

MARK FLETCHER AND ROGER HARGREAVES. *Defining and Verbalising*. London: Evans Brothers Limited, 1980. 89 pp. Paperback n.p.

Defining and Verbalising will be of inestimable value to foreign students in England. Parts 1 and 2 with their descriptions and comparisons are particularly interesting to learners being introduced to the practical use of English; the pictures and diagrams, time table, maps, tables of football results, discussion of Exchange rates and numerous other essential facts are well portrayed, and the conversion tables and work with figures are very valuable. The writers provide lists of words for the learners to use together in pairs and groups, and questions are set for them to ask one another, so sustaining their interest. The teacher is not much in evidence but must correct the students' pronunciation. Parts 1 and 2 both have their own comprehensive revision where learners make use of the skills they have acquired.

Having worked through Parts 1 and 2, the learners are ready to tackle the more difficult Part 3 on Interpretation and Analysis. Six projects are presented, each involving a problem to be solved using the information supplied. Students are divided into groups for discussion for and against the solution plans. In the project on Rabies Prevention, for example, there are points in favour of the plan and against it, and the Deterrent Plan is also discussed from all angles. This problem should arouse much discussion, as should those on The 'Rise with the Sun' Bed, Age Quiz, Rationing Scheme for Petrol and for Clothes, The Polka-Dot Bikini Company, and Recycling of Household Waste. This last project is a thought-provoking problem that many people never consider, and introducing the idea to foreigners is really worthwhile.

Learners should be encouraged to state their case and to accept criticism of their ideas. *Defining and Verbalising* will do this, and the group discussions cannot fail to be productive. However, parts of the book are strongly orientated towards England, such as the sections on Telephone Numbers (p.8), Football Scores (p.8 and p.43), the Motorist's Map (p.65), the Oil Pollution Map (p.66) and the Projects in Part 3. If this book is to sell in South Africa, could these sections not be orientated towards Southern Africa? This would make *Defining and Verbalising* much more appealing to non-English-speaking people in South Africa.

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