

# All American Newsletter

[www.americanschool.org](http://www.americanschool.org)

Volume 40, Number 1

January - February 2015

## American School and Rosetta Stone® Join Forces



American School is pleased to partner with Rosetta Stone® to offer the following ten online world language courses: Arabic, Chinese (Mandarin), Dutch, English as a Second Language, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese, and Spanish.

Rosetta Stone® is a powerful learning tool that provides students with an immersive, interactive and engaging language-learning experience. Utilizing a variety of immersion techniques and administrative features, the software accelerates language learning and provides quantifiable measurements of success. Key features include advanced speech recognition technology, speech analysis tools, predefined courses templates, grammar and spelling components and a milestone feature which simulates real-life situations in which to practice the language. The immersion environment puts students' native language-learning skills to work, eliminating their dependence on translation and memorization. Images, intuition, interactivity and instruction are hallmarks of the immersion learning environment.

Rosetta Stone® presents language courses in several levels. For most languages, Level 1 and Level 2 would be equivalent to the first year (one unit of credit) in a classroom or paper-based language course. Level 3 and Level 4 would be equivalent to the second year (one unit of credit) and Level 5 would be equivalent to the first semester of the third year (one-half unit of credit). Rosetta Stone® estimates it will take about 40–50 hours to complete the content in each level. Therefore it may take 80-100 hours to complete the content required to earn one unit of credit. Keep in mind, though, that each learner is different. Students have access to a variety of activities to practice and refine their skills. Some will

work on their courses on a daily basis, while others will log in and work on their activities less frequently. The more each student uses Rosetta Stone®, the more quickly he or she will learn a language and the more quickly he or she will earn credit toward an accredited high school diploma.

The cost of Rosetta Stone® courses will vary depending upon your enrollment date. For students in our diploma programs who enrolled before November 1, 2013, full unit Rosetta Stone® courses cost an additional \$190 each, and half units of Rosetta Stone® courses cost an additional \$170 each. Students who enrolled after November 1, 2013, may enroll in 2 (two) full or half unit Rosetta Stone® courses at no additional charge. Additional full unit Rosetta Stone® courses may be purchased for \$190 each, and half units of Rosetta Stone® courses may be purchased for \$170 each.

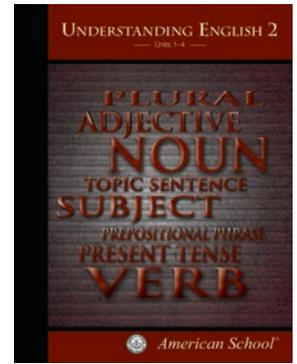
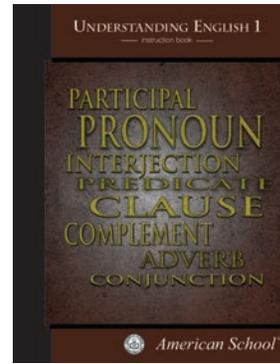
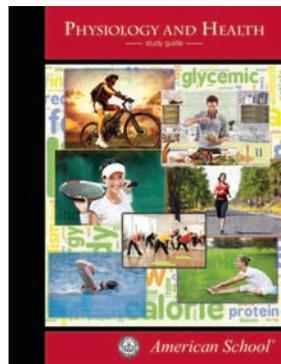
If you are an Independent Study student or are taking Rosetta Stone® courses to enrich an existing homeschool program, full unit Rosetta Stone® courses cost \$250 each and half units of Rosetta Stone® courses cost \$200 each.

We are confident you will enjoy having Rosetta Stone® courses available to you and are hopeful you will find them to be a valuable part of your American School education.



# American School Releases Updated Versions of Four Courses

American School recently released updated versions of its paper-based Automotive Systems, Physiology and Health, Understanding English 1 and Understanding English 2 courses. These revisions are a sign that we are not abandoning our paper-based curriculum while our online curriculum grows. In fact, we are more committed than ever to offering a wide variety of paper-based courses because we know many students prefer to learn that way. Stay tuned for more revisions and updates to our paper-based courses later this year!



## Special Notice for Students in Drawing Courses

We have changed the assortment of tools in the kits for our drawing courses to give students a wider range of graphite pencils and a better quality eraser and sharpener. The kits will now contain:



- a kneaded eraser
- a pencil sharpener
- 4 drawing pencils: 5B, 3B, HB, and 2H

Please disregard the notes in the Art: Drawing Landscapes study guide on pages vi and x about drawing kits.

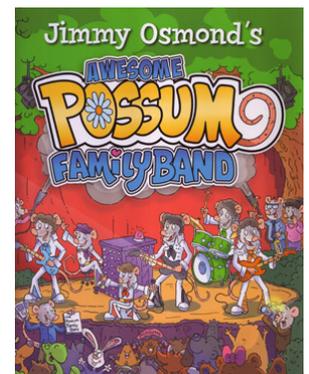
If one of the discussions or practice exercises in your books instructs you to use a specific pencil that is not included in the kit, use the pencil that comes closest in hardness or softness of lead to the pencil that is being recommended. You do not need the exact grade of lead named in the exercise, but you should use the pencil that comes closest to the recommended grade of lead.

