

The Lexile Map

The Lexile™ map shows how titles are matched with appropriate levels of reading ability. This example has been customised for British learners. It offers a flavour of the kinds of books at each level of the Lexile scale, which spans from below 200L for beginners and starter texts to above 1700L for advanced readers and titles.

The list is by no means prescriptive. It's simply designed to illustrate the real choice and variety that characterises the Lexile Book Database. As part of GL Assessment's adoption of The Lexile Framework for Reading™, books for the UK are being chosen to augment the wealth of existing titles with Lexile measures.

Whilst a Lexile measure is not associated with a specific school year group or age, this map includes UK year groups as a gauge of how Lexile measures compare with traditional age-based reading assessments.

Lexile measures are based on the semantic complexity (the level of the words used) and syntactic sophistication (how the words are written into sentences) of a text. They do not determine the appropriateness of a book for a particular reader. Teachers and parents are encouraged to review all reading materials to ensure their themes and language are suitable for the child.

The Lexile™ Framework FOR READING		
Text Level	Literature Titles	Benchmarks
	1700L	DISCOURSE ON THE METHOD AND MEDITATIONS ON FIRST PHILOSOPHY, Renee Descartes
	1690L British Immigration Policy Since 1939, <i>Ian R.G. Spencer</i> 1640L A Measure of Freedom, <i>Ian Carter</i> 1640L A Social History of the English Countryside, <i>G.E. Mingay</i> 1610L Bioethics in a Liberal Society, <i>Max Charlesworth</i> 1610L A History of Modern Hungary, <i>Jorg Hoensch</i>	To such a class of things pertains corporeal nature in general, and its extension, the figure of extended things, their quantity or magnitude and number, as also the place in which they are, the time which measures their duration, and so on. That is possibly why our reasoning is not unjust when we conclude from this that Physics, Astronomy, Medicine and all other sciences which have as their end the consideration of composite things, are very dubious and uncertain; but that Arithmetic, Geometry and other sciences of that kind which only treat of things that are very simple and very general, without taking great trouble to ascertain whether they are actually existent or not, contain some measure of certainty and an element of the indubitable. (Rene Descartes, author)
	1600L	FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF THE METAPHYSICS OF MORALS, Immanuel Kant
	1590L Aesthetics, <i>Hegel</i> 1570L Spain and the Great Powers in the Twentieth Century, <i>Sebastian Balfour and Paul Preston</i> 1550L Afghanistan, <i>Ralph H. Magnus and Eden Naby</i> 1540L Ancient Iraq, <i>Georges Roux</i> 1510L Animals in Celtic Life and Myth, <i>Miranda Green</i>	In fact, it is absolutely impossible to make out by experience with complete certainty a single case in which the maxim of an action, however right in itself, rested simply on moral grounds and on the conception of duty. Sometimes it happens that with the sharpest self-examination we can find nothing beside the moral principle of duty which could have been powerful enough to move us to this or that action and to so great a sacrifice; yet we cannot from this infer with certainty that it was not really some secret impulse of self-love, under the false appearance of duty, that was the actual determining cause of the will. (Immanuel Kant, author)
	1500L	ON ANCIENT MEDICINE, Hippocrates
Post graduate	1490L A Secure Base, <i>John Bowlby</i> 1450L The Origin of Species, <i>Charles Darwin</i> 1440L A History of Economic Thought, <i>Lionel Robbins</i> 1420L A Journal of the Plague Year, <i>Daniel Defoe</i> 1410L Shakespeare, <i>Germaine Greer</i>	And as to him who had been accustomed to dinner, since, as soon as the body required food, and when the former meal was consumed, and he wanted refreshment, no new supply was furnished to it, he wastes and is consumed from want of food. For all the symptoms which I describe as befalling to this man I refer to want of food. And I also say that all men who, when in a state of health, remain for two or three days without food, experience the same unpleasant symptoms as those which I described in the case of him who had omitted to take dinner. (Hippocrates, author)
	1400L	THE SCARLET LETTER, Nathaniel Hawthorne
