

**ALINA-ROXANA POPA**

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**GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY  
FOR IT STUDENTS  
– Course Resources –**



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**FOR IT STUDENTS**

**Revised Edition**

**– Course Resources –**



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## Introduction

Conceived as an ESP (English for Specific Purposes) course, the book is addressed to Information Technology students in their freshman and sophomore years. It is divided into 20 units which, as the title suggests, are structured aiming at the assimilation and effective operationalisation of grammar and vocabulary notions.

The **texts** are represented by recent news and newspaper articles in the field of computers and technology, covering subjects such as: career opportunities in IT and IT studies, technology business, cyber security, cybercrime, offensive content, information access, programming/coding, video game development, software, the Internet, electronic waste, quantum computing, databases, technology industry etc. meant to familiarize the students with specialized vocabulary used in native-written language, these texts can be used along with seminal materials in the ESP literature, such as *Professional English in Use for Computers and the Internet* (Esteras/Fabré 2007 – see bibliography).

The **vocabulary study** sections in each unit consist of two groups of words/phrases and their translations into Romanian, selected under the subheadings “Technical Vocabulary” (which are then stressed upon in the exercises) and “General Vocabulary” (included in order to facilitate the reading process). These sections are followed by translation exercises, focusing on the previous vocabulary items and on the grammar elements in each unit. The exercises are also of the type word building, word bank, fill-in-the-blank, definition matching, find the correct tense, etc.

The course also includes some **writing** guiding principles and exercises, concentrating on types which would be of immediate use for the learners’ professional

careers: the informal email, the CV, the covering letter, the character reference.

The **grammar** sections represent a work of selection and synthesis of older and some of the recent, most popular titles encountered in General English bibliographies for ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) examinations. Ranging from the levels B1-C2 in the CEFR (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages), the list of titles is also a source of exercises that can further enhance the resources present in the book, according to the students' needs. Without the purpose of being fully covered during courses and seminars, these grammar parts are meant to be a flexible, handy reference tool, helping to tackle various language issues identified during the teaching sessions.

In an age when the intertwining between technology use and access to information is of paramount importance for any level of positive achievement, as a/the “lingua franca” of the scientific, working environments and not only, English is a *sine qua non* for the modern student. May your re-encounter with the subject be fruitful!

*The Author*

# UNIT 1

## *Computer Sciences and IT<sup>1</sup>*

### **What will I learn?**

Taking a computer science course will mean you will be studying a subject at the very forefront of technology and innovation. Computers are everywhere and the demand to make them smaller, work more quickly and be fitted with new and exciting software has never been greater. Most computing courses tend to focus on software engineering - database design, network systems, computer hardware, the internet - that sort of thing. But there are other options in this field, such as artificial intelligence, cybernetics, multimedia and games design, to name a few. You will be expected to be good at maths and an interest in physics would help, as most of the theory will touch on both subjects. Courses should have a heavy practical emphasis, so you will learn how the professionals do things, and probably be taught by some of them. You should also get plenty of group work experience. Some universities are encouraging students to develop and market their own ideas, and, through this, a number of students manage to do some freelance work while they study, which will look good on the CV and will also bring in some extra cash. Some courses are developed with employers to ensure their relevance, which means you'll graduate with up-to-date knowledge and, hopefully, with plenty of names in your contacts book.

### **What skills will it give me?**

The practical nature of many of these courses will mean you will know how to solve technology problems - or at least know where to begin. You will learn how to analyse information and how to put the theory, often about large and complex systems, into practice. You should graduate equipped with the professional and interpersonal skills needed to work in the industry. You should develop teamwork, project management and commercial awareness as well as critical thinking skills. Perhaps, most important, you will have gained a good insight into a specialised field.

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<sup>1</sup> \*\*\* (2008). Education Guardian, *Computer sciences and IT*. 1 May 2008. Retrieved 7 May 2012 from <http://www.guardian.co.uk/education/2008/may/01/universityguide.computerscienceandit>

Although the majority of people own or use computers, building and maintaining them requires skilled individuals.

### **What job can I get?**

More than half of computing and IT graduates get jobs in the industry in technical fields, such as computer operations, computer systems sales and service, programming, software engineering or as analysts and programme writers. This could mean working in specific IT firms or in companies outside the industry that use computers as a core part of the job, perhaps managing the computing needs of an advertising firm's employees. If you graduate bursting with ideas, or with some freelance work under your belt, then perhaps you could consider setting up your business or developing your existing work. After all, Google, YouTube and MySpace did not just happen on their own.

### **What will look good on the CV?**

The ability to operate computer equipment

To deploy appropriate theory and practice

To recognise professional, moral and ethical issues.

