Cambridge English Readers

‘Something for everyone ... ... well worth investing in.’

IATEFL Issues

www.cambridge.org/elt/readers
Welcome to Cambridge English Readers!

Our students learn English to communicate with the world and want to read in English about the world they live in. Cambridge English Readers are truly international, with stories set not only in England and the USA, but in countries on every continent: Japan, Spain, Greece, Oman, Poland, Argentina, Hungary, Sweden, Thailand, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Australia, Switzerland, the Caribbean, Brazil, Finland, Holland, France, Zambia, India and Mozambique.

The series also reflects different varieties of English by providing titles written in British English and American English at each level, accompanied by high quality recordings.

Cambridge English Readers stories are highly entertaining and motivate students to want to continue reading. And many titles also offer more than enjoyment, confronting contemporary issues which will stimulate thought, classroom discussion and active language use. Issues addressed include personal identity, the existence of other worlds, the impact of civil war, deafness, cross-cultural comparisons, and the plight of refugees.

The contemporary quality of the series is reflected in the fresh, lively language used to tell the stories. This is the English of today and tomorrow: crisp dialogue, modern idioms, and descriptions so convincing that you believe you are there. And all specially written by experienced authors to be easily accessible to learners of English.

Happy, easy, enjoyable and stimulating reading, wherever you are in the world!

Philip Prowse
Series Editor

Level chart

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<th>Council of Europe</th>
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¹ Association of Language Testers in Europe
² University of Cambridge ESOL Examinations
³ Test of English as a Foreign Language
⁴ Test of English for International Communication
⁵ International English Language Testing System

www.cambridge.org/elt/readers
High quality original fiction

Thriller, murder mystery, romance, comedy, ghost story, science fiction, human interest, adventure and short stories: Cambridge English Readers offer a wide range of genres to satisfy every taste. The gripping plots and believable characters will keep your students turning the pages.

CDs and cassettes

Your students can listen to their favourite Cambridge English Readers in the car or on their personal stereo, as well as in the classroom, and feel the characters come alive. Most stories are available on cassette, and selected titles from levels 1 and 2 are available as a book with audio CD pack.

Website – free online resources for students and teachers

See www.cambridge.org/elt/readers for:

- New placement tests to guide students to the most suitable level of reader
- Photocopiable worksheets for classroom use and self-study
- Teacher’s guide with practical advice on how to use graded readers
- Sample chapters for every title
- Articles, competitions, author interviews and much more

www.cambridge.org/elt/readers
Romance

Next Door To Love
Margaret Johnson
Stella is curious about her attractive new London neighbour, Tony. She gradually gets to know Tony – and also his young daughter, Daisy. But Stella and Tony’s growing relationship is threatened when Tony’s ex-wife makes plans to move away with Daisy. How can Tony keep Daisy, and how can Stella keep Tony?

Available August 2004

Comedy

Help!
Philip Prowse
A struggling writer and a computer with a mind of its own fight for control of the writer’s story and destiny. When Frank Wormold buys a computer to help him with his writing, he gets a lot more help than he wants. The ensuing battle of wills between himself and the computer makes Frank realise what the important things in life really are.

Murder Mystery

Bad Love
Sue Leather
Detective Flick Laine meets handsome Dr Jack Daly at a party in Denver, USA. When Daly calls later, inviting her to meet him to ‘talk about something’, she accepts. But before they can talk, the doctor is found dead in an apparent case of suicide. Flick is put in charge of the investigation. How did the doctor die? And what has love got to do with it?

Available August 2004

Inspector Logan
Richard MacAndrew
A missing woman and a dead body welcome Inspector Jenny Logan to her new job with the Edinburgh police. Logan questions the husband of the dead woman and a local doctor about the murder, but can she believe what they say? Then, a piece of jewellery leads Logan to the killer.

Available July 2004

John Doe
Antoinette Moses
A man is found on the street, and taken to hospital. He appears unable to tell the doctor who he is, or where he comes from, but has he really lost his memory? The man is playing a dangerous game, and really knows a lot more than he is prepared to say. When he leaves the hospital, he goes to the house of the nurse who looked after him, and events take a very sinister turn.

Thriller

Blood Diamonds
Richard MacAndrew
Diamonds smuggled from the bloody civil war zones of Africa and traded illegally for weapons are known as ‘blood diamonds’. London journalists Harley Kirkpatrick and Annie Shepherd sense the scoop of a lifetime when they try to trap a dealer in the diamonds. But who is trapping who and are the people involved what they seem?

