

1972

Easy Readings in English for Foreign Students: An Annotated Bibliography

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Rojas, Ronald, "Easy Readings in English for Foreign Students: An Annotated Bibliography" (1972). *MA TESOL Collection*. 100.
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School for International Training
MAT Program
Independent Professional Project

EASY READINGS IN ENGLISH FOR FOREIGN STUDENTS: AN ANNOTATED
BIBLIOGRAPHY

Ronald Rojas
July, 1972

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INTRODUCTION

Generally, the time devoted to language classes, for one reason or another, is not enough to fully develop the reading skill and, at the same time, take advantage of its usefulness. In view of this, the teacher should be able to appeal to supplementary reading material that the student can use by himself. Since not all students learn at the same rate, the teacher, and only the teacher, knows at what level of performance each individual student is; consequently the teacher is practically the only person that can make suggestions about the most adequate material for the student to help himself develop his reading skill as an important element of his language training.

For this purpose, the Dr. Donald B. Watt library has organized a new easy-reading section for foreign students. There are a hundred and twenty seven titles which are now available to students of English, students of the Master of Arts in Teaching program, teachers, and anybody who might be interested in this collection.

Supplementary reading material suitable for beginning and intermediate students, who form the bulk of the students of English at S.I.T., is very difficult to obtain. A great deal of the material that has been published for these students seems to be mostly designed for young students rather than for adults, which is another predominant characteristic of the students of English at S.I.T. Their interests and needs are totally different from those of young students; therefore, the reading material for them should be adjusted

to these characteristics. However, an effort has been made to select adult readings ranging from the beginning to the advanced level. The easy-reading collection has a few titles which are not quite suitable for adults; but they were included because there might be some young students on campus or in the community interested in reading material in English.

One of the problems that many of the easy readers present is their appearance. Some of the illustrations, especially drawings, are designed for children rather than for adults. This situation might discourage the adult reader when he first looks at the book. This is a perfectly valid suggestion that might be passed to the publishers. Easy-reading materials for adults should definitely have the appearance of a regular book.

The easy-reading section has been organized in three levels: elementary, intermediate and advanced. The criterion followed to establish these three levels is based on the length of the text or texts in each book. Books containing short passages or short stories were included in the elementary level; longer short stories, chapters or articles belong in the intermediate level; and simplified works and some unabridged books were included in the advanced level. The specifications of the number of words^{and} grammatical structures are the same ones established by the editors; however, this does not necessarily determine the criterion followed in this bibliography to select the books.

Since the goals of reading for foreign students learning English are somewhat different from those of an English speaking child or an illiterate native speaker, both learning how to read and write in their own language, the easy-reading collection has almost exclusively been selected from publications in English as a foreign or second language. The collection includes almost everything currently available in this field.

Another general feature of the collection is its wide variety of subject matter. A lot of the books consist of literary material that provides cultural insights and appealing plots; however, professional and technical books have been included as well. Some of the literary works are simplifications of famous authors' works. This does not interfere with the goals of reading for foreign students since they will be manipulating the language and enriching their knowledge of it. Nevertheless, unabridged books have also been included for those who want to enjoy literature as such.

The limitations in quality or in quantity that you may find in this collection are due to the relatively few available materials that have been published for this purpose.

Here are some suggestions which might be helpful to maintain and add to the present collection.

1. Mostly, there are only single copies of the books. The librarian should therefore periodically check the collection to find out if there are any missing items. If so, she should order them from the school supplier or directly from the publishers. Information on how to order the books will be found in Appendix I.

2. The varied Longman readers proved to be very good. Check Longman Ways to English 1972 (Longman's book catalogue) if the collection needs to be enlarged. They can be ordered from Newbury House Publishers, as indicated in the appendix.
3. The books from "The Ladder Series", which are distributed by binational centers abroad, are also recommended for their wide variety of subject matter. Most of the books in this collection are especially written for "The Ladder Series"; however, some have been adapted to different vocabulary ranges. These books are not available in the United States but can be brought from the foreign countries where binational centers operate.
4. The "How and Why" books should be examined. They are not meant for foreign students learning English, but their content is interesting and might be appealing to adult students.
5. If any addition is made to the present holdings, it should be listed in another appendix until the collection is revised. Every six months or every year, the collection should be revised and additions should be included in the annotated bibliography.

A WORD ABOUT READING

The general goal of reading in a foreign language class (in terms of behavioral objectives) is to decode the message without "concentrating on structure or translating to their (the students') own language".* In order to reach this goal, the teacher should lead the students through the process of developing the reading skills which embodies sub-processes such as reading what has been done orally in class; reading aloud for practice in pronunciation, stress and fluency; and discovery of new language and information. The easy-reading collection is mostly related to the third sub-process (reading for comprehension and acquisition of new language and information.)

The easy-reading collection provides a means for individualizing reading at different levels of performance. It would be especially beneficial for those students who need to be given extra work due to the fact that they learn at a faster pace. This, in the long run, will be a good resource to maintain motivation at a high level.

*

Kenneth Chastain. The Development of Modern Language Skills: From Theory to Practice. 1970 p.p. 177

ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY

The purpose of this bibliography is to provide both the teacher and the student with a guide where they can easily find quick information about the books available from the easy-reading library. This bibliography contains information about:

1. Publishers.
2. Author or editor.
3. Vocabulary range, when specified by the authors, and how this range has been established.
4. Level (beginning, intermediate or advance.)
5. Comments on the main cultural aspects presented in the book.
6. Comments on the reading itself.

