

Introducing the ERF Graded Reader List

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Schmidt, K. (2012). Introducing the ERF Graded Reader List *Extensive Reading World Congress Proceedings, 1*, 148-151.

The ERF Graded Reader List (accessible through the Extensive Reading Foundation (ERF) website <www.erfoundation.org/erf/>) is an ongoing project of the ERF in cooperation with publishers of

EFL/ESL-targeted graded readers. The goal is to provide a reasonably comprehensive, searchable, online database of readers—a valuable resource for language educators and learners around the world. The list consists of a number of Google Docs spreadsheets, including publisher-specific lists, and a comprehensive, combined list. A variety of information is available for each title, including word counts, series-independent level assessments, genre and target audience, Moodle Reader quiz availability and ERF awards. It is hoped that the list will aid in tracking learner reading, implementing and administering ER programs, and conducting ER research. Interested educators and publishers are invited to participate in the project.

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learners around the world. This set of Google Docs spreadsheets allows anyone with a browser to view, search and download the data for personal use, while also allowing direct, online editing by publishers and list administrators. In this article, I briefly describe the list and its features, note its rationale and offer suggestions for practical use.

ERF code	Title	Series	Level Info	Wordcount / Length	Moodle Reader	Genre & Audience	Publication Data	Further Information										
Publisher level	Headwords	ERF level (E/EM/ML/PH/HS)	Common European Framework CEFR level	Years (range)	Word count (est.)	Additional word count (est.)	Book length (pages)	Genre (mystery, suspense, etc.)	Target age group (children, teen, adult, etc.)	ISBN # (with/without CIP/ROM)	ISBN # (with/without CIP/ROM)	Copyright Year	Year First Published	In print	Notes on publishing history, awards, special features, etc.			
170	Shogun: The	Macmillan Readers	Elementary	1,100	Intermediate-M	Elementary-A2	3.0	10,747	A	64	Y	F	Short Stories/Mystery/Human Interest	Teen	978-1-4051-0760-7	2008	2008	
171	Tales of Honor	Macmillan Readers	Elementary	1,100	Intermediate-M	Elementary-A2	3.0	8,364	A	64	N	F	Short Stories/Science Fiction/Fantasy	Teen-Adult	978-1-4051-0760-7	2005	2005	
172	Tales of Ten Worlds	Macmillan Readers	Elementary	1,100	Intermediate-M	Elementary-A2	3.1	8,863	A	64	Y	F	Mystery/Human Interest/Adventure	Teen-Adult	978-1-4051-0760-7	2010	2010	
173	Treasure Island	Macmillan Readers	Elementary	1,100	Intermediate-M	Elementary-A2	3.1	10,844	A	64	Y	F	Mystery/Human Interest/Crime	Teen	978-1-4051-0760-7	2008	2008	
174	Upland Greens	Macmillan Readers	Elementary	1,100	Intermediate-M	Elementary-A2	3.0	12,056	A	72	N	F	Adventure/Nature/Human Interest	Teen	978-1-4051-0760-7	2008	2008	LLA WINNER 2009
175	Wilda Park	Macmillan Readers	Elementary	1,100	Intermediate-M	Elementary-A2	3.1	11,226	A	64	Y	F	Mystery/Human Interest/Romance	Teen-Adult	978-1-4051-0760-7	2008	2008	
176	Women in Black, The	Macmillan Readers	Pre-Intermediate	1,400	Intermediate-PS	Pre-Intermediate-A2-B1	3.5	12,914	A	88	N	F	Adventure/Thriller/Spy	Teen-Adult	978-1-4051-0760-7	2009	2009	
177	Caesar's People	Macmillan Readers	Pre-Intermediate	1,400	Intermediate-PS	Pre-Intermediate-A2-B1	3.5	15,040	A	88	N	F	Human Interest/History	Teen-Adult	978-1-4051-0760-7	2010	2010	
