

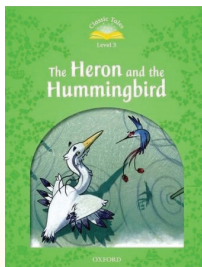


Language Learner Literature Awards Finalists 2014

Every year, the Extensive Reading Foundation recognizes the best new works of language learner literature in English. From books published in 2013, the ERF judges have selected fourteen titles of particular merit – the finalists. From these fourteen, the ERF will select one winner in each of five categories, taking into account the votes and comments of students and teachers of English worldwide.

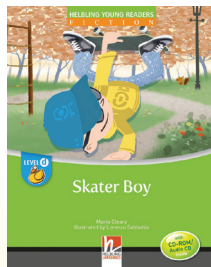
All finalist books can be ordered online from the independent CIBC: www.eflbooks.co.uk/reader_finalists.php. If you or your students read any of the books and feel that they are worthy of the LLL Award, vote for them at <http://erfoundation.org/moodle/course/view.php?id=16>. Login as a 'guest' and then enter the access key: **2014-evals**. Voting closes on June 30, 2014. The winners will be announced in July 2014.

★★★★★ Young learners ★★★★★



The Heron and the Hummingbird
Retold by Rachel Bladon
Illustrated by Gianluca Garofalo
Oxford University Press (Classic Tales)
ISBN: 978-0-19-423973-8

The book retells a Native American folktale. The prose is clean and not unduly repetitive. Diction and syntax level are nicely consistent. Good illustrations and kid-friendly animal characters are always welcome features of a children's book. The overall difficulty of the text is well suited for the target readers.



Skater Boy
By Maria Cleary
Illustrated by Lorenzo Sabbatini
Helbling (Young Readers)
ISBN: 978-3-85272-526-0

The book has a familiar story arc, but it invests it with energy and humor. Builds on adult disapproval of some activities that kids enjoy, even though the kids have good motives. Diction level is good, and sentence structures are nicely but manageably various. The illustrations are engagingly off-beat.



**Time Jump:
Back to the Stone Age**
By Paul Shipton
Illustrated by Andy Elkerton
Scholastic ELT (Popcorn Readers)
ISBN: 978-1-9083-5164-7

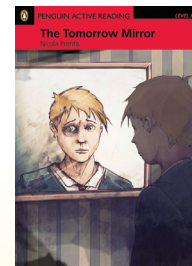
A fresh and interesting take on the time travel theme. The jump between the past and the future and staying true to the concept of time-space continuum is a nice touch to see in a children's book. The sentences are simple and well suited for young readers.

★★★★★ Adolescent and Adult: Beginner ★★★★★



The Sorcerer's Apprentice
Retold by Bill Bowler
Illustrated by Kanako Damerum
and Yuzuru Takasaki
Oxford University Press (Dominoes)
ISBN: 978-0-19-424960-7

This enchanting retelling of the old tale – a young boy who finds misfortune through idleness and impatience – is given a new 'twist' set in the fascinating country of Japan. The use of the present tense gives the beginning reader a stress-free reading experience. The illustrations are brilliant.



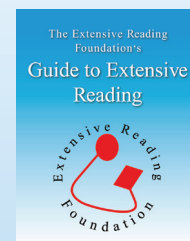
The Tomorrow Mirror
By Nicola Prentis
Illustrated by Christian Bienefeld
Pearson English (Penguin Active Reading)
ISBN: 978-1-44793-805-7

In this fantasy/horror story set in modern UK, a young boy finds out that the mysterious mirror in his home reflects what will happen the next day. The story grabs the readers right from the beginning and keeps their interest throughout the book, culminating with a surprise ending. The illustrations are a creative representation of the storyline.

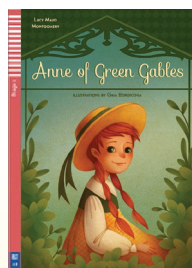


For a wealth of information about extensive reading and the Language Learner Literature Awards please visit the Extensive Reading Foundation website:
www.erfoundation.org

You can also download a free **Guide to Extensive Reading**
http://erfoundation.org/ERF_Guide.pdf



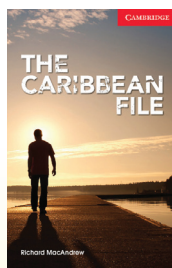
★★★★★ Adolescent and Adult: Elementary ★★★★★



Anne of Green Gables

By Lucy Maud Montgomery
Retold by Michael Lacey Freeman
Illustrated by Gaia Bordicchia
ELI (Teen Readers)
ISBN: 978-88-536-1576-3

This excellent book simply but engagingly retells the story of Anne and her relationships with Marilla, Matthew, and the community and environment around her. The cute illustrations are aimed at younger readers, but older readers will equally enjoy the story.



