

A note from Liz, your author . . .

The inspiration for this publication grew from working with clients wanting to reduce their accent and improve their professional speech in a short amount of time. When I first began accent modification work, I used popular programs from the market. Unfortunately, I discovered many gaps in theory, explanation or functional practice and as a result had to create several supplemental lessons. Asking my clients, "What kind of additional support do you need?" generated a spark that led to many of the programs in this book, such as, natural ways to rehearse across the business day, the expanded vowel unit and self-evaluations and goal sheets. Whenever clients reported that they needed help with something specific, a new lesson was created until several custom lessons were developed.

Originally, this book was created based on the specific speech needs of accented individuals. With the third edition, I have now spent over 10 years co-writing this program with the help of all of my clients, which has led to this comprehensive program designed to cover just about every possible speaking situation. This creation was deeply rewarding as I watched my clients improve their speech, confidence and communication skills with the provided activities. After using this program over the years and teaching other speech-language pathologists on how to offer accent reduction services through nation wide lecturing, I sharpened my skills, making more observations, implementing newer strategies and having my clients achieve faster results.

I wish you great success. Please feel free to share your successes or contact me with questions, comments or suggestions for future editions.

All the best,
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