178	China's Mind	Macmillan Readers	Pre-Intermediate	1,400	Intermediate-PS	Pre-Intermediate-A2-B1	3.5	17,734	A	88	N	F	Adventure/Romance/Thriller	Teen-Adult	978-1-4051-0760-7	2009	2009	
179	Diagonally and Forever	Macmillan Readers	Pre-Intermediate	1,400	Intermediate-PS	Pre-Intermediate-A2-B1	3.5	16,506	A	88	N	F	Human Interest/Human Interest	Teen-Adult	978-1-4051-0760-7	2009	2009	
180	Far from the Madding Crowd	Macmillan Readers	Pre-Intermediate	1,400	Intermediate-PS	Pre-Intermediate-A2-B1	3.5	15,198	A	88	N	F	Adventure/Human Interest	Teen	978-1-4051-0760-7	2008	2008	
181	Ford	Macmillan Readers	Pre-Intermediate	1,400	Intermediate-PS	Pre-Intermediate-A2-B1	3.5	16,446	A	88	N	F	Science Fiction/Thriller	Teen	978-1-4051-0760-7	2008	2008	
182	Ford	Macmillan Readers	Pre-Intermediate	1,400	Intermediate-PS	Pre-Intermediate-A2-B1	3.5	16,744	A	88	Y	MF	Sport/History/Human Interest	Teen-Adult	978-1-4051-0760-7	2010	2010	
183	Football	Macmillan Readers	Pre-Intermediate	1,400	Intermediate-PS	Pre-Intermediate-A2-B1	3.5	16,746	A	88	Y	MF	Human Interest/Human Interest	Teen	978-1-4051-0760-7	2010	2010	
184	King of the Hill	Macmillan Readers	Pre-Intermediate	1,400	Intermediate-PS	Pre-Intermediate-A2-B1	3.5	15,241	A	80	N	F	Romance/Humor	Teen-Adult	978-1-4051-0760-7	2010	2010	
185	Michael Jackson: The King of Pop	Macmillan Readers	Pre-Intermediate	1,400	Intermediate-PS	Pre-Intermediate-A2-B1	3.5	12,944	A	80	Y	F	Human Interest/Human Interest	Teen	978-1-4051-0760-7	2010	2010	
186	Moby-Dick	Macmillan Readers	Pre-Intermediate	1,400	Intermediate-PS	Pre-Intermediate-A2-B1	3.5	15,042	A	88	N	F	Short Stories/Mystery/Human Interest	Teen-Adult	978-1-4051-0760-7	2008	2008	
187	Notion Mania	Macmillan Readers	Pre-Intermediate	1,400	Intermediate-PS	Pre-Intermediate-A2-B1	3.5	15,042	A	88	N	F	Short Stories/Mystery/Human Interest	Teen-Adult	978-1-4051-0760-7	2008	2008	
188	Over the Cross	Macmillan Readers	Pre-Intermediate	1,400	Intermediate-PS	Pre-Intermediate-A2-B1	3.5	13,716	A	88	Y	F	Romance/History	Teen	978-1-4051-0760-7	2007	2007	
189	Rings of Saturn	Macmillan Readers	Pre-Intermediate	1,400	Intermediate-PS	Pre-Intermediate-A2-B1	3.5	17,841	A	80	Y	F	Adventure/History	Pre-teen/Teen	978-1-4051-0760-7	2009	2009	
190	Rings of Saturn	Macmillan Readers	Pre-Intermediate	1,400	Intermediate-PS	Pre-Intermediate-A2-B1	3.5	15,606	A	88	Y	F	Romance/Human Interest/History	Teen-Adult	978-1-4051-0760-7	2006	2006	
191	Rings of Saturn	Macmillan Readers	Pre-Intermediate	1,400	Intermediate-PS	Pre-Intermediate-A2-B1	3.5	17,046	A	88	N	F	History/Mystery	Pre-teen/Teen	978-1-4051-0760-7	2008	2008	
192	Selected Short Stories by D.H. Lawrence	Macmillan Readers	Pre-Intermediate	1,400	Intermediate-PS	Pre-Intermediate-A2-B1	3.5	20,489	A	96	N	F	Romance/Human Interest	Teen-Adult	978-1-4051-0760-7	2006	2006	
193	Shane	Macmillan Readers	Pre-Intermediate	1,400	Intermediate-PS	Pre-Intermediate-A2-B1	3.5	18,209	A	96	N	F	Crime/Detective/Mystery/Thriller	Teen-Adult	978-1-4051-0760-7	2009	2009	
194	Shane	Macmillan Readers	Pre-Intermediate	1,400	Intermediate-PS	Pre-Intermediate-A2-B1	3.5	18,102	A	96	N	F	Romance/Human Interest	Teen-Adult	978-1-4051-0760-7	2006	2006	
195	Tales of the Wolf	Macmillan Readers	Pre-Intermediate	1,400	Intermediate-PS	Pre-Intermediate-A2-B1	3.5	14,879	A	88	Y	F	Human Interest/Human Interest	Teen	978-1-4051-0760-7	2006	2006	
