

# THE TEXTBOOK AS AGENT OF CHANGE

*Zymeriu hauohatphiu aspaphpiu yheepcumem, Ykpauha*

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Textbooks are regarded as effective agents of change. Far from being a problem, some educationists have concluded, the good textbook, properly used, can provide an excellent vehicle for effective and long-lasting change. Attempts to do without a textbook (unfortunately, they all too common strategy of many a reform programme) are more likely to create the damaging insecurity that will make it more difficult for the individual to accommodate the change. Only the textbook can really provide the level of structure that appears to be necessary for teachers to fully understand and routineize change. The move to more highly structured textbooks is not something to be deplored, but rather to be welcomed as a natural and beneficial response to a period of rapid change.

The textbook is an almost universal element of ELT teaching. The danger with ready-made textbooks is that they can seem to absolve teachers of responsibility. The format of the textbook does not sit easily with the developments in ideas about teaching and learning that have come out of the applied linguistics debates of the last decades. Having recognized the dynamic and interactive nature of the learning process, and the individuality of any teaching-learning situation, the textbook is expected to withdraw in favour of negotiating syllabuses backed up by materials produced by teachers and examiners working together. Indeed, the development of concepts such as the process syllabus should logically preclude the very idea of a fixed and permanent textbook. The textbook as a medium should have given way to resource packs and the like.

1. The role of Financial Departments and relationships with other corporate functions.
2. Business strategy and market requirements for finance and accounting people.