	1350L Ancient Britain, <i>James Dyer</i> 1340L Freud, <i>Anthony Storr</i> 1330L The Snow Leopard, <i>Peter Matthiessen</i> 1320L The Battle of the Books, <i>Jonathan Swift</i> 1320L Metamorphosis, <i>Franz Kafka</i>	But the point which drew all eyes, and, as it were, transfigured the wearer—so that both men and women who had been familiarly acquainted with Hester Prynne were now impressed as if they beheld her for the first time—was that SCARLET LETTER, so fantastically embroidered and illuminated upon her bosom. It had the effect of a spell, taking her out of the ordinary relations with humanity, and enclosing her in a sphere by herself. “She hath good skill at her needle, that’s certain,” remarked one of her female spectators; “but did ever a woman, before this brazen hussy, contrive such a way of showing it? Why, gossips, what is it but to laugh in the faces of our godly magistrates, and make a pride out of what they, worthy gentlemen, meant for a punishment?” (Nathaniel Hawthorne, author)
	1300L	FOR THE TEMPLE: A TALE OF THE FALL OF JERUSALEM, George Alfred Henty
	1290L A Brief History of Time, <i>Stephen Hawkins</i> 1280L The House of the Spirits, <i>Isabelle Allende</i> 1260L Adam Bede, <i>George Eliot</i> 1240L The History of India, <i>John McLeod</i> 1220L River out of Eden, <i>Richard Dawkins</i>	At daybreak two of the party were sent forward to the edge of the wood to see with what force the Romans went out to work. They brought back the report that they were accompanied by a strong body of archers and that, as soon as they reached the forest, the archers were scattered in front of them for a long distance and that it would be impossible to approach them unobserved. On the previous afternoon, John had dispatched Jonas to Abila, and he had returned with a number of cows’ horns. Round the fire in the evening, the men had set to work to pierce the points with heated arrowheads and had converted them into instruments capable of giving a deep, prolonged sound. On the return of the scouts, John set his men in motion.
Undergraduate	1200L	WAR AND PEACE, Leo Tolstoy
	1180L The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time, <i>Mark Haddon</i> 1180L Escape from Earth, <i>Peter Ackroyd</i> 1150L Tales of the Greek Heroes, <i>Roger Lancelyn Green</i> 1130L The First Men in the Moon, <i>H.G. Wells</i> 1110L The Eagle of the Ninth, <i>Rosemary Sutcliffe</i>	Pierre had been educated abroad, and this reception at Anna Pavlovna’s was the first he had attended in Russia. He knew that all the intellectual lights of Petersburg were gathered there and, like a child in a toyshop, did not know which way to look, afraid of missing any clever conversation that was to be heard. Seeing the self-confident and refined expression on the faces of those present he was always expecting to hear something very profound. At last he came up to Morio. Here the conversation seemed interesting and he stood waiting for an opportunity to express his own views, as young people are fond of doing. (Leo Tolstoy, author)
	1100L	PRIDE AND PREJUDICE, Jane Austen
	1090L The Mayor of Casterbridge, <i>Thomas Hardy</i> 1060L Saving the World and Other Extreme Sports, <i>James Patterson</i> 1050L Marley and Me, <i>John Grogan</i> 1020L The Heart of Darkness, <i>Joseph Conrad</i> 1000L The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy, <i>Douglas Adams</i>	Occupied in observing Mr. Bingley’s attentions to her sister, Elizabeth was far from suspecting that she was herself becoming an object of some interest in the eyes of his friend. Mr. Darcy had at first scarcely allowed her to be pretty; he had looked at her without admiration at the ball; and when they next met, he looked at her only to criticise. But no sooner had he made it clear to himself and his friends that she had hardly a good feature in her face, than he began to find it was rendered uncommonly intelligent by the beautiful expression of her dark eyes. (Jane Austen, author)
	1000L	BLACK BEAUTY, Anna Sewell
England & Wales Y13 Scotland S6 N. Ireland Y14	980L Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, <i>J.K. Rowling</i> 950L The Amber Spyglass, <i>Philip Pullman</i> 950L Passage to India, <i>E.M. Forster</i> 940L The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe, <i>C.S. Lewis</i> 920L Wind in the Willows, <i>Kenneth Grahame</i>	One day, when there was a good deal of kicking, my mother whinnied to me to come to her, and then she said: “I wish you to pay attention to what I am going to say to you. The colts who live here are very good colts, but they are cart-horse colts, and of course they have not learned manners. You have been well-bred and well-born; your father has a great name in these parts, and your grandfather won the cup two years at the Newmarket races; your grandmother had the sweetest temper of any horse I ever knew, and I think you have never seen me kick or bite. I hope you will grow up gentle and good, and never learn bad ways; do your work with a good will, lift your feet up well when you trot, and never bite or kick even in play.” (Anna Sewell, author)
