

Preface

The Primary Curriculum has been revised in the light of the National Education Policy 2010 which emphasizes learning English as an international language for communicating locally and globally. The 'English for Today' textbooks have been developed to help students attain competencies in all four language skills in English through meaningful and enjoyable activities. Emphasis has been given to listening and speaking skills as the foundation on which to develop reading and writing skills. Topics and themes have been selected in a way that would not only help students address the needs of real-life situations, but would also inculcate human values in them as well as broaden their mental horizon. Grammar points and planned activities to develop students' competence in all four language skills have been presented within contexts in a systematic and graded way.

The 'English for Today' textbook is accompanied by a Teacher's Edition. However, we are aware that to conduct teaching and learning of English most effectively and fruitfully, particularly at the primary stage the textbook needs to be complemented with audio-visual materials. We sincerely hope to do so in the near future.

Curriculum development is a continuous process. Textbook is developed based on curriculum. To make the young learners interested, enthusiastic and dedicated, Bangladesh Awami League Government under the dynamic leadership of the Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has taken initiatives to change the textbooks into four colours, and make interesting, sustainable and distributed free of cost since 2009. The distribution of textbooks for all Students of Pre-primary, Primary, Secondary, Ibtedia, Dhakil, Dhakhil Vocational and S.S.C Vocational level have been taken free of cost across the country which is a historical initiative of the present government. In this continuation, NCTB has developed and printed textbooks with quality papers and four colours illustration according to revised curriculum within a short time in this year as well.

It is to be mentioned here that this textbook was tried out during the school calendar year of 2013 in 32 Government primary schools in different locations throughout the country to ensure its appropriateness to the students. The contents and the illustrations have been refined based on the feedback of the try-out and on critical review. I offer my sincere thanks to all concerned in this complex and significant process.

I also sincerely thank all who have been involved with the production and publication of this textbook.

Professor Narayan Chandra Saha

Chairman

National Curriculum and Textbook Board, Bangladesh