

1 Fourth Quarter and Full Year 2018 Earnings Call

2 Prepared Remarks

3 4 **Jason Terry - Safe Harbor**

5 Thank you. Good afternoon everyone. Welcome to Rosetta Stone's fourth
6 quarter and 2018 earnings conference call. Speaking on the call today will be
7 John Hass, Chairman and CEO, and Nick Gaehde and Matt Hulett, Co-
8 Presidents of Rosetta Stone. Additionally, Tom Pierno, the company's Chief
9 Financial Officer will be available during the Q&A portion of today's call.

10 We have posted to the Investor Relations section of our website at
11 www.rosettastone.com, both the earnings release and a slide presentation
12 that accompanies today's call. We've also posted supplemental information
13 and analysis on our website. This supplemental information will not be read
14 on today's call.

15 I want to remind everyone that as always, there will be elements in today's
16 presentation which are forward looking and are based on our best view of
17 the world and our businesses as we see them today. These statements are
18 subject to a number of risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results
19 to differ materially. A description of these risks and uncertainties and other
20 factors that could affect our financial results are included in our SEC filings,
21 including our most recent annual report on Form 10-K and quarterly reports
22 on Form 10-Q. We expressly disclaim any obligation to update or revise any
23 forward-looking statements except as required by law.

24 Today's presentation and discussion also contains references to non-GAAP
25 financial measures. The full definition, GAAP comparison, and a reconciliation
26 of those measures are available in the aforementioned presentation and
27 press release.

28 Our non-GAAP measures may not be comparable to those used by other
29 companies and we encourage you to review and understand all of our
30 financial reporting before making any investment decisions.

31 I will now turn the call over to John.

32

33 **John Hass - Opening**

34 Thank you and good afternoon.

35 As has become our custom at the beginning of the year, we will spend a
36 little more time and talk about the changes that have occurred in our
37 business, discuss where we see ourselves today and share with you what
38 we expect moving forward. **Please turn to slide three.**

39 As always, everything begins with our mission. To change lives through
40 the power of language and literacy education. By dedicating ourselves to
41 producing real, demonstrable outcomes in our core areas of Language and
42 Literacy, we make a difference in the lives of the two-thirds of children in
43 our schools that are reading below grade level and the young woman in
44 Berlin looking to advance her career by learning English. **Slide four**
45 **please.**

46 To achieve these outcomes, we are transforming ourselves into a global
47 leader in digital learning solutions. We begin from a legacy that is unique in
48 our industry. A combination of two companies, both founded on the idea of
49 using technology to change the way people learn. With over 60 years of
50 combined focus in education technology, unlike more recent entrants, we
51 have a level of expertise that manifests itself in areas like the depth and
52 breadth of our Literacy businesses' peer reviewed research and in the
53 quality of the Language businesses pedagogy and content.

54 Our shared history has allowed the creation of differentiated technology
55 and capabilities like our speech recognition engine, the Rosetta Stone
56 animation engine and a decade of experience in tutoring, that serve us well
57 today, but which will be even more important in the future as we bring them
58 together in new products.

59 Our position in Language learning is clear, we have nearly 1.5 million paid
60 users accessing our solutions directly or through their school or employer.
61 In Literacy, where we currently serve approximately 17,000 schools and 4
62 million students, no one can match our record for demonstrated efficacy.
63 And Rosetta Stone has one of the most widely known brands in learning,
64 which is a competitive advantage that has more potential than we are
65 currently realizing. **Next slide please.**

66 To unlock these assets we had to change. From a company in 2014 that
67 was dominated by a transactional Consumer language business, to a multi-
68 disciplinary learning company with over 5 million paid learners in 2019.
69 And as a learning company we will provide the optimal, research backed
70 experience for each learner by adapting to their needs, whether it is an
71 immersive software path or providing them a blended learning experience
72 with a teacher or tutor empowered by data and information.