### ***Technical vocabulary***

*IT (Information Technology)* = Tehnologia Informației

*Computer science* = informatică, știința calculatoarelor, calculatoare

*software engineering* = inginerie software

*database design* = proiectare / configurație a bazei de date

*network systems* = sisteme de rețea

*artificial intelligence* = inteligență artificială

*cybernetics* = cibernetică

*multimedia* = multimedia

*games design* = proiectare de jocuri

*to maintain* = a întreține

*computer operations* = operații informatice

*computer systems sales and service* = vânzări și service sisteme de calcul

*programming* = programare

*analyst* = analist

*programme writer* = programator

### ***General vocabulary***

*at the forefront of...* = în prim planul...

*to be fitted with* = a fi echipat / prevăzut cu



*to market* = a comercializa  
*to do freelance work* = a lucra ca liber profesionist  
*to develop* = a elabora; a pune la punct; a crea; a dezvolta  
*employer* = angajator  
*employee* = angajat  
*up-to-date knowledge* = cunoștințe la zi  
*skill* = competență; pricepere; deprindere  
*teamwork* = muncă în echipă  
*project management* = conducere de proiecte, project management  
*core part* = parte central / esențială  
*to manage* = a administra, a gestiona  
*to graduate* = a absolvi  
*graduate* = absolvent(ă)  
*to have something under your belt* = a fi realizat ceva folositor sau important  
*to set up a business* = a-și deschide / înființa o afacere  
*to deploy* = a folosi în mod efficient  
*issue* = problemă

### **Translate into English:**

1. El dorește să lucreze în domeniul ingineriei software.
2. Informatica s-a dezvoltat rapid în ultimii ani.
3. Ei învață despre proiectarea și întreținerea sistemelor de rețea.
4. Programarea reprezintă procesul de alcătuire a instrucțiunilor pe care un calculator trebuie să le execute.
5. El lucrează ca programator independent și este mulțumit de venitul său.
6. Angajații companiei noastre se bucură de programe speciale de formare continuă.
7. Voi fi inginer după ce voi termina facultatea.
8. Vreau să îmi deschid o afacere în domeniul IT.

## The Numeral<sup>2</sup>

### *Cardinal and Ordinal Numerals*

1	one	the first / the 1 <sup>st</sup>
2	two	the second / the 2 <sup>nd</sup>
3	three	the third / the 3 <sup>rd</sup>
4	four	the fourth / the 4 <sup>th</sup>
5	five	the fifth / the 5 <sup>th</sup>
6	six	the sixth / the 6 <sup>th</sup>
7	seven	the seventh / the 7 <sup>th</sup>
8	eight	the eighth / the 8 <sup>th</sup>
9	nine	the ninth / the 9 <sup>th</sup>
10	<b>ten</b>	the tenth / the 10 <sup>th</sup>
11	eleven	the eleventh / the 11 <sup>th</sup>
12	twelve	the twelfth / the 12 <sup>th</sup>
13	thirteen	the thirteenth / the 13 <sup>th</sup>
14	fourteen	the fourteenth / the 14 <sup>th</sup>
15	fifteen	the fifteenth / the 15 <sup>th</sup>
16	sixteen	the sixteenth / the 16 <sup>th</sup>
17	seventeen	the seventeenth / the 17 <sup>th</sup>
18	eighteen	the eighteenth / the 18 <sup>th</sup>
19	nineteen	the nineteenth / the 19 <sup>th</sup>
20	<b>twenty</b>	the twentieth / the 20 <sup>th</sup>
21	twenty-one	the twenty-first / the 21 <sup>st</sup>
22	twenty-two	the twenty-second / the 22 <sup>nd</sup>
30	<b>thirty</b>	the thirtieth / the 30 <sup>th</sup>
40	<b>forty</b>	the fortieth / the 40 <sup>th</sup>
50	<b>fifty</b>	the fiftieth / the 50 <sup>th</sup>
60	<b>sixty</b>	the sixtieth / the 60 <sup>th</sup>
70	<b>seventy</b>	the seventieth / the 70 <sup>th</sup>
80	<b>eighty</b>	the eightieth / the 80 <sup>th</sup>
90	<b>ninety</b>	the ninetieth / the 90 <sup>th</sup>
100	<b>a/one hundred</b>	the (one) hundredth / the 100 <sup>th</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Carter / McCarthy 2006: 838, 860-7; Quirk / Greenbaum / Leech / Svartvik 1985: 393-7; Paidos 2001 (vol.II): 123-5; Gibilisco 2001:789-91.