Available July 2004

American English

Reduced sample page from Parallel (level 1)
Thriller

Don’t Stop Now!
Philip Prowse

A brick smashes the window of a family-run internet café in central London. A message comes with it: ‘Don’t Stop Now!’. Matt, a frequent visitor to the café, offers to help Kate and her family. But Kate’s father won’t tell Matt what the message means. What is Kate’s family secret? And who are the men ready to do anything to stop Matt finding out?

Available August 2004

Just Like a Movie
Sue Leather

Brad and his girlfriend Gina love the movies and go every Saturday night. They want to get married but haven’t got much money. Then one day, Brad gets an idea from a movie about how to make a lot of money – an idea that involves murder. But Brad’s plan doesn’t go quite as he hoped and he discovers that real life doesn’t always have a happy ending.

American English

Parallel
Colin Campbell

Max Holland, an assassin for hire, receives a lucrative offer from a mysterious man. But the man’s instructions are rather strange and Max isn’t sure whether to believe him. It is the start of a job that leads Max to a very unusual place – a world where Max makes a life-changing decision.

The Big Picture
Sue Leather

The right place at the right time? Photographer Ken Harada thinks so when he gets a fantastic photo of a famous sumo star who is visiting Tokyo. However, it becomes clear that somebody wants that photo badly and will do anything to get it. Life suddenly becomes very dangerous for Ken and when he develops the photo he realises why.

Adventure

Apollo’s Gold
Antoinette Moses

Liz teaches archaeology in Athens. She works too hard and her doctor tells her she needs to take a holiday. So she goes to the beautiful and peaceful Greek island of Sifnos. But the peace does not last long when a local man dies in suspicious circumstances. Liz ignores advice not to get involved and her relaxing holiday becomes a matter of life and death.

Human Interest

Jojo’s Story
Antoinette Moses

Jojo is playing in the fields when soldiers come and kill everyone in his village. With the help of Chris, a British journalist, and his memories, Jojo struggles to come to terms with the loss of his family and friends. Jojo’s journey across his war-torn country leads him to self-discovery and a decision that will change his life forever.
**Murder Mystery**

**The Double Bass Mystery**
Jeremy Harmer

Penny Wade travels to Barcelona to perform in a concert with her orchestra. But the trip is not quite what she imagined. Her double bass goes missing and her boyfriend is acting very strangely. One night everyone is woken by screams and the orchestra manager is found dead on the street outside their hotel. Did he fall from the hotel window or was he pushed? And what has Penny’s missing double bass got to do with it?

**Science Fiction**

**Superbird**
Brian Tomlinson

A spaceship crashes on a strange planet. The only survivor, Mary Mount, is taken prisoner by an alien civilization. In time she is allowed to return to her old planet with some of her new friends. But when they arrive back at her home, the plan seems to have changed. And Mary doesn’t receive the welcome she expects.

**Thriller**

**A Picture to Remember**
Sarah Scott-Malden

Cristina, who works in a art gallery in Buenos Aires, is waiting at the traffic lights on her motorbike. She notices two men with a gun in the car next to her. Seconds later she is hit by a taxi, and wakes up in hospital with no memory of the accident or the two men. However, the men are afraid of what might happen if her memory returns and plan to make sure it never does.

**Romance**

**Different Worlds**
Margaret Johnson

Sam is like any other teenage girl except that she was born deaf. She meets Jim, falls in love and feels happier than ever before. Then one day Jim’s jealous ex-girlfriend reveals a secret. Sam is left wondering if she really knows Jim at all. For their love to grow Jim must show her that their worlds are not too different.

**Within High Fences**

Penny Hancock

Nancy is a security guard at a detention centre for asylum seekers and refugees who have come to Britain to escape persecution in their own countries. Nancy thinks she has everything: a comfortable house, nice furniture, a boyfriend and a beautiful Rolex watch. Then, she falls in love with George, an asylum seeker who has nothing, and her world changes completely.

**New**

**Jojo’s Story**

“At last a reader that encourages teenagers and young adults to reflect on those issues that make our world such a difficult place to live in. Too polemic? Too politically incorrect? Just the sort of thing my Argentine students like to discuss!”

Claudia Ferradas Moi, Co-director, T.S.Eliot Bilingual Studies Centre, Buenos Aires
Comedy

The Ironing Man
Colin Campbell
A young man appears at the door and seems to be the answer to Marina’s wishes. She and her husband Tom have moved from London to a quiet village, and Marina is bored with her life, as it seems she does nothing but housework. One day she wishes for somebody to help with the ironing, and the ‘ironing man’ appears. Not only does he help Marina with the housework, but he also helps Tom realise just how important Marina is to him.