73 **Please turn to slide six.**

74 And we are changing lives.

75 We know, for example, that achieving appropriate levels of literacy is highly
76 correlated with higher lifetime earnings and lower levels of incarceration.
77 According to a 2013 study by Dr. Carolyn Carlson at Washburn University,
78 approximately, seven thousand students drop out of high school every day
79 with 60% doing so primarily because of low literacy skills. As these young
80 people leave schools and enter the work environment with low literacy

81 skills, not only do they earn less, they cost society more. In fact, if all of the
82 students who dropped out of the 2011 class had, in fact graduated, the
83 nation's economy would benefit by \$150 billion in additional income over
84 the course of their lifetimes. Staggering opportunity costs.

85 But it can change and that is what we are working to do every day. With
86 our product portfolio our focus on improving student literacy performance
87 and reducing dropout rates begins in Kindergarten and continues through
88 middle and high school.

89 In 2018, we made progress in making the company the business and the
90 engine of change that we want to be. Please turn to **slide seven** for an
91 overview of our full year results.

92 **Q4 2018 and 2018 Full Year Results**

93 Today we reported that fourth quarter revenues were \$44.6 million, stable
94 with the fourth quarter of 2017 - the first time this has happened
95 operationally since 2014. This is the inflection point we have been working
96 towards.

97 Total 2018 revenues of \$173.6 million decreased 6%. Within this, Literacy
98 revenue grew by 21% in 2018, on bookings growth of 23%. The decrease
99 in consolidated revenues was driven primarily by changes to our Consumer
100 Language business model as it transitioned to subscription service. In
101 2018, only 3% of Consumer new unit sales were perpetual versus
102 approximately 46% in 2017, with the attendant decrease in immediately
103 recognized revenues. Importantly, even as Consumer bookings and
104 revenues fell in 2018, the gross lifetime value originated by our North
105 American Consumer direct business, or the total bookings we expect to
106 receive from subscriptions sold in the year, rose by 6% to \$58.9 million
107 versus 2017.

108 We have now finished the transition from perpetual to subscription in our
109 Consumer business and expect 2019 to be relatively normal for year-over-
110 year comparisons.

111 Total adjusted EBITDA was \$0.7 million in the fourth quarter, \$2 million
112 better than previously expected. For the full year, adjusted EBITDA was
113 \$0.2 million, a decline of \$13.2 million versus 2017, driven primarily by the
114 decline in Consumer revenues and an increase in operating expenses in
115 our Literacy segment.

116 Operating cash flow in 2018 was \$10.4 million, including \$4.5 million from
117 SourceNext. Capital expenditures were \$16.9 million, an increase of \$3.9
118 million year-over-year driven by a decision during the year to invest in new
119 products including the new K-6 English learner product and the new
120 international adaptive, blended learning product in Consumer. Additional
121 investment in 2018 drove a simplified and capability enhanced language
122 platform that Matt will discuss in a few minutes. We had \$38.1 million of
123 cash and no debt at year end, in line with expectations.

124 **Next slide.**

125 It is clear that the business has changed fundamentally since 2014. It is
126 more balanced with greater opportunity for predictable growth. Today we
127 report three segments, each of which constituted approximately one-third of
128 our total business in 2018. Across these segments, 46% of total bookings
129 in 2018 were from K12 customers, a percentage that will continue to grow.
130 We like K12 because demand is relatively consistent from year-to-year
131 and, while the solutions required are demanding and increasingly require
132 research based evidence that they positively impact student performance,
133 they do not require high levels of customization.

134 To get to the place where we can offer great solutions and growth
135 opportunities in both language and literacy required reallocating how we
136 spend our investment dollars. **Please turn to slide nine.**

137 Even as we have reduced total company operating expenses since 2015,
138 we reallocated our spend from Language to Literacy to take advantage of
139 the opportunity we saw to build distribution and round out our product
140 portfolio. During this period Literacy spend more than doubled as a
141 percentage of total spend from 14% in 2015 to 33% in 2018. **Next slide
142 please.**

143 Those of you that know K12 well, understand that the most successful
144 companies have two things in common - products that demonstrably work
145 and a national salesforce and implementation and training team to bring
146 them to market. Many K12 companies never have either one, very few
147 have both. Because of the investments we made over the last three years,
148 we now have a productive direct salesforce and service team, and a
149 portfolio of products that make our literacy suite the best in the
150 marketplace. **Please turn to slide eleven.**

151 Looking back, our decision to invest in Literacy has been a good one,
152 driving a compound annual growth rate in bookings of 26% since 2014.
153 Our confidence in continuing this growth is driven in part by our knowledge
154 of what the team overcame as they delivered these results.