	900L	SILVERFIN, Charlie Higson
	890L Stig of the Dump, <i>Clive King</i> 860L The Fellowship of the Ring, <i>J.R.R Tolkien</i> 850L Avenger, <i>Andy McNab</i> 850L Tanglewreck, <i>Jeanette Winterson</i> 830L Under Sea, Over Stone, <i>Susan Cooper</i>	The top of Parson’s Hill marked the halfway point and, as they came down the other side, the going got very tough. The track was made up of loose dirt and shingle, plus some larger stones that the lead runners had already kicked to life. James had to be very careful not to lose his footing, and all he could do was focus on his feet directly in front of him. He lost track of most of the other boys but, in the mad scramble down the slope, he saw another runner fall and go skidding and sliding off into bushes. James slowed down; it would be terrible to go out of the race through a silly and careless accident, but he got down without mishap and joined the tail of the leading group. He looked around. There was Carlton, and Forster, but where was Hellebore? What had happened to him in the scramble down the hill? James glanced behind him. Gellward was leading a second, smaller pack of runners.
	800L	THE ADVENTURES OF PINOCCHIO, Carlo Collodi
	790L The Story of Tracey Beaker, <i>Jacqueline Wilson</i> 760L Carrie’s VVar, <i>Nina Bowden</i> 740L Slam, <i>Nick Hornby</i> 730L No Turning Back, <i>Beverly Naidoo</i> 720L The Girl with the Broken Wing, <i>Heather Dyer</i>	“Great soul!” said Pinocchio, fondly embracing his friend. Five months passed and the boys continued playing and enjoying themselves from morn till night, without ever seeing a book, or a desk, or a school. But, my children, there came a morning when Pinocchio awoke and found a great surprise awaiting him, a surprise which made him feel very unhappy, as you shall see. Everyone, at one time or another, has found some surprise awaiting him. Of the kind which Pinocchio had on that eventful morning of his life, there are but few. What was it? I will tell you, my dear little readers. On awakening, Pinocchio put his hand up to his head and there he found—Guess! He found that, during the night, his ears had grown at least ten full inches! (Carlo Collodi, author)
England & Wales Y12 Scotland S5, N. Ireland Y13	700L	CATWINGS, Ursula le Guin
	670L Stormbreaker, <i>Anthony Horowitz</i> 660L Wolf Brother, <i>Michelle Paver</i> 650L Cirque du Freak, <i>Darren Shan</i> 640L Krindlekrax, <i>Philip Ridley</i> 620L Hacker, <i>Malorie Blackman</i>	He sat for hours by the creek, his wings folded, fishing. The fish did not complain either. They never do. One night of early summer the Tabbies were all curled in their home hole, rather tired and discouraged. A raccoon family was quarreling loudly in the next tree. Thelma had found nothing to eat all day but a shrew, which gave her indigestion. A coyote had chased Roger away from the wood rat he had been about to catch that afternoon. James’s fishing had been unsuccessful.
	600L	A BABY SISTER FOR FRANCES, Russell Hoban
	570L Pitt Street Pirates, <i>Terry Deary</i> 560L Jim and the Beanstalk, <i>Raymond Briggs</i> 540L 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea, <i>Jules Verne</i> 530L Life on the Refrigerator Door, <i>Alice Kuipers</i> 510L Treasure at the Flea Market, <i>Chris Powling</i>	“Did you forget that I like raisins?” “No, I did not forget,” said Mother, “but you finished up the raisins yesterday and I have not been out shopping yet.” “Well,” said Frances, “things are not very good around here anymore. No clothes to wear. No raisins for the oatmeal. I think maybe I’ll run away.” “Finish your breakfast,” said Mother. “It is almost time for the school bus.” “What time will dinner be tonight?” said Frances. “Half past six,” said Mother. “Then I will have plenty of time to run away after dinner,” said Frances, and she kissed her mother good-bye and went to school. After dinner that evening Frances packed her little knapsack very carefully. She put in her tiny special blanket and her alligator doll. (Russell Hoban, author) © 1964 by Russell Hoban. Reprinted by permission of HarperCollins Publishers, Inc. All rights reserved.
