



An English Speaker's Guide to the Latest Spanish Language Titles

The following is a copy of a review of EASY: English Academic Success For You recently published in *Críticas*.

About *Críticas*: *Críticas* is the first of its kind—a comprehensive review of the latest in Spanish-language publishing—written in English. Created by the editors of *Publishers Weekly*, *Library Journal* and *School Library Journal*, *Críticas* has everything you need to serve the Latino market as effectively as you serve the rest of your patrons. An authoritative one-stop source for English-language reviews of new adult and children's titles from the international Spanish-language publishing world, *Críticas* also covers Spanish-language publishing news as it pertains to U.S. readers, librarians, and booksellers.

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ADULT REVIEWS: ESL

English Academic Success For You (EASY): *The Beginner Series.*

6 videos. ISBN 0-9720536-5-4; 6 CD ROMs. ISBN 0-9720536-6-2.

English Academic Success For You (EASY): *Community Essentials*

6 videos. ISBN 0-9729746-0-1; 6 CD ROMs. ISBN 0-9729746-1-X.

Vol.: U.S.: EASY. 2003. \$295. ESL

EASY is an excellent resource for public libraries and schools that serve large groups of immigrants and are looking for ESL materials that teach American English. The 12 videos or CD ROMs (for both PC and MAC) that make up the program come together with student workbooks and, for schools, a teacher's guide with lesson plans. They also provide usage instructions in nine different languages – Spanish, Korean, Cambodian, Hmong, Russian, Farsi, Mandarin, Vietnamese, and English – making the program accessible to non-Hispanic immigrants as well. In the first six units – *The Beginner Series* – students will learn the basics, from the alphabet and the numbers to initial interactions and conversations. The second six tapes – *Community Essentials* – features lots of everyday scenarios, like getting a driver's license, opening a bank account, going to the doctor's, using the phone for local resources, and getting a job. Overall, the actors in the series perform remarkably in their roles, speaking in clear English, engaging viewers, and emphasizing correct grammar throughout. EASY also features relevant information for librarians on second-language acquisitions, literacy development, and cultural issues. Strongly recommended for public and school libraries. – *Armando Ramirez, Half Moon Bay Lib., CA*

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