

Your education platform,
powered by

wizenoze

The Wizenoze Readability Index[®]

A new standard in readability

Using state-of-the-art machine learning technology, Wizenoze developed a new readability standard: the Wizenoze Readability Index[®]. Based on this index, the reading level of a text is presented on a scale of five reading levels.

Most of the tools that analyze readability today are still based on readability formulas created more than 40 years ago, such as the Flesch-Kincaid grade level score. We recognized the need for a new standard. Our team of Ph.D. qualified experts spent four years developing the artificial intelligence technology to make it a reality.

Based on sophisticated natural language processing, our readability classification engine enables you to receive a confident estimate of the readability of any text. Our readability engine's machine learning has extensive linguistic knowledge, thanks to its analysis of an extraordinarily large amount of training data. This approach means you can have confidence that our readability analysis is more reliable than all previous formulas and methods.

History of readability formulas

Readability formulas still play a major role in the selection of appropriate educational texts for students of all ages. Readability formulas have been used for the English language since the 1940s. Well-known readability formulas for English are the Flesch Kincaid (1948), the Flesch Reading Ease (1948), the Automated Readability Index (ARI, 1967), Kane (1974), etc. These formulas are based on text attributes such as the average word length, average phrase length, number of syllables and word usage. Sometimes just changing a name in a text will alter the total predicted reading level. Authors for children's books use this method too: a story about knight Roderick becomes a level easier if the knight is called Dan.

As presented in the table below, the Wizenoze Readability Index[®] can be mapped to different school level or reading level scales (such as the Lexile Framework for reading) to make use of the index as flexible as possible.

	Grade Level (US)	Key Stages (UK)	European Language Levels (CEFR)
1	Kindergarten – Grade 1	Key Stage 1	A1
2	Grades 2–3	Key Stage 2 Low	A2
3	Grades 4–5	Key Stage 2 High	B1
4	Grades 6–8	Key Stage 3	B2
5	Grades 9–12	Key Stage 4 / GCSE	C1–C2

Our five reading levels correspond to these levels of schooling.

Application of the Wizenoze Readability Index[®]



We use our reading level classification technology to determine the reading level of texts in different applications. We use it in our Student Collection to offer access to trusted online information at five different reading levels. And we use it in our Content Editor to help authors write texts at a specific reading level.