The Caribbean File

By Richard MacAndrew
Illustrated by Paul Dickinson
Cambridge University Press
(Cambridge English Readers)
ISBN: 978-1-107-67425-7

Readers will enjoy this simply but well-told thriller. You get to know the characters very well for such a short book, and a question or two about reasons/motivations won't stop you from enjoying the action. Excellent illustrations enhance the mood of the story.



War Horse

By Michael Morpurgo
Retold by Alex Raynham
Illustrated by Martin Impey
Oxford University Press (Dominoes)
ISBN: 978-0-19-424982-9

In this engaging and simply told tale, Joey the horse tells the story of his life – from England to the battlefields of World War I, and back again. Animal lovers especially will respond to the trials Joey experiences and the friends (both horse and human) who help him.

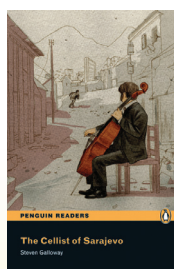
★★★★★ Adolescent and Adult: Intermediate ★★★★★



Bob Marley

By Vicky Shipton
Photo research by Pupak Navabpour
Scholastic (ELT Readers)
ISBN: 978-1-908-35198-2

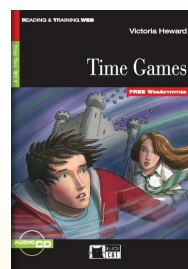
This biography reads like a story, bringing this 1970s iconic figure to life for all students who may not know reggae music. Students also learn about the history of Jamaica, Rastafari, and other famous Jamaicans. The images include a lot of personal family photos that really add to the book.



The Cellist of Sarajevo

By Steven Galloway
Retold by Annette Keen
Illustrated by Jonathan Burton
Pearson English (Penguin Readers)
ISBN: 978-1-4479-3807-1

The story takes place during the four-year siege of Sarajevo, the capital of Bosnia and Herzegovina. These are difficult topics but written with sensitivity and intelligence. The story is cleverly retold, with good illustrations, and will keep the reader turning the page.

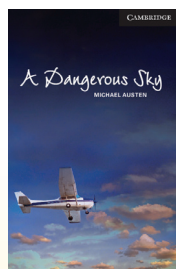


Time Games

By Victoria Heward
Illustrated by Alfredo Belli
Black Cat (Reading & Training)
ISBN: 978-88-530-1328-6

This book mixes plot elements between the video game and time travel, and will appeal to young readers and players, who sometimes have the sensation that their characters have a life of their own. Despite a complex plot, the writer keeps all the strings together and the writing sounds quite natural.

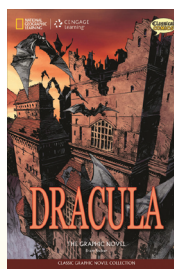
★★★★★ Adolescent and Adult: Upper-intermediate and Advanced ★★★★★



A Dangerous Sky

By Michael Austen
Cambridge University Press
(Cambridge English Readers)
ISBN: 978-1-107-69405-7

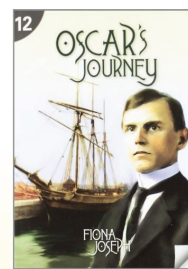
Francesca, a young Swiss woman, comes to England to pursue her dream of learning to fly a plane. Problems with her flying instructor cause her to lose her confidence and question his real motives. The language used feels very natural and 'ungraded', and the story touches on many interesting modern themes.



Dracula: The Graphic Novel

By Bram Stoker
Based on a script by Jason Cobley
Graphics by Jo Wheeler, Carl Andrews,
James Offredi, Jim Campbell
National Geographic Learning
(Classic Graphic Novel Collection)
ISBN: 978-1-111-83849-2

Bram Stoker's famous 1897 story about vampires is retold in a beautifully illustrated graphic novel version. It's very easy to read and yet never feels 'graded'.



Oscar's Journey

By Fiona Joseph
Illustrated by Redbean Design Pte Ltd
National Geographic Learning
(Page Turners Reading Library)
ISBN: 978-1-4240-4893-9

When Oscar questions the honesty of his father's business, he begins a dangerous journey to uncover the truth. This story, set in London in the early 1900s and told in accessible modern language, deals with topics that are as relevant today as in the past.