This bibliography is arranged alphabetically according to publishers, but the easy-reading section is arranged by levels according to the criterion of length of the reading described in the introduction.

I. BANTAM BOOKS

A. Exodus

Leon Uris

Vocabulary Range: Not specified (unabridged)

Level: Advanced

This is the story of the rebirth of Israel after centuries of struggle to achieve its goal of establishing as a nation. This book accurately describes the character of the Jewish people.

B. The Incredible Journey

Sheila Burnford

Vocabulary Range: Not specified (unabridged)

Level: Intermediate to advanced.

This is the story of the journey of two dogs and a cat through some Canadian woods; their struggle against nature to survive in the wilderness and get back home safely. One of the most motivating features in the book is the fact that the three animals involved in the story acquire almost human personalities. Recommended for all readers.

C. The Pearl

John Steinbeck

Vocabulary Range: Not specified (unabridged)

Level: Elementary to advanced.

This well known book tells the story of a poor fisherman who found a wonderful pearl and hoped to buy happiness for himself and

his family. But unfortunately, material richness brought him troubles. Shows the conflict between good and evil. The story is written in a very simple language and the plot is so well developed that it can perfectly hold the attention of students learning English.

D. Topaz

Leon Uris

Vocabulary Range: Not specified (unabridged)

Level: Advanced.

This is a book of espionage. It tells about the sending of missiles to Cuba by Russia and the effort of the United States to find out about it and stop this action. Recommended for students who like international politics.

II. DELL PUBLISHING CO., INC.

A. 18 Best Stories by Edgar Allan Poe

Vincent Price and Chandler Brossard, eds.

Vocabulary Range: Not specified (unabridged)

Level: Advanced.

This collection includes an introduction by Vincent Price. The stories are well selected and provide good reading material in classic American literature.

B. Man of La Mancha

Dale Wasserman

Vocabulary Range: Not specified

Level: Advanced.

This is a musical play about Don Quixote. Don Quixote's dream is very well illustrated in this play. The only problem that students might face when reading the play is the fact that there are words (very few) from Middle English, but the students can easily overcome this difficulty. The words for all the songs appear in the book. This play can be staged by the students under the direction of the teacher. There are twenty six characters in the play.

III. EDUCATIONAL EXPLORERS LIMITED

Short Passages

Caleb Gattegno

Vocabulary Range: Not specified

Level: Elementary

This is a collection of thirty six short passages (about two pages long each) illustrating situations faced by common people every day. Each story develops a plot, usually around the personality of the characters, that should prove appealing to adult readers. The wide variety of themes presented in this book will allow the student to choose what seems most interesting to him.

IV. FAWCETT PUBLICATIONS, INC.

1. Latin America: Reform or Revolution? A Reader

James Petras and Maurice Zeitlin, Eds.

Vocabulary Range: Not specified (unabridged)

Level: Advanced,

This is a collection of twenty three articles dealing with Latin American contemporary politics. It tells about interest groups and their influence; the military establishment; American control of Latin American economics; revolutions and guerrilla activities. Appealing to all students interested in the present and future of this part of the world. All the articles are well documented and provide many facts.

2. The Guns of Navarone

Alistair Maclean

Vocabulary Range: Not specified (unabridged)

Level: Advanced

This well known novel relates an episode from the Second World War. Good for students who enjoy reading action books.

V. GROSSET & DUNLAP, INC.

College Entrance Guide (8th Edition)

Bernice W. Einstein

Vocabulary Range: Not specified

Level: Elementary to Advanced.

This is not a reading book like the ones annotated in this bibliography, but it provides a great deal of information about colleges in the United States.

VI. LONGMAN GROUP LIMITED

A. Longman Simplified English Series

Most of the books in this series have been abridged and based on A General Service List of English Words which contains 2,000 root words. The vocabulary outside this range is explained in footnotes as they occur. This series includes classics of English literature as well as popular contemporary novels and stories. On the back of each book there is a brief biography of its author.

1. A Book of Shorter Stories

G. C. Thornley, Ed.

Vocabulary Range: 2,000 words.

Level: Elementary.

This is a collection of eighteen short stories by well known writers. This book does not have comprehension or vocabulary exercises which makes it more readable.

2. In the Service of The Queen

Alexandre Dumas

Vocabulary Range: 2,000 words

Level: Elementary to intermediate

This book is based on incidents in Alexander Dumas' Les Trois Mousquetaires. The book has illustrations and at the end there is a glossary.

3. Kidnapped

R. L. Stevenson

Vocabulary Range: 2,000 words

Level: Intermediate

This is the story of the adventures of a young man whose uncle sells him for twenty pounds to the captain of a ship going to North America. During the trip the young man helps one of the passengers who is going to be robbed by the crew. After the ship is wrecked, they get back to Scotland, their native land, where the young man receives the money that his uncle held when the boys' father died. This book is recommended for readers who enjoy reading adventure books.. There are comprehension questions at the end of the book.

4. Moby Dick

Herman Melville

Vocabulary Range: 2,000 words

Level: Elementary to intermediate

This is a very well achieved simplification of Melville's masterpiece. This book does not have comprehension exercises, which maintains the natural flow of the reading.

5. Montezuma's Daughter

Sir H. Rider Haggard

Vocabulary Range: 2,000 words

Level: Intermediate

This is a very good story about the Aztecs when the Spaniards arrived in Mexico for the first time. It is very well documented. There are comprehension exercises at the end of the book.