Ghost Story

How I Met Myself
David A. Hill
One icy winter’s evening in Budapest, John Taylor is on his way home from the office when a man runs into him and knocks him over. The man turns to say sorry and John is amazed at what he sees: the man is John’s double. The double rushes away but leaves no footprints in the snow. Over the next year it becomes clear to John that the meeting was no accident and that his double has a very important message to give him.

Horror

The Beast
Carolyn Walker
Talk in the local pub is of strange deaths of sheep and rumours of the return of the legendary Beast of Brynmawr. Susie and Charlie are taking a break from work in London and renting a cottage in Brynmawr, where events grow stranger and stranger until it becomes clear that it is Susie the beast wants.

Murder Mystery

A Puzzle for Logan
Richard MacAndrew
Ronnie Campbell has escaped from prison and Morag Mackenzie has been found murdered. Seven years ago Morag gave evidence in an Edinburgh court that sent Ronnie to prison for murder. Inspector Logan is not sure this case is as straightforward as it seems. She returns to the original crime scene in order to find out the truth.

Thriller

Double Cross
Philip Prowse
A politician survives an attempted assassination in Stockholm, and secret agent Monika Lundgren is instructed to find the people responsible. As she races across the world, through Finland, England, South Africa and Mozambique, she encounters a strange football team, a rock musician and a madman with dreams of world power.

Eye of the Storm
Mandy Loader
A hurricane is tearing across the Atlantic from the west coast of Africa towards America. As the hurricane passes through the Caribbean, it destroys everything in its path. In Florida, a man is out in a fishing boat, unaware of the approaching disaster. His daughter, Ikemi, and her boyfriend must confront the hurricane in a desperate attempt to reach her father before it’s too late.

The House by the Sea
Patricia Aspinall
Carl begins to worry when his wife Linda does not arrive for the weekend at their seaside house in the east of England. When he asks local people whether they have seen her, they appear helpful, but he soon begins to wonder whether they are hiding information from him about his missing wife.

The Lahti File
Richard MacAndrew
Hundreds of dead fish, some unexplained deaths and a birdless town. Three newspaper reports from Finland attract interest from the British secret service. ‘Foreign Executive’ Ian Munro is sent to Lahti to investigate. But when his first contact is killed in front of him, Munro realises that someone knows why he is there… and that they will do anything to protect their secret.
**Romance**

**Just Good Friends**  
Penny Hancock  
It’s Stephany and Max’s first holiday together in Italy and they are staying at the flat of Stephany’s friend, Carlos. Max is a little jealous of Carlos and Carlos’ wife is certainly not happy to see Stephany. It becomes clear that there is more between Stephany and Carlos than just friendship and the tension rises between the two couples. As Max discovers more about Stephany’s past, he begins to wonder if he really knows her at all.

**Two Lives**  
Helen Naylor  
In a small Welsh village Megan and Huw fall in love. But then a tragic accident changes Huw’s life and he must move abroad. Fifty years later, Huw and Megan finally meet again. Both their lives have changed and Megan is about to get married. Can Huw convince her that their love is still strong?

**Short Stories**

**Tales of the Supernatural**  
Frank Brennan  
Six stories about a world we cannot explain. A film star discovers the dangers of dancing with a stranger. A man comes face-to-face with his father’s history. An Irish-American family cannot escape someone from the past. A woman doesn’t listen to warnings about an old tree. An English writer slowly becomes more and more Japanese. And a killer watches himself die in hospital.

**When Summer Comes**

‘The book ends with a big question mark, which is both exciting and disturbing. If you are the sort of person who is keen on romance mixed with suspense, this is the book for you.’

Carol Lesel, EL Gazette

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**Level 4**

**Adventure**

**Nothing but the Truth**  
George Kershaw  
It is the start of a new school year for teenager Hu at an international school in the exciting city of Bangkok. She has a problem with one of the teachers and does not know what to do. Through an adventure in a national park, acting in a musical, and the help of friends, Hu finds the courage to tell the truth.

**Ghost Story**

**The Lady in White**  
Colin Campbell  
Is it coincidence or is he losing his mind? While researching a new programme, John, a successful television producer, comes across a story about a ghostly hitch-hiker. Soon he realises that the story of the Lady in White bears many similarities to part of his own life. Returning to London from a holiday in Ireland, John begins to ask himself some uncomfortable questions.