For example: If you are asked to use a 4B pencil, but don't have one you should use the 5B pencil. The goal is to create a very dark tone in your drawing, so you should use the softest grade lead that you have.

If you have any questions about the materials you receive for the drawing courses, you can contact the school by phone or mail or by sending an email to [artdept@americanschool.org](mailto:artdept@americanschool.org).

## Jimmy Osmond's New Book Could Be Music to Your Ears

American School graduate **Jimmy Osmond** recently wrote a children's book that is inspired by his musical career alongside his talented siblings. *Awesome Possum Family Band* is about a family of performing opossums whose youngest member discovers he has talents not given to his older siblings. Jimmy himself is the youngest member of the singing clan that includes Donny and Marie and six others. All nine were American Schools students. More information on the book may be found online by visiting [www.regnerykids.com](http://www.regnerykids.com) or [www.jimmyosmond.com](http://www.jimmyosmond.com).



## Anna Tatishvili Advances to Second Round of Australian Open



American School graduate **Anna Tatishvili** came out on top in her first-round match Down Under as she defeated Kimiko Date-Krumm of Japan in straight sets, 7-5, 6-4. Anna qualified for the main draw of this year's Australian Open the hard way, by going through three rounds of qualifying matches the week before the tournament. She defeated Johanna Konta of Great Britain (6-4, 7-5), Akgul Amanmuradova of Uzbekistan (7-6, 6-3) and Katarzyna Piter of Poland (6-2, 6-0) and stayed hot with her first-round victory.

Unfortunately, Anna saw her four-match winning streak come to an end with a 6-7, 6-3, 6-2 loss to Switzerland's Timea Bacsinszky in the second round of the Australian Open. This year's event matched Anna's best showing ever at the Australian Open, and we're excited to see how well she does at the year's next Grand Slam event, the French Open, which begins in Paris on May 24.

## Ryan Hartman Joins Chicago Blackhawks

Former American School student **Ryan Hartman** is now skating with Jonathan Toews, Patrick Kane and the rest of the Chicago Blackhawks.

He was drafted by the Blackhawks a couple years ago, worked his way through the minor league system, and was called up to the NHL in February, making his debut against the New Jersey Devils. He made a positive impression on head coach Joel Quenneville and his teammates, and we are excited to see what may happen the rest of this season, especially since the Stanley Cup Playoffs are right around the corner.

Will Ryan become the first American School student to have his name on the most famous trophy in all of sports? We'll keep you posted!



## American School Receives Generous Donation of Century-Old Books

One of the great things about being in business for more than a century is that we sometimes hear from people who have in their possession textbooks and other materials from our earliest days. Carol from Colorado contacted our Public Relations Department last year and asked if we'd be interested in receiving some textbooks from 1906-1915, and we responded affirmatively. Recently she sent seven textbooks in subject areas such as Commercial Vehicles, Mechanical Drawing, Elements of Electricity, Direct Current Motors, The Electric Current, Management Dynamo Electric Machinery, and Electrical Measurements. Notice that, while some of those courses are not offered in the 21st century, we still have automotive, drawing and electricity courses in our curriculum.



Not only did Carol send us the books, but she also included a handwritten letter giving us a bit of backstory. She wrote, "The one book with the name in it is how I acquired these. That is my grandfather. I don't know if he was a student or just why he had the books. He is gone now, so I cannot ask. Please enjoy these books, use them for your library, archives, or what have you. Thank you for still being a school that helps others to a greater understanding." Those words mean just as much to us as the seven textbooks she sent.

We thank Carol for her generosity and are happy to include her grandfather's books, which are pictured, in our archives!

## American School Conducts Employee Evaluations

American School is in the process of conducting annual employee evaluations. Each employee meets with his or her supervisor to discuss the past year's activities and plan goals for the upcoming year. Even supervisors such as President **Gary R. Masterton** (shown at right assisting the Shipping Department with packing and preparing books for shipment) receive evaluations!

While one goal of the evaluation process is to help employees improve, the students who take our courses, along with their support system either at home or at a resident high school, are the ones who benefit from the employee evaluation process the most.

By having better-trained employees, we are able to provide more of the caring student service that has been our hallmark for more than a century. Mr. Masterton assisting the Shipping Department is an example of how our entire staff is ready, willing and able to pitch in whenever and wherever help is needed.

We know you have access to a variety of distance education options, but we believe that our combination of curriculum, cost, caring student service and credibility is second to none. Our employee evaluations ensure we'll be able to offer these types of services for years to come.



## New BBB Rating Scale Yields A+ Rating

Recently the Better Business Bureau announced a new rating scale, and we are happy to report that even on this new grading scale, American School has its traditional A+ rating. We are grateful for this rating, which shows that we make every effort to please the students, guarantors and school officials who choose to work with us and to resolve quickly and fairly any complaints they may have with us.

## American School Receives Homeschool.com's Seal of Approval



American School is proud to receive Homeschool.com's 2015 Seal of Approval. We have received this honor for multiple years running, but getting this award on an annual basis never gets old. It's a sign that people recognize our continuing commitment to offering students the accredited high school courses they need at a cost they can afford.

Thank you to Homeschool.com for this honor, and thank you to all of the students, guarantors and school officials who work with us. We are deeply grateful.

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