

Cover to Cover 2

Reading Comprehension and Fluency

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Introduction

Cover to Cover 2 is the second in a three-level reading series that helps students become skilled, strategic readers who enjoy reading in English. *Cover to Cover* combines **intensive reading** with **extensive reading**, so your students will learn the strategies necessary for academic work *and* become fluent, confident readers.

What is intensive reading?

Intensive reading focuses on building language awareness and comprehension. It often involves relatively challenging texts, and students encountering some unfamiliar language. Parts 1 and 2 of each unit in *Cover to Cover* focus on intensive reading, and provide students with strategies for dealing with these kinds of texts.

What is extensive reading?

Extensive reading focuses on fluency development and reading for pleasure. Two key principles are (1) students should read as much as possible, and (2) texts should be easy and well within students' linguistic competence. Easy texts mean that students are able to read more and faster, and this kind of practice helps students in many ways: improved reading skills, improved writing skills, increased vocabulary knowledge, and increased motivation. The Extensive Reading section at the end of each unit in *Cover to Cover* provides students with an opportunity to experience this approach.

What is in a unit?

Part 1 and **Part 2** of each unit develop reading strategies such as predicting the topic, skimming for the main idea, scanning, and recognizing points of view. Part 1 focuses mainly on comprehension strategies; Part 2 focuses on developing both fluency and comprehension through activities such as timed reading. The reading passages come from a variety of genres including magazine articles, newspaper articles and web sites.

The **Extensive Reading** section enables students to read for enjoyment and pleasure and continue their fluency development. The reading passages are extracts from the Oxford Bookworms Library collection of graded readers. *Cover to Cover 2* features extracts from stage 2 Bookworms, including popular classics such as *Sherlock Holmes* and *The Jungle Book*. The Bookworms extracts are longer than the Part 1 and 2 reading texts, and the language is also graded at a lower level. This enables students to read faster and maintain comprehension. We hope that reading the Bookworms extracts will also motivate students to become enthusiastic, independent readers, who read books from cover to cover.