155 First, beginning just a few years ago, we hired, trained and equipped a
156 completely new sales and customer success team while continuing to
157 grow.

158 And we drove this growth even as the weighted average length of our
159 Literacy contracts fell from 29 months to under 17 months, a decrease of
160 twelve months or approximately one year of bookings.

161 This decrease occurred as purchasers moved away from multi-year
162 adoptions generally, and as Core5 specifically, increasingly was viewed as
163 part of general curriculum and funded in the annual operating budget.
164 Because we are generally paid up front, as the average contract life has
165 shortened it has led to fewer dollars being booked for each contract, all
166 else being equal. This created a headwind to bookings growth the last few
167 years. The good news is much of the shift seems to have occurred, and
168 because our retention rates regularly exceed 90%, with renewal rates of
169 100% or more, lifetime value was deferred, not lost. **Turn to slide twelve**
170 **please.**

171 Even as we were building our Literacy business we were re-imagining the
172 products and go-to-market strategies in our Language business. On the
173 product front, we introduced Catalyst for Enterprise and natively built
174 mobile products for iOS and Android, while de-flashing, consolidating and
175 moving off of old legacy language systems. The legacy work will largely
176 conclude by the end of the year, but it has absorbed a substantial share of
177 Language R&D effort and spend over the last few years and hindered us
178 from moving forward as quickly and efficiently as we would have liked. But
179 under Matt's leadership we are once again seeing the innovation that was a
180 previous hallmark of our Language business. **Slide thirteen please.**

181 We have transformed the value proposition in our Consumer Language
182 business. Moving from selling high priced CDs, downloads and multi-year
183 subscriptions to offering a portfolio of subscription products. While this
184 improved the demographics of the business and is driving unit growth, the
185 transition significantly affected the timing in which we realized both
186 revenues and bookings. **Next slide please.**

187 Ultimately, bookings are a function of the number of units we sell and the
188 lifetime value of each of those units. In the past, calculating expected
189 bookings was simple, as almost the entire lifetime value of a purchaser was
190 received at the time of sale of a CD or long-term subscription. Over the last
191 two years this has fundamentally changed.

192 In 2017, we transitioned our web business to subscription pricing. This
193 improved demographics leading to increased unit sales, but decreased the
194 average initial sales price as sales previously made to customers where the
195 expected LTV was received upfront, like CDs, moved to shorter term
196 subscriptions where the initial price was lower, but the LTV was largely
197 made up through renewals. In 2018, we completed the process by
198 transitioning both our app store and retail businesses.

199 Overall you can see the average initial life per unit fell from 22 months in
200 2016 to under 14 months in 2018. This shortening of initial term, was
201 reflected in average sales price per unit, which fell from \$175 to \$105. This
202 had a meaningful, temporary impact on bookings because, for the first time,
203 a large portion of the expected lifetime value of a Consumer customer was
204 being deferred to future periods. Simply, in 2016 almost 90% of the
205 expected LTV of a customer was realized at initial sale. In 2018, we
206 realized less than two-thirds. We expect the average initial selling price of
207 new units sold in 2019 to trend down as the percentage of short term
208 subscriptions grow, but expect this to be more than offset by unit growth.
209 So like Literacy, Consumer Language has experienced a trend of
210 shortening subscription terms and deferred value realization with the
211 attendant decrease in in-period bookings.

212 **Turn to slide fifteen please.**

213 This transition in Consumer Language is why we have emphasized lifetime
214 value created. LTV brings everything together and allows us to compare
215 products with different dynamics like CDs and short term subscriptions.
216 During 2018, gross lifetime value created grew by 6% to \$58.9 million.
217 So since 2015, each of our businesses has fundamentally changed its
218 product portfolio and go-to-market strategy. We believed these changes
219 would lead to growth and expanding margins as investments are leveraged
220 and as the masking effects of the transition lift. 2019 is the beginning of
221 that future. **Slide sixteen please.**

222 A future that will see us focus on leveraging our two biggest assets - a
223 growing presence in K12 schools and the Rosetta Stone brand. With that,
224 **please turn to slide seventeen** and I will turn the call over to Nick to talk
225 about our strategy for K12.

