

Case Study: NorthStar and MyEnglishLab

KEY TAKEAWAY

Students learn best and are motivated when they feel they can incorporate their learning in their real-life experience.



Adult Instructor:
Bridin Harnett



Institution:
Al Nahda School for Girls



Country:
United Arab Emirates

“At the end of the course, I feel that most of our students feel confident about their English language ability. When language becomes internalized it becomes autonomous”

Bridin Harnett

Implementation

The Al Nahda School for Girls originally followed a skills-based approach to teaching English but, over time and with research, adopted a sociolinguistic, or whole language, approach to teaching English. Bridin says, *“At the end of the day students need to be able to communicate in a global community... This understanding must be reflected in our English language teaching.”*

Since moving to a sociolinguistic approach seven years ago, Bridin has used various versions of NorthStar and integrated the MyEnglishLab for NorthStar when it was launched.

The combination of the NorthStar coursebook and MyEnglishLab provides students the opportunity to learn English language skills while applying these skills to their everyday lives.

Benefits

MyEnglishLab is motivational. The opportunity for frequent practice, assessment and feedback helps students to feel they are making progress - this creates a strong motivation to continue to move forward..

Bridin feels the vocabulary assessments are particularly valuable. *“The vocabulary exercises with automatic scoring and feedback are very motivational for students. For one weak student, after repeated practice, she achieved a score of 97%. She was so excited and so delighted - she felt really empowered!”*

Conclusion

MyEnglishLab for northStar has contributed to supporting an autonomous learning environment. Students leave their English course with a broader perspective and an understanding that there is more than one way to think about things. English helps expand this thinking process.



“Students are happy with MyEnglishLab. Even when I used it in the last period before the weekend, not one student packed up early. This tells me MyEnglishLab is a very effective programme.”

Bridin Harnett

MyEnglishLab & NorthStar

MyEnglishLab offers structured online English practice for students, with instant marking and reporting for teachers. MyEnglishLab is proven to improve student results, and helps make teachers' lives easier.