**Romance**

**Staying Together**  
Judith Wilson  
Ikuko goes to England to study English, promising her boyfriend Hiroshi she will return to Japan to marry him. However, in Birmingham Ikuko discovers a whole new world and falls in love with another overseas student. Ikuko’s journey across the world not only teaches her about different ways of life but also becomes a voyage of self discovery.

**When Summer Comes**

Helen Naylor  
A hot summer and a holiday by the sea: Stephen and Anna Martins are escaping their stressful lives in London, and taking a holiday in the south-west of England. They make friends with a local fisherman, but when Stephen is called back to London for work, Anna is left alone for a few days. And then something happens which changes their lives forever.
Murder Mystery

But Was it Murder?
Jania Barrell
Alex Forley had everything: good looks, money, a beautiful house in London, an attractive girlfriend and a close group of friends. But now he is dead – an apparent case of suicide. Detective Inspector Rod Eliot isn’t sure Alex killed himself and he wants the answers to two simple questions. Was it murder? And if so, who did it?

The Amsterdam Connection
Sue Leather
Journalist Kate Jensen is shocked when her friend Max is found murdered in Amsterdam. She goes there to search for her friend’s killer and starts asking questions at the football club he owned. It soon becomes clear that someone doesn’t want her to get any answers and Kate discovers that football can be a very dangerous game indeed.

The University Murders
Richard MacAndrew
An Inspector Logan story
Billy Marr, a local misfit, claims he has murdered someone in an Edinburgh park. Inspector Logan and Sergeant Grant don’t believe him – Billy has lied many times in the past about crimes he hasn’t committed. But then a young woman is found dead in the park. Soon there is another body. Perhaps Billy is not so innocent after all.

Short Stories

The Fruitcake Special and other stories
Frank Brennan
Five entertaining stories about the power of discovery set in countries across the globe. A perfume made from some very unusual ingredients becomes more effective than expected. A remarkable change in a woman’s life leaves her family to make a decision. The secret and danger of high intelligence are revealed to a university student. A teacher discovers a way of making time stand still. And a book tells a young manager more than he wants to know.

Thriller

A Matter of Chance
David A. Hill
Paul Morris’s happy life in Italy changes when his wife dies suddenly. He develops a relationship with Sandra, a friend at work, but everything is not as it seems. How can Sandra afford such an expensive car? And why does she keep making mysterious phone calls? Soon Paul is involved in international crime and a thrilling car chase across Europe.

High Life, Low Life
Alan Battersby
A story of jealousy, estrangement and murder. Private Investigator Nathan Marley is hired by a homeless woman to find her missing son. At the same time Marley embarks on a strange relationship with a rich eccentric widow. The poorest and richest of New York are brought together in this thriller from the American detective series.

Level 5

Adventure

The Sugar Glider
Rod Neilsen
Pilot Don Radcliffe returns to Australia hoping to rescue a failed marriage and to spend more time with his daughter, Judy. But a routine cargo flight in an old DC4 airplane turns into tragedy when the plane crashes in the Australian Outback killing the co-pilot. Don and Judy’s chances of survival seem slim as they struggle against sabotage, unscrupulous businessmen and the inhospitable landscape.

Future Thriller

Dolphin Music
Antoinette Moses
It is 2051. CONTROL, the government of Europe, keeps everyone happy in a virtual reality where music made by dolphins gives exquisite pleasure. When Saul Grant, a writer, discovers the truth about the music, the illusion is shattered. He soon sets out to free the dolphins but CONTROL is aware of his actions and will stop him at any cost.
**Human Interest**

**In the Shadow of the Mountain**
Helen Naylor
A tragic love story is uncovered as journalist Clare Crowe goes to Switzerland to bring home a relative’s body. Clare’s grandfather has been found frozen in a glacier, 74 years after a climbing accident. Clare knows this could make an interesting story for her newspaper, but as she investigates her grandfather’s last climb, she learns that the accident wasn’t so simple as she had first thought.

**Short Stories**

**Windows of the Mind**
Frank Brennan
Five stories about the senses: Arlo hates noise and has a plan to bring the world silence. Gopal uses smell to protect the memory of his sister. Journalist Kathy uses her blindness to get a clear picture of human characters. Daniel has a tongue that earns him a living but could also be his downfall. And Jamie learns to balance the benefits of Tai Chi in his search for health and happiness.

**Murder Mystery**

**Emergency Murder**
Janet McGiffin
When the wife of a prominent surgeon dies suddenly in the hospital emergency room of Mercy Hospital in Milwaukee, USA, Dr Maxine Cassidy suspects murder. Maxine is determined to find the killer and starts an investigation of her own. However, when someone tries to kill her, she begins to wonder which of her medical colleagues she can trust.