226

227 **Nick Gaehde:**

228 Thank you John.

229 It wasn't long ago that the business I lead had one primary literacy product,
230 a small direct sales force, with the majority of sales coming from indirect
231 sales team, and less than \$20 million in bookings. Now as we bring
232 together our Literacy and Language sales teams and look to the
233 introduction of our K-6 English learning, or EL, product next year, on a
234 consolidated basis we will have approximately 75 commissioned sales
235 people, selling a world class portfolio of both Literacy and Language
236 products, driving continued strong growth with improving margins. In total,
237 one of the strongest leaders in the K12 marketplace. **Slide eighteen**
238 **please.**

239 So why are we successful? We win in K12 because we have
240 knowledgeable experts, and the best literacy curriculum and assessment
241 portfolio in the marketplace. The efficacy of our products has been
242 demonstrated over decades. 16 third-party reviewed studies highlight the
243 rigor of our research and support our ability to meet the standards of
244 evidence of the Every Student Succeeds Act that now guides federal
245 education funding. We believe this level of demonstrated proof is
246 unmatched in our industry and allows us to rise above competitors in what
247 matters most to teachers and administrators, improving learner outcomes.
248 And, now more than ever, we are a recognized leader in K12 having served
249 approximately 17,000 schools and 4.0 million learners in 2018. We were
250 selected #1 in every major category, ahead of great companies like Apple
251 and Google, in the annual T.H.E. awards that recognize excellence in
252 education technology. **Next slide please.**

253 And while Core5 remains our flagship Literacy product, we are seeing
254 increased contributions from the entire portfolio led by PowerUp. PowerUp
255 is our literacy curriculum product for non-proficient readers in middle school
256 and high school. PowerUp meets an underserved need in our schools and
257 extends our ability to address the needs of schools from Kindergarten to
258 12th grade. As a portfolio, Core5 and PowerUp, along with RAPID, our
259 K12 computer adaptive literacy assessment, provide us the opportunity to
260 have dialogues with schools and districts focused on all of their literacy
261 needs. From helping English learners so that they can thrive in traditional
262 classroom settings, to building vocabulary skills for socioeconomically
263 disadvantaged students; we can provide systematic and explicit reading
264 instruction for students with learning disabilities and improve high school

265 graduation rates. By helping solve these and other problems, we have
266 become a trusted partner to thousands of school districts.

267 And our ability to solve problems is having an impact. During 2018, the
268 number of customers using more than one of our Literacy products grew
269 approximately 785%.

270 Continuing to drive multi-product sales as a trusted partner to our schools
271 is one of the reasons why we are so excited to bring our K12 literacy and
272 language sales teams into closer alignment this year and to introduce our
273 new English learner product that will meet critical and growing needs in our
274 schools. At the beginning of the year the K12 Language sales team began
275 reporting to me. Bringing the k-12 sales teams together over time will
276 enable us to increase our reach and have the biggest impact on our
277 customers.

278 Our K-6 English learner, or EL product, is a great opportunity for us to
279 leverage our presence in schools. We start with a core of schools already
280 partnering with us for their EL needs. For the first time we are bringing
281 together key capabilities, from our speech recognition and animation
282 engines, to our patented assessment without testing methodology, to
283 provide a best-in-class solution for the fastest growing student population.
284 Importantly, we are building the product on our myLexia platform that is
285 currently serving over 17,000 schools providing actionable data and
286 information for everyone from the teacher to the superintendent. Expanding
287 the use of myLexia across curriculum areas is an exciting opportunity for us
288 and a strategy to ensure customer success. Overall, I am happy with the
289 progress we have made in developing our EL product since we first talked
290 to you about it in the Fall and look forward to its launch in 2020.