6. More Tales From Shakespeare

Charles and Mary Lamb

Vocabulary Range: 2,000 words.

Level: Elementary to intermediate

These are the stories from some of Shakespeare's plays.

There are six stories in this book:

The Winter's Tale

King Lear

The Taming of the Shrew

Romeo and Juliet

Hamlet, Prince of Denmark

Othello

7. Tales of Mystery and Imagination

Edgar Allan Poe

Vocabulary Range: 2,000 words

Level: Intermediate

This is a collection of ten of the best short stories written by Poe. The way these stories are simplified makes them more accessible to the student learning English.

8. The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn

Mark Twain

Vocabulary Range: 2,000 words

Level: Elementary to intermediate

9. The Adventures of Tom Sawyer

Mark Twain

Vocabulary Range: 2,000 words

Level: Elementary to intermediate

10. The Three Musketeers

Alexandre Dumas

Vocabulary Range: 2,000 words

Level: Elementary

This book, like In The Service Of The Queen, is based on the original novel written by Dumas. There is a glossary at the end of the book.

11. The Invisible Man

H. G. Wells

Vocabulary Range: 2,000 words

Level: Elementary

This is a story of fantastic and imaginative adventures that raises the question: "What will a man do if he has the power of making himself invisible?" The twenty three chapters are very short and full of action.

12. The Power House

John Buchan

Vocabulary Range: 2,000 words

Level: Intermediate

This is another adventure book that tells the story of a young lawyer who narrates how he found himself on the track of a criminal who controlled a tremendously powerful organization.

B. New Method Supplementary Readers

This is a graded series and the vocabulary items outside the indicated range are explained either in a footnote or in a picture where they appear for the first time. All the books in this series, except Treasure Island, have exercises at the end.

1. King Solomon's Mines

Sir H. Rider Haggard

Vocabulary Range: 1,800 words

Level: Intermediate

This book of the adventures of three Englishmen in Africa. They are always in some kind of danger and have to fight for their lives. The story is full of action and very readable.

2. The Hunchback Of Notre Dame

Victor Hugo

Vocabulary Range: 450 words

Level: Elementary

This mystery story takes place during the fifteenth century. The plot: Quasimodo, an ugly man with a crooked spine, becomes Esmeralda's slave. Esmeralda is a gypsy dancer who brings Quasimodo a drink after he has been beaten. Later, Quasimodo prevents Esmeralda's being killed after she is accused of a crime; but she is finally hanged. Years later, the skeleton of Esmeralda is found in the arms of another skeleton, Quasimodo's. Victor Hugo condemns, in this novel, the society who was so cruel to Quasimodo and Esmeralda.

3. Tom Jones

Henry Fielding

Vocabulary Range: 1,800 words

Level: Elementary

This is a good simplification of Fielding's famous humorous novel written during the middle of the eighteenth century. The form of humor used by Fielding is very appealing to a modern reader, especially because of Tom Jones' love adventures. Every student will enjoy reading this book.

4. Treasure Island

Robert Louis Stevenson

Vocabulary Range: 1,800 words

Level: Intermediate

This is an adventure story that tells about pirates and a group of honest British citizens who are all after a famous pirate's treasure.

5. Typee

Herman Melville

Vocabulary Range: 1,400 words

Level: Intermediate

Melville went to the island of Typee (Nukuhera) and lived there for about four months. In this book he tells how the people of Typee lived and his experiences living with these extremely happy and busy people.

C. Now Read On

A Reading And Language Practice Book

T. U. Sachs

Vocabulary Range: Not specified

Level: Elementary

This is a collection of twenty short stories and essays by well-known American and British authors. Each text is followed by a very brief biography of the author and explanatory notes on points that might be difficult for the students to understand.

The subject matter is varied; therefore it can satisfy the interests of many students.

D. Pleasant Books In Easy English

The books selected from this series include fiction and nonfiction works, and were especially written for adult students learning English as a second language. The vocabulary used is also based on A General Service List of English Words. The subject matter in these books is essentially contemporary which gives the student the opportunity to familiarize himself with common everyday English and to enjoy reading interesting stories. All the books in this series are illustrated and do not have either comprehension or vocabulary exercises.

1. Dead Or Alive?

G. C. Thornley

Vocabulary Range: 480 words

Level: Elementary

This book contains five very short stories of mystery. The language used in the stories is rather simple. The verb tenses used in the active voice do not include the past perfect and the future perfect. In the passive voice, the tenses used are mostly restricted to the present and the past.

2. Eleven Short Stories

G. C. Thornley

Vocabulary Range: 750 words

Level: Elementary

As indicated in the title, this book contains eleven short stories. Most of them relate humorous incidents. The verb tenses used in these stories have the same characteristics indicated in Dead or Alive? (number 1 in this series).

3. Man Against Nature

Norman Wymer

Vocabulary Range: 1,500 words

Level: Elementary

The six articles contained in this book describe major modern engineering events, successful attempts of man to dominate nature. All the articles have illustrations and are well documented. There is a glossary at the end of the book and footnotes to explain some of the words.

4. The Hand Of The Law

G. C. Thornley

Vocabulary Range: 750 words

Level: Elementary

This is a collection of four detective stories in which the intervention of the police makes it possible to solve the criminal plots in the stories. The verb tenses used in this book have the same characteristics described in Dead Or Alive?