196	Thomas Jefferson: The	Macmillan Readers	Pre-Intermediate	1,400	Intermediate-PS	Pre-Intermediate-A2-B1	3.5	14,303	A	88	Y	F	Human Interest/Human Interest	Teen-Adult	978-1-4051-0760-7	2010	2010	
197	Thomas Jefferson: The	Macmillan Readers	Pre-Intermediate	1,400	Intermediate-PS	Pre-Intermediate-A2-B1	3.5	17,843	A	88	N	F	Adventure/Mystery	Teen-Adult	978-1-4051-0760-7	2007	2007	
198	Treasure of Monte Cristo, The	Macmillan Readers	Pre-Intermediate	1,400	Intermediate-PS	Pre-Intermediate-A2-B1	3.5	16,424	A	88	N	F	Adventure/Mystery	Teen	978-1-4051-0760-7	2007	2007	
199	Wizard of Oz, The	Macmillan Readers	Intermediate	1,600	Upper Int. (E)	Intermediate-B1	3.8	24,813	A	112	Y	F	Crime/Detective/Adventure/Thriller/Spy	Teen-Adult	978-1-4051-0760-7	2005	2005	
200	It's a Wonderful Life	Macmillan Readers	Intermediate	1,600	Upper Int. (E)	Intermediate-B1	3.8	20,698	A	96	Y	F	Crime/Detective/Adventure/Thriller/Spy	Teen-Adult	978-1-4051-0760-7	2005	2005	
201	It's a Wonderful Life	Macmillan Readers	Intermediate	1,600	Upper Int. (E)	Intermediate-B1	3.8	19,911	A	96	N	MF	History/Human Interest/Public	Teen-Adult	978-1-4051-0760-7	2010	2010	
202	It's a Wonderful Life	Macmillan Readers	Intermediate	1,600	Upper Int. (E)	Intermediate-B1	3.8	20,249	A	96	N	F	Crime/Detective/Adventure/Thriller/Spy	Teen-Adult	978-1-4051-0760-7	2005	2005	
203	It's a Wonderful Life	Macmillan Readers	Intermediate	1,600	Upper Int. (E)	Intermediate-B1	3.8	17,558	A	120	N	F	History/Human Interest	Teen-Adult	978-1-4051-0760-7	2010	2010	
204	It's a Wonderful Life	Macmillan Readers	Intermediate	1,600	Upper Int. (E)	Intermediate-B1	3.8	16,751	A	112	N	F	Romance/Human Interest	Teen-Adult	978-1-4051-0760-7	2010	2010	
205	It's a Wonderful Life	Macmillan Readers	Intermediate	1,600	Upper Int. (E)	Intermediate-B1	3.8	16,751	A	112	N	F	Human Interest/Human Interest	Teen-Adult	978-1-4051-0760-7	2010	2010	
206	It's a Wonderful Life	Macmillan Readers	Intermediate	1,600	Upper Int. (E)	Intermediate-B1	3.8	23,790	A	112	Y	F	History/Human Interest	Teen-Adult	978-1-4051-0760-7	2005	2005	
207	It's a Wonderful Life	Macmillan Readers	Intermediate	1,600	Upper Int. (E)	Intermediate-B1	3.8	19,226	A	88	N	F	History/Human Interest	Teen-Adult	978-1-4051-0760-7	2005	2005	
208	It's a Wonderful Life	Macmillan Readers	Intermediate	1,600	Upper Int. (E)	Intermediate-B1	3.8	27,096	A	128	N	F	Human Interest/Human Interest	Teen-Adult	978-1-4051-0760-7	2005	2005	
209	It's a Wonderful Life	Macmillan Readers	Intermediate	1,600	Upper Int. (E)	Intermediate-B1	3.8	19,226	A	88	N	F	History/Human Interest	Teen-Adult	978-1-4051-0760-7	2005	2005	
210	It's a Wonderful Life	Macmillan Readers	Intermediate	1,600	Upper Int. (E)	Intermediate-B1	3.8	19,577	A	80	Y	F	Crime/Detective/Adventure/Thriller/Spy	Teen-Adult	978-1-4051-0760-7	2005	2005	
211	It's a Wonderful Life	Macmillan Readers	Intermediate	1,600	Upper Int. (E)	Intermediate-B1	3.8	21,249	A	Y	F	Human Interest/Travel/Adventure/Thriller/Spy	Teen-Adult	978-1-4051-0760-7	2005	2005	?	
212	It's a Wonderful Life	Macmillan Readers	Intermediate	1,600	Upper Int. (E)	Intermediate-B1	3.8	13,945	A	112	N	F	Human Interest/Human Interest	Teen-Adult	978-1-4051-0760-7	2005	2005	
213	It's a Wonderful Life	Macmillan Readers	Intermediate	1,600	Upper Int. (E)	Intermediate-B1	3.8	13,947	A	88	Y	F	Human Interest/Human Interest	Teen-Adult	978-1-4051-0760-7	2008	2008	
214	It's a Wonderful Life	Macmillan Readers	Intermediate	1,600	Upper Int. (E)	Intermediate-B1	3.8	13,957	A	96	Y	F	History/Human Interest	Teen-Adult	978-1-4051-0760-7	2010	2010	