291 **Turn to slide twenty please.**

292 In the meantime, we continue to pursue other opportunities that have
293 served us well in recent years. A key area of focus has been to move
294 customers from seat to whole school licenses. As Core5 has moved from
295 intervention to an essential part of the school literacy curriculum, the
296 number of whole school licenses has grown from a little under 1,300 in
297 2014 to over 3,800 last year. At \$8,500 a school, the license portion alone
298 of these sales represents an installed base of almost \$33 million dollars on
299 an annual basis.

300 And the upside in our remaining customer base is even larger. Over
301 10,000 current K12 customer schools remain on seat, rather than site,
302 licenses, at a lower per school annual order value. **Please turn to slide**
303 **twenty one.**

304 An even larger opportunity for growth is to serve new customers in our
305 existing footprint.

306 Approximately 14% of all U.S. public schools license one or more of our
307 literacy products today. Those 14% of schools, however, are in districts
308 that together account for 41% of all U.S. public schools. Districts where we
309 have reference accounts and the ability to show leaders the performance
310 data for students and schools in their district. And districts where now with
311 PowerUp, we can be a part of every school's literacy curriculum, not just
312 the elementary schools. We will not ignore the 59% of schools where we
313 have no in-district representation today, but the 41% within our existing
314 footprint is the biggest opportunity to expand our school relationships.

315 These three areas - sales of additional products to existing schools, sales
316 of whole school licenses to existing seat license schools, and sales to new
317 schools in districts where we already have a presence - are the best
318 opportunities to continue to leverage our presence in K12. With that,

319 please turn to **slide twenty two** and I will turn the call over to Matt who will
320 walk you through his priorities in the Language business.

321

322

323 **Matt Hulett:**

324 Thanks Nick.

325 In Language our focus is squarely on the segment of the marketplace we
326 are geared to - adult language learners around the world.

327 I have had two priorities since I started at the company a little over a year
328 ago: stabilize the overall language business and to develop and deploy a
329 strategy to set us up for growth. The result of this focus was a decision to
330 put more emphasis on our Consumer language business.

331 The consumer opportunity represents the largest addressable learning
332 audience with English being the most popular with over 1.5 billion learners
333 around the world. Last year, we finished our work migrating our perpetual
334 CD business to a SAAS subscription model. We also focused on
335 developing our now burgeoning mobile subscription business.

336 Our overall focus was to invigorate growth by investing in more product
337 innovation and overall go-to-market improvements to generate a growing
338 base of consumer subscriptions. Subscribers grew to 487 thousand at the
339 end of last year, an increase of 32% since the end of 2017.

340 In 2019, we will continue to drive the momentum in our U.S. Consumer
341 Language business that began in 2018. The U.S. is an attractive
342 commercial geography for us. Our brand has great resonance and is
343 synonymous with language learning. We have begun to grow here again
344 because we are providing learners the best value in our history. We have
345 invested in mobile-first innovations and different pricing options that are
346 attractive to a wider audience. In short our strategy for the U.S. consumer
347 is an enhanced product experience with new pricing structures that, while a
348 premium to our peers, better match their needs.

349 In addition, to fuel more efficiency in our business over the long-term and to
350 provide more leverage to our R&D investment, we are in the process of
351 simplifying and reducing the number of platforms our Language products
352 utilize and segregating important capabilities, like our speech recognition
353 engine and advanced content, into individual services that can be more
354 easily shared across our businesses. This work, and the work to deflash
355 our products, have been substantial lifts the last few years, but will largely
356 end later this year.

357 When completed, we will be able to more easily and efficiently bring
358 advanced content to our Consumer learners and more innovation and
359 engagement features to our Enterprise customers. In the future, I expect
360 our Catalyst product and our Consumer product will start to resemble each
361 other which will benefit both learners and us. We already see early signs of
362 this synergy. For example, we recently introduced to our enterprise
363 learners the SeekAndSpeak feature released to consumers late last year
364 which uses AI and augmented reality in a mobile context to deliver a more
365 personalized and immersive experience.

366 As part of our platform consolidation process, we are gearing up for a major
367 upgrade to Catalyst, our best-in-class enterprise solution. In the next two
368 quarters, we will be releasing our next version of the software that we
369 dubbed, Catalyst Season 2. This enables us to provide a new modernized
370 platform, and allows us to leverage content and functionality in both our
371 enterprise and adult consumer base. **Slide twenty three please.**

372 With new products for consumer and enterprise customers, we are able to
373 address a full range of needs but ultimately our learner is still an adult
374 trying to learn a second language. This allows us to share content and
375 functionality across our segments.