5. Who Did It First?

G. C. Thornley

Vocabulary Range: 1,100 words

Level: Elementary

This is a brief account of some of the greatest inventions and discoveries of man. They are very complete and well documented. The text includes all the verb tenses except the future perfect and constructions with "might." The style is simple and very readable. There is a glossary at the end of the book.

6. World Of Today And Tomorrow

Richard Musman

Vocabulary Range: 1,500 words

Level: Elementary

This is a collection of articles dealing with the progress of modern science. The articles cover achievements by doctors, chemists, engineers, physicists, etc. The articles are written in the form of stories which makes them more readable. Grammatical structures are not restricted.

E. Reading For Adults (Book 1)

Richard Lewis

Vocabulary Range: 1,000 words

Level: Elementary

This series is composed of three books, but books 2 and 3 have not been published yet. The vocabulary range in this series is also based on A General Service List Of English Words. Book 1 is a collection of twenty short reading passages covering a wide variety of subject matter of especial interest to adults. The book is full of color illustrations. There are explanatory notes and vocabulary exercises immediately after each passage.

F. Structural Readers

This particular series consists of graded supplementary readers in six stages. Each stage is determined by the amount of vocabulary contained in each book.

Stage 1::	300 words	Stage 4:	1,100 words
Stage 2:	500 words	Stage 5:	1,500 words
Stage 3:	750 words	Stage 6:	1,800 words

The selection made for this bibliography only includes a few titles from stages, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6. It should be pointed out that there are many more titles in this series, but they were not available at the moment when the order to obtain the Longman readers was sent out. The first two stages are not very suitable

for adults; however there are some titles in the other stages that certainly are adult readers. The selection from this series is as follows.

1. April Fools' Day (Stage 2)

L. G. Alexander

Vocabulary Range: Not specified

Level: Elementary

This is a funny story about how rumors start and the effect they cause on people, especially in small communities.

2. Car Thieves (Stage 1)

L. G. Alexander

Vocabulary Range: Not specified

Level: Elementary

Another short detective story. The book is illustrated with color pictures.

3. David Copperfield (Stage 3)

Charles Dickens

Vocabulary Range: Not specified

Level: Elementary

This book is a simplification of Dicken's famous novel. It has illustrations and vocabulary exercises at the end.

4. Detectives From Scotland Yard (Stage 1)

L. G. Alexander

Vocabulary Range: Not specified

Level: Elementary

A short detective story fully illustrated.

5. Don Quixote And Sancho Panza (Stage 2)

Miguel de Cervantes

Vocabulary Range: Not specified

Level: Elementary

This is a short story based on incidents in the original version of this great classic of Spanish literature.

6. Modern Short Stories (Stage 6)

G. C. Thornley, Ed.

Vocabulary Range: Not specified

Level: Elementary

This is a collection of six short stories by modern well-known writers. The stories have been simplified but they maintain their unity. There are vocabulary exercises at the end of the book.

7. On The Road (Stage 2)

Don Byrne

Vocabulary Range: Not specified

Level: Elementary

This is another illustrated story of robbery and police action.

8. Round The World In 80 Days (Stage 3)

Jules Verne

Vocabulary Range: Not specified

Level: Elementary

This book has been adapted from Verne's original fantastic novel. It is complete and very readable.

9. Tales Of The Caliphs (Stage 6)

Albert Butros

Vocabulary Range: Not specified

Level: Elementary

This is a collection of ten short stories about people from the Middle East.

10. The Thirty Nine Steps (Stage 4)

John Buchan

Vocabulary Range: Not specified

Level: Elementary

This is another mystery story. Very readable. It has ten short chapters.

11. The Young Warriors (Stage 6)

Vic Reid

Vocabulary Range: Not specified

Level: Elementary

This book tells the adventures of two young men of a Jamaican tribe during the times when the English defeated the Spanish and took over the island. Much of the story narrates a battle between English soldiers and the two young warriors' tribe.

G. Technical English Supplementary Readers

This series consists of three books, but the only one available on the market is the one listed below. The purpose of this series is to help the student to familiarize himself with technical vocabulary in English.

Civil Engineering

John S. Scott

Vocabulary Range: 2,000 words

Level: Elementary to advanced.

This is a collection of twenty seven articles describing common engineering processes. The articles are illustrated with photographs and professional diagrams. There are vocabulary and comprehension exercises and a glossary at the end of the book.

H. The Bridge Series

Some of the books in this series provide information on several subjects; many of them have been especially written for the series, and others are adaptations from well-known novels. The vocabulary used in these books is at a level of approximately 3,000 words. This vocabulary range is based on A General Service List Of English Words (which comprises 2,000 words) plus additional words taken from the first 3,000 words in Thorndike and Lodge: A Teacher's Handbook of 30,000 words. Words outside these limits are explained in a glossary at the end of each book.

1. Changing Horizons

G. C. Thornley

Vocabulary Range: As specified in the description of the series.

Level: Elementary to advanced

This is a collection of seventeen scientific articles, dealing with the progress made by science in recent years. The language used in the articles is not strictly technical, which makes the articles very readable.

2. Christmas At Candle Shoe

Michael Innes

Vocabulary Range: As specified Above

Level: Intermediate

This is the interesting story of a group of boys who successfully defend an old mansion from thieves. The owners of the mansion are in a difficult financial situation and toward the end of the story they find a very valuable painting. The happy end of the story makes it possible for the owners of the mansion to continue to live comfortably in their house.