Figure 1. Sample view of the ERF Graded Reader List, showing the main data types: basic information (title, series, author), level information, word count/length, Moodle Reader quiz availability, genre and audience, publication data, and further information.

List Structure and Access

The ERF Graded Readers List actually consists of three list types:

- a. a set of individual, publisher-specific lists.
- b. a Combined Reader List that automatically gathers data from the individual lists.
- c. a Various Readers - Odds and Ends list containing old graded reader series, as well as books not specifically targeted at EFL/ESL, but still appearing in some ER collections. This list will be further organized and divided into 2–3 more focused lists as time and resources allow.

A gateway website (Figure 2) allows click-through access to each list, as well as background information and tips for use. It is accessible a) through a link on the ERF website <<http://www.erfoundation.org/>> (click on "Graded Readers" and scroll down to "The ERF Graded Reader List"), or b) directly at <<https://sites.google.com/site/erfglist/>>. For those unable to access Google Docs, a comprehensive MS Excel spreadsheet can be downloaded directly from the "Graded Readers" page on the ERF site.

List Features

Each list contains the following fields (columns), grouped as shown:

Basic Information

- 📖 ERF code: Provides a unique code for each reader series and level.
- 📖 Publisher: Only appears in the Combined and Various Readers lists.
- 📖 Title: ERF Language Literature Award winners are highlighted in red print, finalists in blue.
- 📖 Author(s): For simplified versions, most publishers only list original authors.
- 📖 Series: (e.g., Macmillan Readers, Helbling Young Readers)

ERF Graded Reader List - Access

The graded reader lists below are provided by the Extensive Reading Foundation and cooperating publishers as a service to educators and learners. Before accessing the list(s), please read the "ERF List Q&A," "Participate!" and "Disclaimer" pages (sidebar on left). Click on the links to access Google docs spreadsheets for **individual publishers** and the **Combined List**, including all readers in our database.

List links (click to open)	Notes: (major series, verification status, alerts, publishers' website links, etc.)
Publisher-specific lists	
Black Cat - Cideb	(not yet verified by publisher)
Burlington Books (Spain)	
Cambridge U. Press	(not yet verified by publisher)
Cengage/Heinle	
Compass Media	
Egmont Easy Readers	
ELI - European Language Institute	
Express Publishing	(not yet verified by publisher)
Helbling Languages	
Hueber Verlag	(not yet verified by publisher)
IBC Ladder	(not yet verified by publisher)
Macmillan ELT	
McGraw Hill Asia	
MM Publications	Asia: Bridge Learning
MPI - Matsuka Phonics Institute	
Oxford U. Press	(not yet verified by publisher)
Penguin ELT	
Richmond Publishing	
Scholastic ELT	Japan: R.I.C. Publications, Latin America: Richmond Publishing , UK: Mary Glasgow
Combined Reader List	Gathers data from all publisher-specific lists.
Various Readers - Odds & Ends	Old graded reader series and non-ELT titles that appear in some ER collections.

Figure 2. ERF Graded Reader List gateway website homepage. All components of the list are listed under "List links," with further information available through the menu on the left.

Level Info

- 📖 Publisher level: Most series are divided into levels (e.g., Level 1, 2; Beginner, Elementary).
- 📖 Headwords: (e.g., 400 words, 1,000 words)
- 📖 ERF level: The ERF Graded Reading Scale provides a common level system based on headwords.
- 📖 Common European Framework (CEF) level: Numerous publishers tie materials to the CEF.
- 📖 Yomiyasusa level: From the Start with Simple Stories (SSS) Extensive Reading Study Group in Japan <<http://www.seg.co.jp/ssss/>>, providing an independent assessment of reading level.