376 And we believe that we have the superior product within our marketplace.
377 Evidence of this is the tremendously positive feedback from our customers
378 as well as industry awards. We are proud to have recently won a Tabby
379 award for the second year in a row for the best mobile product in the
380 education category as well as just winning the PC Magazine's editor's
381 choice award for the best language learning software for the seventh year
382 in a row.

383 An important capability that we have refined through our experience with
384 our enterprise customers is video tutoring. We fundamentally believe that
385 unlocking the potential of providing human tutoring in concert with our world
386 class content is going to be an important innovation for the company.

387 **Slide twenty four please.**

388 And we intend to continue to expand the awareness and usage of our
389 recent mobile innovations throughout 2019. We like to innovate on single
390 platforms, test and then replicate if the results are positive. For example,
391 Your Plan, which allows a learner to set goals and receive ongoing
392 feedback, was introduced to Android users in December of 2018. Based
393 on our experience with these users, we are bringing this engagement
394 feature to iOS users in 2019. **Next slide please.**

395 As I mentioned earlier, consumers are a big focus for us. However, the
396 U.S. is not the largest commercial geographic opportunity for language
397 learning. We see huge demand to address the entire spectrum of learners'
398 needs, from excellent expert tutoring to incredible e-learning content, and
399 we believe this will be extremely attractive for audiences, especially outside
400 the U.S.

401 And in 2019, we are bringing Adaptive Blended Learning, or ABL as we call
402 it, to consumer language learners via test marketing in South Korea. As a

403 reminder, ABL is bringing together self-directed, adaptive software with a
404 tutor, or in the case of K12, a teacher, in both cases powered by data and
405 information to provide the optimal learning experience. We believe that a
406 combination of Computer Intelligence and Human Intelligence is the best
407 solution for learners.

408 We launched an MVP version of this experience in November of last year.
409 We chose South Korea for our test because it is a huge, demanding
410 marketplace, generally considered the second to third largest language
411 learning commercial opportunity in the world, and it is competitive. If we
412 can be successful in South Korea, we are reasonably confident the efficacy
413 of our offering would warrant expanding into other markets. We are
414 committed to being smart and agile with our test and we are optimistic
415 based on early customer satisfaction and other data points.

416 I now have a full year with Rosetta Stone under my belt. In 2018, we
417 demonstrated we could drive subscriber growth and increase the lifetime
418 value of the customers who purchased our products. E&E had a more
419 difficult year but we see positive momentum in our U.S. and EMEA
420 enterprise sales efforts. And I am really excited to finish polishing up the
421 product portfolio in 2019 as we put all of our focus on the future.

422 **With that, please turn to slide twenty six and I will hand the call back**
423 **to John.**

424

425 **John Hass:**

426 Thanks Matt.

427 Our mission is to change lives through Language and Literacy education.

428 We are positively impacting society through our work and we expect our
429 influence to grow. To achieve this we will be the expert in K12 helping

430 children learn to communicate through best in class reading and language
431 solutions. And we will build on the turnaround in our U.S. Consumer and
432 global Enterprise language businesses, and test to see if we can
433 successfully bring a tutoring and software solution to demanding
434 international customers to drive upside.

435 So let me now turn to guidance for 2019 and the trends we expect beyond
436 this year. **Slide twenty seven please.**

437 In 2019, we expect consolidated revenue growth of 10% to approximately
438 \$191 million, through a combination of 20% revenue growth in Literacy, 8%
439 revenue growth in Consumer and relatively flat revenues in E&E.

440 Our 2019 revenue expectation would have been higher, but because we
441 expect approximately 80% of total Literacy bookings and 100% of Literacy
442 bookings growth to occur in the second half of the year, the impact of its
443 bookings growth on consolidated revenue this year is diminished.

