

NEW WAVE READERS
A guide for authors

STARTER LEVEL

1 General

These notes should be read in conjunction with the INTRODUCTION TO THE SERIES.

The age range of the projected STARTER audience is 11-13.

Within the STARTER range, two levels are proposed: Level 1, readable by students during their first year of learning English; Level 2, readable by students who have completed their first year of learning English. In broad language terms, Level 1 authors may use only the Present tenses; Level 2 authors may use the simple Past as well. (A detailed inventory of available structures for each level appears in Section 2 of these notes.)

Level 1 titles should not exceed 1,000 words in length, Level 2 should not exceed 2,000 words. Extents will be 16pp for each level (14pp of text).

The relationship between text and visuals is of especial importance at STARTERS level. Authors should consider telling the story by means of comic strips. A number of possibilities exist, viz.:




1 Comic strips alone



2 Comic strips + narrative links



3 Comic strips + prose narrative

		
<p>The door opened. A beautiful woman stood there. 'Good morning,' I said. 'Can I help you?'</p>	<p>She came in and sat at my desk. She smiled. 'I hope so,' she said. She took out a newspaper. 'Do you know this man?' she asked.</p>	<p>It was today's 'Daily News'. On the front page there was a photo of a man with a moustache and dark glasses. The headline said: GACHA DEAD IN POLICE RAID.</p>

When submitting an outline and sample, authors should indicate which of these formats they would prefer to use. Authors should plan in terms of two-page spreads, with four pictures for each spread.

2 Available structures

Structural grading is not the only factor in the process of grading for readability in NEW WAVE READERS. Nevertheless, some basic structural control is desirable. The following suggestions for such control at Starters level should be treated as guidelines rather than rigid rules.

The following structures are freely available at the STARTER level:

LEVEL 1

VERBS	Present Simple tense	He goes to work.
	Present Continuous tense (= present time)	She's crying.
	Imperative	Come here.
	going to	I'm going to leave.
	want to/decide to/try to	What do you want to do?

have got	I've got a new car.
can	Can you come?

NOUNS	Count	Three beers, please.
	Non-count	Some rice, please.
	Partitives	A cup of tea.
	Adjective + Noun	The tall man stands up.

SENTENCE STRUCTURES

Declarative	My friend lives in London.
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Interrogative

- yes/no?

- wh?

- alternative?

Can you see my shoes?

Where are they?

Are they here or in the
bedroom?

there is/are

There's a cat in the
garden.

it is/they are

Oh, look. It's Jill!

Compound

- and

- but

She comes in and sits down.
I like him but I don't like
her.

LEVEL 2

All Level 1 language plus the following:

VERBS

Past Simple tense

They fell.

Present Continuous tense
(= future time)

We're leaving tomorrow.

have got to

I've got to see it.

must

You must come quickly.

must + not

You mustn't go into that
room.

SENTENCE STRUCTURE

Complex: adverbial

- reason

I love you because you're
beautiful.

- time

They were here when I
arrived.

Complex: noun

She says she's leaving.