3. Mankind Against The Killers

James Hemmings

Vocabulary Range: As specified above.

Level: Intermediate

This book deals with the diseases that have caused thousands of deaths among the human race. The book tells, in a narrative style, how man has managed to diminish many of these maladies.

4. Oliver Twist

Charles Dickens

Vocabulary Range: As specified above.

Level: Intermediate

This is a simplification of Dicken's best known novel. The adventures of Oliver as a thief under the direction of Bill Sikes are really as appealing to the modern reader as they were to the reader of the last century.

5. Power And Progress

G. C. Thornley

Vocabulary Range: As specified above.

Level: Elementary to intermediate

This book contains ten articles. Some of these articles deal with the main sources of power that man makes use of. Other articles are an attempt to outline the history of the progress of science. This book is especially beneficial to students of science, but other readers can enjoy it as well.

6. Stories From Many Lands

G. C. Thornley, Ed.

Vocabulary Range: As specified above.

Level: Elementary

This is a collection of twenty four short stories written by authors from Europe, Australia, Japan and Russia. The stories are varied and tell something about the culture of the authors' native countries.

7. Stories Grim, Stories Gay

Barry Taylor, Ed.

Vocabulary Range: As specified above

Level: Elementary

This book contains ten short stories by famous authors like Poe, Maugham, Wilde, Dickens, O. Henry and others. The stories are interesting and varied to satisfy the interest of many students.

8. The 'Caine' Mutiny

Herman Wouk

Vocabulary Range: As specified above

Level: Intermediate to advanced

This book is a simplification of the original novel. It is concerned with the naval war against Japan in the Pacific Ocean. The captain of the 'Caine' under the pressure of the war, does not act very normal and one of the officers takes over the direction of the battleship. Finally, the officer is charged with insubordination. The story is fascinating and gives a true picture of life on a ship during the war.

9. The Journeying Boy

Michael Innes

Vocabulary Range: As specified above

Level: Advanced

The Journeying Boy is a mystery story full of adventure and excitement. It is concerned with the kidnapping of the fourteen-year-old boy of a leading scientist. The police finally discover that there are two groups of criminals trying to kidnap the boy. Recommended for students who like adventure books.

10. The Mysterious Universe

Sir James Jeans

Vocabulary Range: As specified above

Level: Intermediate

This book is concerned with the forces that constantly act in the universe. The book provides a great deal of information on astronomy, modern physics, matter and radiation, relativity and ether, and oceanography. The book is very readable and is especially recommended to students interested in science.

11. The Red Badge Of Courage

Stephen Crane

Vocabulary Range: As specified above

Level: Intermediate to advanced

This is a simplification of the original novel written by Crane. This is a story of the American Civil War. The theme of the story concentrates on the physical and mental struggle of a youngster who enlisted in the Union Army and because of fear, he is not sure whether or not he should fight. The book gives a very reliable picture of that war.

12. Ways Of The World

G. C. Thornley

Vocabulary Range: As specified above

Level: Intermediate

This book provides a number of scientific facts. The student can also get acquainted with ways of life especially in London. Although the book contains many technical terms, it is readable and the student will learn a great deal of scientific vocabulary.

VII. NOBLE AND NOBLE, PUBLISHERS, INC.

The Noble and Noble African Studies Program

Mary Louise Clifford / Edward S. Ross

Vocabulary Range: Not specified

Level: Intermediate to advanced

This series provides a lot of factual information about Africa. The books are full of color illustrations and the language is relatively easy for students learning English. There is a glossary at the end of each book. The collection is composed of ten booklets and the comprehension exercises are in a separate booklet. The booklets are arranged alphabetically, as follows:

1. Africa The Beginning Of Tomorrow

Government, statesmen and African Unity.

2. Challenge Of The City

How the African of the city lives.

3. Creeds And Cultures In Modern Africa

Belief, tradition and change.

4. Echoes From The African Past

Hunting and fishing people of Africa.

5. Masters Of The Soil

The farming peoples of Africa.

6. Stone And Steel: The Builders Of Africa

Development of technology during the past and the present.

7. The African Environment

Geography, flora and fauna.

8. The Creative African

Artists and craftsmen.

9. The Timeless Search

The pastoral people of Africa.

10. The Voices Of Africa

This volume is about the people in general and their languages.

11. Student Activity Book

Comprehension exercises.

VIII. PYRAMID BOOKS

1. Mark Twain Tonigh!

Hal Holbrook

Vocabulary Range: Not specified (unabridged)

Level: Advanced

These are selections written by Mark Twain that were edited, adapted and especially arranged to be shown on television. The book is very readable and interesting. It shows, like most of Twain's writings, facets of the American culture.

2. The Gift Of The Magi And Other Stories

O. Henry

Vocabulary Range: Not specified

Level: Elementary to advanced

This is a collection of six of O. Henry's best short stories. O. Henry's stories are famous for their unexpected conclusions. All of them can hold the interest of the reader from the beginning to the end.

3. The Man Without A Country

Edward Everett Hale

Vocabulary Range: Not specified

Level: Intermediate

This book tells the story of a U.S. army officer who loved his country although he had said, at the beginning of his career, that he did not even want to hear its name again. Most of the story narrates the officer's activities overseas and the difficulties he had because of the statement he had made when he began in the army.

IX. READER'S DIGEST SERVICES, INC.
NEW YORK

Articles Adapted From Reader's Digest.