Word Count/Length

- 📖 Word count (body only): Critical for accurate tracking of learner reading.
- 📖 Additional material word count: For supplemental reading materials, excluding exercises and glossaries.
- 📖 Actual or estimated count: Actual word-by-word count (usually software-based) or estimate.
- 📖 Book length: Number of pages in the book.

Moodle Reader

- 📖 Moodle Reader Quiz availability: The Moodle Reader Module <<http://moodlereader.org/>> provides quizzes on graded readers and books for young readers to aid teachers in assessing their students' work. New quizzes are added regularly.

Genre & Audience

- 📖 Fiction or nonfiction
- 📖 Genre: (e.g., mystery, adventure, love, horror)
- 📖 Target age group: (e.g., children, teen, adult)

Publication Data

- 📖 ISBN A: (without CD/CD-ROM)
- 📖 ISBN-B: (with CD/CD-ROM)
- 📖 Copyright year: For the most recent edition.
- 📖 Year first published
- 📖 In print?

Further Information

- 📖 This field is a catchall containing notes on publishing history (e.g., series reassignments), awards, special features, etc.

Although all sheets contain the fields above, the data available vary from publisher to publisher and series to series. New titles and series will be added as they

are published. Out-of-print or reassigned titles will not be removed from the lists, thus aiding administration of reader collections containing older titles.

Why Develop the List?

The initial rationale for the list was to provide easily accessible word counts for readers. A central goal of extensive reading (ER) is processing large quantities of engaging, comprehensible input. The amount of reading being done is thus an important factor in research on ER and SLA, in setting goals for reading, and in ER program administration. A lack of reliable word counts was a long-standing source of frustration in the ER field, but many publishers of graded readers now make running word counts available.

As the project developed, we saw the chance to address other needs, as well. For example, educators and learners need series-independent level estimates to aid in selecting readers at appropriate levels. The ERF Graded Reader Scale and Yomiyasusa Level can help users negotiate the various publisher-specific level systems to find readers suiting their needs.

In this way, the ERF Graded Reading List has grown to be a "one-stop shop" where educators and learners can quickly find word counts, level estimates and a range of other useful information to help in conducting research, selecting appropriate readers and administering ER programs. The list also provides a way for publishers to offer a value-added service that also highlights their products.

Suggestions for Use

There are many ways to use the ERF GR List data. Here are a few:

Search: Search the lists for titles, authors or genres of interest at appropriate levels (command/control F). For example, search the Combined Reader List to find that Oscar Wilde's *The Picture of Dorian Gray* is available from nine different publishers at various levels.

Find Language Learner Literature Award winners and finalists: Search for the string "LLLA" to find winners and finalists, as noted in the "Further Information" field.

Create your own database(s): Download data in a variety of formats (Excel, CSV, PDF, etc.—select "Download as" under "File") to create your own reader database(s).

Establish a publisher-independent level system:

Use the ERF Level, CEF Level and/or Yomiyasusa Level data to establish a consistent level system for your students.

Track actual words read: Use the "word count" and "additional material word count" values to accurately award credit for student reading and calculate reading totals for research purposes. Word counts also help independent learners to track their progress toward reading goals.

Order books: Compiling large book orders—including publishers, titles and ISBNs—can take hours. Use data from the list to quickly compile your book order.

How to Participate

We invite users to notify colleagues, submit suggestions, flag errors, encourage publishers, and contribute data to help fill out our offerings. We also invite contact from publishers of EFL/ESL-focused readers who are not yet participating. Please see the "Participate!" page on the list gateway site <<https://sites.google.com/site/erfgelist/>>.

Conclusion

We hope that with help from publishers and other colleagues, the ERF Graded Reader List will serve as an up-to-date and useful tool for educators and learners, alike. We also hope the list will be an effective way for publishers to present their products and provide value-added service to users.

Acknowledgements

Special thanks to Rob Waring, Daniel Stewart, Tom Robb, Akio Furukawa and our publishing colleagues for their generous efforts in developing the ERF Graded Reader List. See the list gateway site <<https://sites.google.com/site/erfgelist/>> for a more complete list of contributors.