



SUCCESS STORY

Students' English Improves with New Textbooks



Qoraboyeva Habibaxon. Photo: RTI International staff.

"After using new textbooks my students' interest in learning English increased. By the end of the pilot, 90% of my students passed the middle and final exams with good marks, which is much higher than the results of the last year."

—Qoraboyeva Habibaxon

Telling Our Story
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Mrs. Qoraboyeva Habibaxon is an English teacher from School #16 in Norin District, Namangan Region.

She has been teaching for 12 years and has taught more than 1,200 students. She loves helping her students build their knowledge and understands her important role in guiding students on their journey to learn English.

Until recently, Mrs. Habibaxon had used the same books since she started teaching and yearned for additional materials to support her teaching. Specifically, she wanted to help her students develop practical English listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. When she first heard the news that the Ministry of Public Education, with support from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), was planning to introduce a new set of student textbooks and teacher guides for English as a foreign language, she was delighted. Like most teachers, Mrs. Habibaxon hoped that the new books would be the solution to the learning problems they observed.

Mrs. Habibaxon's school was selected to pilot the new materials, and she was excited for the opportunity to participate. When asked to become a master trainer to train other English teachers, she readily agreed. She recognized that some teachers needed time to switch from their unusual approach and adjust their teaching to use the new materials, and she wanted to support them in this process.

As part of her preparation to become a master trainer, Mrs. Habibaxon met with English as a foreign language expert from the USAID Uzbekistan Education for Excellence Program to discuss each section of the new textbooks, workbooks, and teacher guides and explore all the new supplementary materials available to teachers, including video and audio files, word cards, and a test generator.

She said, "I was convinced that they have finally solved my problems in teaching students and that I would not need additional literature during classes."

As soon as she completed her training, Mrs. Habibaxon was convinced that the content and the approach to teaching English were drastically different from those she had used in the past. When she started to use the new teacher guide and student textbooks and workbooks, she knew these new materials would help her students meet their goals. Additionally, she found the teacher guide easy to follow and noted that the steps included in the guide helped her to implement each lesson.

She said, "I also witness that every student is able to understand the content in the textbook, and not a single student is excluded. I am happy to hear that other teachers have the same impressions from the new materials as I do."

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As a master trainer, Mrs. Habibaxon gained extensive knowledge of the books' contents and methods, which helped her be a better trainer and teacher. She appreciated the attention paid in the materials to the equal development of the four critical skills needed to learn English. She also liked that the books included project presentations and assessment materials so she can evaluate whether students are progressing. Additionally, she has observed her students using the practical assignments to practice writing in English and noticed that by the end of each section, each student was able to write on their own.

Mrs. Habibaxon is sure that using the new English textbooks is helping her students learn English in an enjoyable way and that this will lay the foundational language learning skills they will need in the future. She concluded, "After using new textbooks, my students' interest for learning English increased. Ninety percent of my students passed the middle and final exams of school with good marks, which is much higher than the results of the last year."

Prepared by

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