Each of the books in this series has about six articles adapted from the regular Reader's Digest magazine. There are comprehension and vocabulary exercises in each book. The wide variety of articles provides material to satisfy the variable interests of the students.

There are only eleven of these books in the Dr. Donald B. Watt library. These are meant mostly for beginning students:

1. A Race To Remember
2. First At The Finish
3. Guides To High Adventure
4. "I Fell 18,000 Feet"
5. Mystery Of The Mountains
6. Santa Fe Traders
7. Second Chance
8. "Send For Red"!
9. Valley Of 10,000 Smokes
10. What's On The Moon?
11. Workers In The Sky

X. REGENTS PUBLISHING COMPANY, INC.

A. AMERICAN CLASSICS
Adapted by Robert Dixon

The books in this series are simplified versions of famous literary works written by American writers. They have been adapted to meet the necessities of foreign students learning English. They have been graded according to the vocabulary level, which will be specified in the description of each book provided in this annotated bibliography. All these books have comprehension and vocabulary exercises. In this particular bibliography they have been arranged alphabetically. These books do not present a great deal of everyday modern life in the United States; however they constitute part of the American culture.. Furthermore, the stories told in them are interesting, suitable for adults and can help the student build up an effective vocabulary.

1. House Of The Seven Gables

Nathaniel Hawthorne

Vocabulary Range: 750 words

Level: Elementary

The philosophical aspects emphasized in the original novel have been reduced to a minimum and what remains is a story of love, murder and revenge. The plot is interesting and the students will be able to familiarize themselves with one of the masterpieces of American Literature.

2. Moby Dick

Herman Melville

Vocabulary Range: 1,000 words

Level: Elementary

Although this is a simplification of the original novel, the story remains fairly clear. The story is based on life on the high seas during the early days of last century. The long passages describing the whaling industry have been eliminated.

3. Murders In The Rue Morgue And The Gold Bug

Edgar Allan Poe

Vocabulary Range: 1,200 words

Level: Elementary to intermediate

The two stories included in this book are considered to be two of the best written by Poe. Both are comparable to modern mystery stories and should be interesting to foreign students. The intricate writing of Poe's has been simplified without losing the unity of the well developed original plots.

4. Short Stories by Bret Harte

Bret Harte

Vocabulary Range: 1,600 words

Level: Intermediate

This book contains the following short stories, "Luck of Roaring Camp", "Outcasts of Poker Flat", "Dick Boyle's Business Card" and "Innocent One of the Sierras." All four stories tell about the rough life in the mining camps during the Gold Rush days (toward the end of the nineteenth century).

5. The Adventures Of Huckleberry Finn

Mark Twain

Vocabulary Range: 2,400 words

Level: Intermediate to advanced

Such a well known literary work does not need further comments. It is enjoyable and the students will learn a lot from it.

6. The Hoosier Schoolmaster

Edward Eggleston

Vocabulary Range: 1,800 words

Level: Intermediate

This is the interesting story of the ups and downs of a young school teacher in a little town in Indiana. Although this is not a typical story of what goes on in modern schools (teacher-student relationship), the students will enjoy reading it.

7. The Pathfinder

James Fenimore Cooper

Vocabulary Range: 1,400 words

Level: Elementary to intermediate

Through the many activities of a scout and guide, this book illustrates life during the early days of the western expansion. Cooper also presents the conflict between good and evil. The description of the scenery is attractive and might constitute good practice for the students to learn how to describe places and people.

8. The Portrait Of A Lady

Henry James

Vocabulary Range: 2,000 words

Level: Intermediate

The character study presented by James in this novel is so realistic and absorbing that practically every student will enjoy reading it. The story is about a young lady who becomes rich by the initiative of her cousin who believes in her. James' complicated writing has been simplified without destroying the unity of the story.

9. The Red Badge Of Courage

Stephen Crane

Vocabulary Range: 2,600 words

Level: Advanced

This is a very realistic picture of the U.S. Civil War. The main character, a young man who joined the Union Army, is very well described and through his experiences, Crane philosophizes about such human feelings as courage and cowardice.

10. The Rise Of Silas Lapham

William Dean Howells

Vocabulary Range: 2,200 words

Level: Advanced

This is a good example to illustrate how American people are business oriented. This book tells the story of an ordinary man who finds his way up through business. The cultural content presented here should provide material for discussions about some characteristics of American ways of life.

B. EASY READING SELECTIONS IN ENGLISH

Robert Dixon

New York 1962

Vocabulary Range: Not specified

Level: Elementary to intermediate

This is a collection of nine short stories written by classic authors. All of the stories develop interesting plots that can perfectly hold the attention of adult readers. Each short story is followed by comprehension and vocabulary exercises.

C. FAMILY LIFE IN THE U.S.A. -AN EASY READER

Gladys Alesi and Dora Pantell

1962

Vocabulary Range: Not specified

Level: Elementary

This book has been especially designed for adults. It presents situations that deal with common adult life in the United States. This book is not particularly recommended as individualized readers for adults because, first of all, it is loaded with exercises that have necessarily to be conducted by the teacher; secondly, the number of exercises is so overwhelming that it interferes with the natural flow of the reading; thirdly, the large type letter used in this book is more suitable for children than for adults.

D. READING IMPROVEMENT TEXTS FOR ADULTS

Eugene Hall (The Institute of Modern Languages)

Vocabulary Range: Not specified

Level: Elementary

The comments of the preceding book of readings apply to this series as well. In the Donald B. Watt library, this series is not complete. The only books available are the following:

Book 2: The Signs Of Life (1967)

Book 4: The Food We Eat (1969)

Book 5: How Government Works (1970)

Book 6: Making Government Work For You (1970)

These books deal with aspects of everyday American life.

