
Exploiting the course material	This section contains suggestions for how some of the core conversations and exercises in the main course could be adapted and further exploited in a classroom context. The main aim is to adapt some of the existing materials to promote interaction and to give more oral practice, often in pairs or small groups.
Answers	Part one of each unit concludes with answers to the activities which are contained in Part two.

Photocopiable section (part two)

The second part of each unit is designed to be photocopied for your students. It provides the full text of exercises and activities.

Photocopiable exercise sheets	These are exercises which are meant primarily for students to complete individually. They can be used within the lesson or they could form the basis of homework tasks. The first sheet is intended to practise comprehension and to reinforce key vocabulary. It introduces a variety of activities, many of them based on 'realia' and all closely linked to the language of the main course. The second sheet has more of a 'grammar' focus, with simple written exercises designed to strengthen learners' understanding and use of key structures.
Photocopiable Roleplay sheets	These are designed to stimulate pairwork or activities in small groups. There are two or three activities in each unit and learners are introduced to a range of 'realistic' tasks, again related to the topics, functions and vocabulary in the main course. For each activity, there are two sets of roleplay sheets, each containing the necessary information and prompts to spark off active oral work.

There is a transcript section containing 16 pages of full transcripts of the listening and speaking exercises in the main course.

Transcripts

It is hoped that the information, the suggestions and the photocopiable roleplay sheets contained in this *Teacher's Guide* will enable *Breakthrough* to be even more successfully used in the classroom. It should also go a long way in saving valuable preparation time for hard-pressed teachers by providing full texts for enjoyable and varied follow-up activities.

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