444 Our revenue growth guidance assumes that total bookings growth will
445 approach 10% in 2019. Within this, we expect Literacy bookings to grow
446 over 25% to \$74 million, a little faster than 2018. Our expectation is driven
447 by continued strong retention and renewal rates, the ongoing maturation of
448 our sales team, a full year of PowerUp sales opportunities and the
449 reopening of a few markets, like Texas, that we were largely excluded from
450 in recent years. Consistent with bookings growth, we expect Literacy's
451 annual recurring revenue, or ARR, to grow a little more than 25% this year.
452 Consumer bookings, excluding SourceNext and FitBrains, are expected to
453 grow 6% to \$67 million. We expect this growth to be driven by a larger pool
454 of renewable customers entering the year, and expected subscription unit
455 growth within the year of approximately 30% or 150 thousand net new
456 subscribers.

457 E&E bookings are expected to decline a million dollars to \$58 million due to
458 our de-emphasis of custom content projects and declines in our K12
459 language business pending the introduction of our new K-6 English
460 language product next year. We expect this to be offset by growth in
461 enterprise bookings.

462 Turning to profitability.

463 We expect a GAAP net loss of \$15 million in 2019, with adjusted EBITDA
464 of approximately \$8 million.

465 Operating cash flow, is expected to be \$19 million, an improvement of
466 approximately \$13 million before SourceNext payments. We expect this
467 cash flow to be reinvested in the business and to be cash flow break even
468 in 2019.

469 While we expect accelerating revenue growth in 2019, for the first time
470 since 2014, this will not immediately turn into the cash flow we had
471 previously expected for three reasons. First, the results in parts of our
472 Language business in 2018, including retail in Consumer, as it went
473 through the transition to subscription, and a few smaller, less core
474 Enterprise lines, were not as strong as we had expected.

475 Second, while we are creating the amount of lifetime value in our direct
476 Consumer business we had planned on, it is being realized more slowly
477 because a greater portion will come from renewals than planned, deferring
478 the receipt of cash.

479 Finally, we made the decision to increase product investment, primarily to
480 fund development of our K-6 English learner product. Teaching the fastest
481 growing K12 population, those students that don't natively speak English,
482 to speak English, is an amazing opportunity to change lives, leverage our
483 position in schools and accelerate growth.

484 Let me turn to Q1. While we don't normally provide quarterly guidance,
485 given how close it is to the end of the quarter, we would like to share our
486 outlook. I would remind everyone that Q1 is a very small quarter with
487 approximately 14% of expected bookings for the year. This is especially
488 the case in Literacy where bookings are expected to be down slightly from
489 Q1 of 2018 and to constitute only 5% of total Literacy bookings for the year.
490 At this point, we expect total Q1 revenue of \$43-44 million, slightly up with
491 last year, a GAAP net loss of \$5-6 million and break even adjusted
492 EBITDA, a modest improvement over last year. Operating cash flow is
493 expected to be a use of \$19 million as our costs are largely fixed across the
494 year but this, as noted, is our lowest bookings quarter. We expect capital
495 expenditures of approximately \$5 million in the quarter.

496 Due to this first half use of cash I expect that we will have some seasonal
497 borrowings. We expect to have positive net cash at all times and intend to
498 end the year with no debt.

499 As implied by our full year guidance, we expect revenue growth and
500 operating profitability to accelerate as we move through 2019 in line with
501 the seasonal bookings growth in our business. In fact, nearly three-
502 quarters of our year-over-year revenue growth is expected to be in the
503 second half of 2019. To give you a sense, if we achieve our revenue
504 expectation for the year, with the bookings progression we expect, Q4
505 revenues will be 15% higher than our expectation for Q1. This would be an
506 annualized run rate of approximately \$200 million, laying the foundation for
507 the coming years.

508 So let's look at 2020 and 2021. Please **turn to slide twenty-eight** and I
509 will walk you through our expectations for growth and margin expansion.

510 Margin improvement in growing subscription software businesses is driven
511 by a few factors. In sales and marketing, as headcount growth slows and
512 as renewals become a larger share of bookings, productivity rises and
513 margins improve. In R&D, improvement comes with the ability to spread
514 investment over a broader customer base. And in G&A, there is an
515 opportunity to drive additional business through those business support
516 areas that are either fixed or semi-variable. These are the opportunities in
517 our business as the rapid recent investment in Literacy slows and as
518 Language begins to grow.