E. THE U.S.A. READERS

This is a series of graded reading selections composed of four books. These books deal with general aspects of American culture. They are very descriptive and provide many facts about the United States. The motivating potential is not as high as other materials listed in this bibliography. Nevertheless, the

teacher might be able to create and increase the interest of the students by discussing the content of the books in class. There are supplementary comprehension and vocabulary exercises in each book. Although these are graded books, they do not have to be studied in sequence.

Book 1: The Land And The People

Robert Dixon

1959

Vocabulary Range: 1,200 words

Level: Elementary

This book provides information about the geography of the United States and about the growth of this country since the colonial epoch.

Book 2: Men And History

Robert Dixon and Herbert Fox

1960

Vocabulary Range: 1,600 words

Level: Elementary to intermediate

This is a collection of biographies of famous Americans. These biographies have been arranged chronologically.

Book 3: Men And Machines

Rachael L. Chapman

Vocabulary Range: 2,600 words

Level: Intermediate

This book tells of the dreams and tangible achievements of the inventors and scientists that contributed to the industrial development of the United States.

Book 4: Customs And Institutions

Ethel Tiersky and Martin Tiersky

1970

Vocabulary Range: 3,000 words

Level: Intermediate to advanced

This book presents, on the one hand, aspects of American culture and on the other hand, how different immigrant groups have affected American life. This is probably the most appealing book of the whole series, because it deals with the things that people talk about nowadays.

XI. S AND S ESSANDES ESPECIAL EDITIONS

I Wish I'd known That Before I Went To College

Judy Brown and Donald Grossfield

Vocabulary Range: Not specified (unabridged)

Level: Elementary to advanced

This is a very handy book that provides a lot of information about college life. Gives answers to almost everything from clothes to how and when to study. Very helpful for foreign students preparing to go to American colleges. It is written in a very accessible language even for beginning students.

XII. THE MACMILLAN COMPANY
NEW YORK

COLLIER-MACMILLAN ENGLISH READERS

The books in this series have been designed for learners of English as a second language. The vocabulary range ranks from 700 to 4,000 words. The base to determine this vocabulary level is Michael West's General Service List Of English Words which includes 2,000 words. When one of the books reaches a higher level than these 2,000 words, new words are added to complete and shape the different readings.

Each book contains vocabulary and comprehension exercises separate from the readings. At the end of each book there is a key to the exercises and a glossary. All the books are illustrated with drawings.

1. A Magazine Reader

Vocabulary Range: 4,000 words

Level: Intermediate to advanced

This is probably one of the most interesting books of the Collier-MacMillan English Readers series. The articles in this reader have been selected from American magazines and cover a wide variety of themes.

2. Buffalo Bill

Vocabulary Range: 2,000

Level: Elementary to intermediate

This is an adventure book based on research into Buffalo Bill's own writings and other documents that talk about him. In general, it is a historical account of life around the Mississippi River between 1840 and 1890. It might be worth reading to readers interested in the history of the west during the cowboy era. It has twenty one chapters.

3. Cowboys In Alaska

Vocabulary Range: 900 words

Level: Elementary

This is a supplementary reader to the English 900 series, published by Colloer-MacMillan Company. It contains seven adventure stories. The stories show a fairly clear picture of life in Alaska during the past and present in some places of that northern territory. The stories are short and very simple.

4. Fact Or Fiction?

Vocabulary Range: 3,000 words

Level: Elementary

This book contains seven thrilling stories. The reader is asked which stories are real and which ones are fictitious. The answers to these questions are found at the end of the book. It could serve as the basis for debates, trying to determine whether the stories are true or came from the imagination of the writer.

5. Four Short Mysteries

Vocabulary Range: 3,000 words

Level: Intermediate

More fiction for those students who enjoy mysteries and adventures. The stories are short enough to maintain the interest of students learning English.

6. Murder Now And Then

Vocabulary Range: 4,000 words

Level: Intermediate to advanced

This is an adaptation from Herbert Brean's novel Hardly A Man Is Now Alive. Although this story is rather long in comparison with other books in this series, the vocabulary is common and easy to handle by students at the intermediate and advanced levels. The story is one of mystery and takes place in Concord, Massachussets. The author uses material from the history of this twon.

7. Scenes Of America

Vocabulary Range: 2,000 -2,500 words

Level: Elementary to intermediate

This is another supplementary reader to the English 900 series. In contains a series of selections about people and places of the United States. These stories have been arranged according to a historical sequence. It deals with the following stages of American history:

The American Indian

Early Settlers

The American Revolution

Westward Movement

The Civil War

End Of Civil War To 1900

After 1900

Every selection is preceded by introductory comments about the content of it.

8. Stories To Surprise You

Vocabulary Range: 2,00 words

Level: Elementary

This is a collection of seven stories with very interesting plots. The stories are basically character studies. Some of the stories are classics of world literature like Poe's "The Purloined Letter" and Maupassant's "The Necklace"; others are contemporary. All the stories are very short.

9. The Black Tulip

Vocabulary Range: 3,000 words

Level: Intermediate

This is an adaptation from Alexandre Dumas' famous novel. It reflects some aspects of European politics around the middle of the seventeenth century, especially involving Holland, France,

Germany and England. Although this work has been oversimplified, it still offers a fairly good idea of the happenings during that time. Not very appealing to students interested in contemporary history; however it can be taken advantage of by those interested in politics in general.

