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## EKUWA

### Background

Ekuwa is from a small village in Ghana. She is in her early 70s and speaks Twi. She has got 5 children. She came to the UK to support one of her daughters with childcare. Her daughter has health problems and was unable to manage childcare without help. The family all live together.

### Previous education and employment

Ekuwa did not go to school in Ghana and has no previous experience of any type of formal education. She has no literacy skills in any language and only knew a few words in English when she came to the UK. She has no experience of paid employment and all of her work has been as a mother, carer and homemaker.

### Access to ESOL

On arrival, she was supported by one of her sons who also lives in the UK to find an ESOL class. He attended the initial assessment interview with Ekuwa and was able to help by providing important background information.

### Engagement in ESOL provision

Ekuwa was eligible to join an EU-funded ESOL and integration project for migrant women. She was placed in an ESOL literacy group and receives additional literacy support as well as support from a volunteer befriender. As her grandchildren are at primary school, she attends ESOL classes during school hours. She attends classes regularly twice a week and also takes up opportunities of additional workshops. Ekuwa enjoys learning English in a class with other learners. She is very keen to make progress, particularly with writing. She has learnt some basic English phrases and the alphabet. After initially signing her name with an 'X', she is now able to write her name independently.

### Outcomes and benefits

Ekuwa's English and confidence have improved significantly. She can now speak to her grandchildren's teachers and make simple arrangements over the phone with her volunteer befriender. She wants to improve her English so she can help her grandchildren more.

### Level

Beginner learner (New to ESOL)