	500L	THE GIGGLER TREATMENT, Roddy Doyle
England & Wales Y11 Scotland S4 N. Ireland Y12	470L Henry and Mudge and the Happy Cat, <i>Cynthia Rylant</i> 460L Red Eyes at Night, <i>Michael Morpurgo</i> 420L King Midas and the Golden Touch, <i>Jenny Giles</i> 410L The Goalie from Nowhere, <i>Alan MacDonald</i> 410L The Enormous Crocodile, <i>Roald Dahl</i>	The Gigglers look after children. And they do it very well. But they do it so quietly that hardly anybody has ever seen them. How do they look after the children? Good question. They follow them everywhere. To school, to the shops, to the park, and back home again, upstairs, into the toilet, all over the place. Everywhere the children go, the Gigglers are always near, always looking after them. What do they look like? Good question. Only a few people have ever seen the Gigglers and they never tell anyone else about them. So it’s hard to tell what the Gigglers look like. They are baby-sized and furry. Their fur changes colour as they move. Like a chameleon? Yes, like a chameleon. If they are near a white wall they become white. If they are in a tree they become green and brown. If they are near a car—well, it depends on the colour of the car but they’re not very good at being purple, so they try not to go too near to purple cars.
	400L	FROG AND TOAD ARE FRIENDS, Arnold Lobel
	380L Horrid Henry’s Classroom Cooties, <i>Francesca Simon</i> 370L My Friend Bear, <i>Jez Alborough</i> 360L Amelia Bedelia Goes Back to School, <i>Herman Parish</i> 340L Hairy Bears, <i>Celia Warren</i> 310L Curious George Goes Camping, <i>Margret and A.H. Rey</i>	“That button is thin. My button was thick.” Toad put the thin button in his pocket. He was very angry. He jumped up and down and screamed, “The whole world is covered with buttons, and not one of them is mine!” Toad ran home and slammed the door. There, on the floor, he saw his white, four-holed, big, round, thick button. “Oh,” said Toad. “It was here all the time. What a lot of trouble I have made for Frog.” Toad took all of the buttons out of his pocket. He took his sewing box down from the shelf. Toad sewed the buttons all over his jacket. The next day Toad gave his jacket to Frog. Frog thought it was beautiful. He put it on and jumped for joy. (Arnold Lobel, author) © 1970 by Arnold Lobel. Reprinted by permission of HarperCollins Publishers, Inc. All rights reserved.
	300L	CLIFFORD S MANNERS, Norman Bridwell
England & Wales Y10 Scotland S3, N. Ireland Y11	290L Amanda Pig and the Really Hot Day, <i>Jean Van Leeuwen</i> 270L Arthur and the School Pet, <i>Marc Tolon Brown</i> 260L The Cat in the Hat, <i>Dr. Seuss</i> 240L Now I Am Six!, <i>A.A. Milne</i> 220L Happy Birthday Thomas!, <i>W. Awdry</i>	Clifford loves to go visiting. When he visits his sister in the country, he always calls ahead. Clifford always arrives on time. Don’t be late. Knock before you walk in. He knocks on the door before he enters. He wipes his feet first. Wipe your feet. Clifford kisses his sister. He shakes hands with her friend. Shake hands. Wash up before you eat. Clifford’s sister has dinner ready. Clifford washes his hands before he eats. Clifford chews his food with his mouth closed. He never talks with his mouth full. Don’t talk with your mouth full. Help clean up. Clifford helps with the clean-up. Say good-bye. Then he says thank you and good-bye to his sister and to his friend. Everyone loves Clifford’s manners. (Norman Bridwell, author) © 1972 by Norman Bridwell. Reprinted by permission of Scholastic Inc. All rights reserved.
	200L	
England & Wales Y9 Scotland S2, N. Ireland Y10		
England & Wales Y8 Scotland S1, N. Ireland Y9		
England & Wales Y7 Scotland P7 N. Ireland Y8		
England & Wales Y6 Scotland P6 N. Ireland Y7		
England & Wales Y5 Scotland P5 N. Ireland Y6		
England & Wales Y4 Scotland P4 N. Ireland Y5		
England & Wales Y3 Scotland P3 N. Ireland Y4		
England & Wales Y2 Scotland P2 N. Ireland Y3		