**Romance**

**All I Want**
Margaret Johnson
Alex is a thirty-year-old art gallery assistant and hopelessly in love with her boss, Brad. Then, an incident at the gallery means they have to spend a few days at Brad’s country house. This is Alex’s opportunity to impress but nothing seems to go the way she planned. A surprise guest and a Christmas party help Alex to discover what she really, really wants.

**Thriller**

**A Tangled Web**
Alan Maley
Dan Combes is a former MI6 agent living peacefully in France. After being attacked by a former colleague, he realises his relationship with the British Secret Service has not yet finished. He believes the attack is linked to his roles in Berlin and Central America. But that was years ago so why do they want him dead now? Dan returns to England and confronts his difficult past – a web of lies and deceit that he knows must end.

**Jungle Love**
Margaret Johnson
On an adventure holiday in the Caribbean, Lisa and Jennifer are sharing a room. They are very different people and do not get on. However, they do have something in common: they are both attracted to Ian. And Ian likes both of them. But what about Ian’s girlfriend, Caroline? And then there’s Pete and of course, Gary…

**East 43rd Street**
Alan Battersby
It’s Christmas in New York and Private Investigator Nathan Marley is hired by a rich attractive woman to reclaim a briefcase of jewellery from a locker at Grand Central station. Marley is right not to trust the woman and soon finds himself involved in a case of criminal activity involving fraud, computer hacking and kidnap.
Murder Mystery

Deadly Harvest
Carolyn Walker
Chief Inspector Jane Honeywell is a city detective who wonders why she has moved to a sleepy country town—nothing happens in Pilton. But then the rural peace and quiet is suddenly disturbed by a horrible murder. When Jane starts the dangerous pursuit of the killer, she discovers a more terrible plan in operation.

Romance

A Love for Life
Penny Hancock
In Cambridge, Fanella bravely faces the challenge of adopting a child alone after her partner leaves her. Fanella and five-year-old Ellie get off to a rocky start, but Fanella patiently steers their relationship onto more solid ground. Meanwhile, her relationship with Rod, Ellie's teacher and a married man, is a little more complicated.

Short Stories

Frozen Pizza and other slices of life
Antoinette Moses
A collection of stories that offer eight slices of life in England today. The themes covered include British eating habits, the media, inner-city problems, immigration, football hooliganism, student life, leisure activities, and the countryside. Well-observed, lively, and amusing, these stories provide a fascinating picture of the country at the start of a new century.

The Way Home
Sue Leather
Seven journeys which change lives forever. A New York fashion buyer returns to her English home. A successful author meets an old friend. A reporter travels to an execution. A lorry driver gives an escaped prisoner a lift. A taxi driver picks up 'Bruce Lee'. A man’s love for a tram driver leads him to follow her. And four strangers meet at a motel for the first and last time.

Human Interest

He Knows Too Much
Alan Maley
An English company executive in India is dismissed after he tries to uncover corruption within his company. He returns to England where his life falls apart and his marriage breaks up. He then sets out on a one-man search for the truth behind his dismissal. He turns to the rich mystery and beauty of India and is finally forced to choose between love and revenge.

Thriller

Murder Maker
Margaret Johnson
After being jilted by her lover, Carla is devastated and intends to seek revenge. She joins a self-help group for people in similar situations and there she meets three women who have been betrayed or abandoned by their husbands. Carla decides to rehearse her revenge on these men and starts by buying a ticket to Cuba.

This Time it's Personal
Alan Battersby
Crime becomes personal for New York private investigator Nathan Marley as he tries to prove the innocence of murder suspect José—a member of his assistant Stella’s family. As unidentified bodies are washed up on a beach, the search for proof takes him into the heart of the New York Russian American community. Marley must work quickly to save José and find the real criminals.

Trumpet Voluntary
Jeremy Harmer
A musician disappears, leaving only a strange e-mail message. Her husband, in a desperate search to find her, revisits their shared past and has to face up to some unpleasant realities, before trying to rebuild his life. His journey of discovery takes us across the world to Poland and Rio and deep into the human heart.

Deadly Harvest
‘I read it in one sitting. I couldn’t stop … it was thrilling!’
Anna-Katrien, student, Belgium
New on-line placement test

Are you or your students unsure about which level to choose?

The new Cambridge English Readers placement test guides students to the most suitable level.
It’s quick, fun and very easy to use – try it now at www.cambridge.org/elt/readers