10. The Island Of Truth

Vocabulary Range: 1,500 words

Level: Elementary

This is another supplementary reader to the English 900 series. This book contains seven interesting short stories. Two of the authors are well known: O. Henry and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. The preface includes mini-biographies of some of the authors who wrote the seven stories.

11. The Love Letter

Vocabulary Range: 700 words

Level: Elementary

This book is also a supplementary reader to the English 900 series. The seven stories contained in this book are very short, therefore they perfectly adjust to beginning classes. Most of the stories have a lot of dialogues dealing with everyday situations. One of the stories, "The Long Straw", is good for learning about clothing and shopping for clothes. Another story describes square dancing, a culture element.

12. The Mitchell Family

Vocabulary Range: 2,000 words

Level: Elementary to intermediate

This book, like The Russells Of Holly Tree Circle (also annotated in this bibliography), describes the activities of a family during a year. The father of the family is a manual worker. The book is divided into sixteen chapters.

13. The People Speak

Vocabulary Range: 500 words

Level: Elementary

This is another supplementary reader to the English 900 series. It contains seven stories dealing with everyday situations. It has the same characteristics as The Love Letter (also annotated in this bibliography). The contents has a summary of the main grammatical points found in the book.

14. The Presidency In Conflict

Vocabulary Range: 3,000 words

Level: Intermediate

This is a historical survey of the critical moments of some of the presidents of the United States. It is full of facts and should be very stimulating for discussions based on political matters. Brief biographies of Jefferson, Marshall, Jackson, Lincoln, Wilson and Roosevelt are included. There is a chapter on how the president of the United States is elected.

15. The Russells of Hollytree Circle

Vocabulary Range: 3,000 words

Level: Intermediate

This book describes a year in the life of a typical American family. The motivating potential is rather low, unless it is intended for students going to homestays in the United States.

16. The Silver Elephant

Vocabulary Range: 700 words

Level: Elementary

This is also a supplementary reader to the English 900 series. The seven stories in this book are original and were specifically written for people learning English. The book contains many dialogues that provide everyday language. The only handicap of this book is that every story is followed by exercises that, to a certain extent, interfere with the enjoyment of the reading.

17. The Story Of My Life

Vocabulary Range: 2,000 words

Level: Intermediate

This is a simplification of Helen Keller's autobiography. It tells about the great achievements of the author, who was physically handicapped. It should be particularly stimulating

for foreign students in the United States, since they go through so many difficult learning situations in order to reach their goals.

18. The Virginian

Vocabulary Range: 3,000 words

Level: Intermediate

This is a simplified version of the original book written by Owen Wister in 1902. This book does not deal with present day life; however, it provides information about the history of the "wild west" and about the character of the cattle men during the expansion to the west. Good descriptions of the geography of Wyoming, where the story takes place. Recommended for students who enjoy adventure books. It is divided into 17 chapters.

19. Three Detective Stories

Vocabulary Range: 3,000 words

Level: Intermediate

The stories were originally written by Agatha Christie, Arthur Conan Doyle and Paul Anderson. Although the stories have been simplified, they do not lose their originality.

20. Twelve Famous Americans

Vocabulary Range: 3,000 words

Level: Elementary

This book contains biographies of famous Americans internationally know. It covers a variety of activities performed by these famous people. It also provides insights into American culture, history and character of its people. There is information about several professions (state affairs, philosophy, astronomy, nursing, industry, science, horticulture, invention, botany, poetry, sports, and music).

XIII. THE NEW AMERICAN LIBRARY
(Signet Books)

1. Animal Farm

George Orwell

Vocabulary Range: Not specified (unabridged)

Level: Intermediate to advanced

This is a satirical short novel that ridicules totalitarian regimes. It is written in the form of a fable. The story takes place at a farm. Recommended for all students.

2. John Fitzgerald Kennedy: Man Of Courage

Flora Strousso

Vocabulary Range: Not specified (unabridged)

Level: Intermediate to advanced

This is a short biography of JFK written in a very simple language. It is fairly complete and will be read by the many young people who admire this famous American who became president of the United States.

APPENDIX I

These are the addresses of the places from where the books annotated in this bibliography can be ordered.

1. Educational Explorers Limited:

Educational Solutions Inc.
821 Broadway
New York, New York 10003

2. Longman Group Limited:

Newbury House Publishers
68 Middle Road
Newbury, Massachussets
Phone: 617-465-9553

3. Noble and Noble, Publishers, Inc.:

750 Third Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10017

4. Reader's Digest Services, Inc.:

Pleasantville, New York 105770

5. Regents Publishing Company, Inc.:

1 West 39th Street
New York, N.Y. 10018

6. Books from the following publishers ^{can} be ordered from Vermont

Book Shop, Middlebury, Vt. 05753:

Bantam Books
Dell Publishing Company, Inc.
Fawcett Publications, Inc.
Grosset And Dunlap, Inc.
Pyramid Books
S and S Essandes Especial Editions
The New American Library

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3. Finocchiaro, Mary
English As A Second Language: From Theory To Practice
Simon & Schuster
New York 1964
4. Jakobovits, Leon
Foreign Language Learning
Newbury House Publishers
Massachussets, 1970
5. Lado, Robert
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6. Thonis, Eleanor
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