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# Introduction

This activity-based, fully copyable teacher's resource book is geared to the interests and linguistic abilities of young adult and adult learners of advanced-level ESL. Its primary objective is the development of fluency in speaking and listening. As well, students are exposed to a wide and diverse selection of vocabulary and idiomatic phrases.

Virtually every activity in the book involves some form of interaction, usually carried out in pairs or in small groups. Students work together to solve problems, resolve issues, share information, and in some cases play with the language. Although it is the teacher who initiates the activities, it is left to the students to perform the tasks at hand. This affords the teacher an excellent opportunity to circulate and eavesdrop, taking note of errors and problems while offering assistance and support.

As the title suggests, the book focuses on the contemporary world that we all share on a day-to-day basis. Accordingly, many of the activities deal with elements of popular culture, a pervasive and powerful force throughout the world. In essence, the work performed by the students is a reflection of everyday life outside the classroom.

There are four parts to this collection of activities. At the beginning of each section, "Teacher's Notes" provide detailed instructions on how the activities can be structured. However, these are suggestions that can be adapted according to each teaching situation and style.

The first activity, entitled, "The Evolution of Mass Culture," not only serves as an introduction to the overall theme of the book, but it also functions as an example of the kind of cooperative process utilized throughout. In a manner of speaking, it is a stepping stone toward a better understanding of the universality we share within this world of ours.