519 In 2020, we expect total revenues to grow to approximately \$225 million.
520 We expect the increase in revenues to be driven primarily by our Literacy
521 segment where we expect total revenues of \$84 million, an increase of
522 33% over 2019 guidance.

523 That is an important number so let me unpack it. We expect to be able to
524 grow Literacy bookings in 2019 at a rate in line with our historical growth
525 rate of 26% for the reasons discussed earlier. As a result, part of the
526 increased growth is realizing as revenues in 2020, the bookings growth we
527 see for this year. The balance is driven by our expectation that bookings
528 growth will accelerate above 30% in 2020, in part as we begin to bring our
529 K-6 English language learning product online.

530 In 2020, we currently expect Consumer Language revenue to grow to \$78
531 million and E&E Language to be relatively flat, in part as we renew some
532 E&E K12 customers in the Literacy segment on the new EL product.

533 In 2020, we expect adjusted EBITDA and operating cash flow margins of
534 approximately 9% and 17%, respectively.

535 Approximately, 120 basis points of margin improvement is expected to
536 come from sales and marketing as the headcount growth in Literacy sales

537 and other support areas slows, and as a greater share of our bookings
538 come from more efficient renewals.

539 Another, approximately 200 basis points of margin improvement is
540 expected to come as we leverage research and development costs in K12
541 across a bigger base of schools and as the de-flashing and consolidation
542 work in Language ends later this year. The balance of the improvement is
543 expected to come from leverage in G&A.

544 The margin improvement opportunity in 2020 is clear if we deliver the
545 topline growth we expect.

546 In 2021, we expect growth of 15% to \$260 million in total revenue. Growth
547 will be led by Literacy which by 2021 is expected to account for over 40%
548 of total revenues and will have the full year benefit of the new K-6 English
549 learner product.

550 I would note that a portion of our revenue growth in 2020 and 2021 is
551 related to expectations for the English language offering we are bringing to
552 South Korea this year. While we are happy with the early testing and
553 excited about the opportunity, given how early it is this is the part of our
554 outlook with the most inherent risk. The revenues in our Consumer
555 guidance for this effort are approximately \$7 million and \$13 million in 2020
556 and 2021, respectively. Our profitability and cash flow estimates for the
557 two year period are not dependent on this opportunity.

558 In 2021, we expect adjusted EBITDA and operating cash flow margins of
559 12% and 22%, respectively on an additional approximately 30, 90 and 180
560 basis points in improvement in sales and marketing, research and
561 development and G&A, respectively. Finally, we expect capital
562 expenditures to peak in 2020 at \$22 million before declining to \$18 million

563 in 2021, as the upfront investments in our major new initiatives are
564 completed.
565 The opportunity for us is clear and, for the first time, the math is becoming
566 more transparent, more understandable and more predictable.
567 Continue to grow Literacy bookings at a rate in excess of 25% for the next
568 few years, consistent with historical trends and the investment we have
569 made. Accelerate Consumer Language bookings growth on the back of a
570 growing renewal pool and subscriber base, and grow the enterprise portion
571 of our E&E segment, while K12 language within E&E shrinks somewhat as
572 we move a portion of that business to the Literacy segment. On top of this
573 make a thoughtful, calculated investment to see if we can realize the
574 tremendous opportunity in the international English language learning
575 marketplace. If we do this we will have mid-teens consolidated revenue
576 growth and can drive 400 and 500 basis points in margin improvement in
577 2019 and 2020, respectively, and an additional 300 to 400 basis points
578 each year for a few years thereafter.

579

580 **Conclusion**

581 2019 is an important year. It is the year in which the masking effects of
582 multiple business lines in transition that have complicated our
583 conversations with you will dissipate, and bookings and revenue growth
584 from previous investments will emerge more clearly. Profitability will
585 improve and we will set the stage for continued growth and margin
586 improvement in the future. If we do our jobs well, we will deliver for
587 investors and continue to expand the positive impact we are having on
588 society as we change lives through language and literacy education.
589 Thank you, and operator we would now like to open the line for questions.