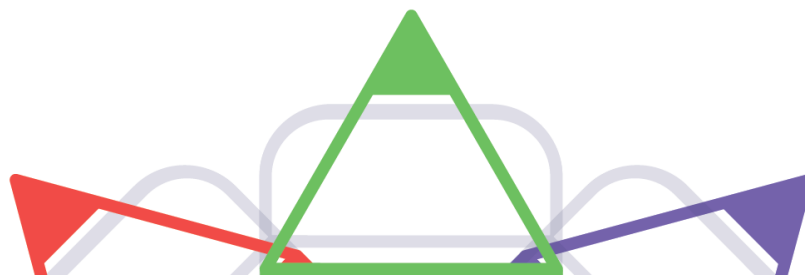


In general, we are looking for software that enables writers to more easily create readers that are designed for students learning to read. The readers should be appropriate, interesting, and provide the optimum reading and learning experience for early primary school children (i.e. grades one to three). Our target audience for the software are writers and ultimately, when readers are printed, early primary school children in developing countries.

The specific software specifications required include:

1. **A step-by-step approach to create decodable and leveled readers, including menus, prompts and guidance for the user.**
 - a. At a minimum, menus and prompts should be provided in English and **one** African, Asian or Latin American language and be modifiable to any language using a Latin, Arabic or Devanagari script.
2. **Options to create readers both from scratch and by adapting pre-loaded sample texts.**
3. **Operating on low technical requirements.**
 - a. Windows and Mac applications must have offline functionality (i.e. the software engine is not running remotely and accessed only via the web or a virtual machine). In these instances the software should be able to run on computers or laptops with a maximum of:
 - i. 4GB RAM
 - ii. 2 GB available hard drive space
 - iii. 1.5 Ghz processor
4. **Availability on a wide range of devices.**
 - a. **Both** Windows **plus** either Mac **or** Linux; or
 - b. **Both** an Android **plus** either iOS **or** Windows Mobile application.
 - c. Availability as a web application (**desired, but non-essential** functionality).
5. **A rapid user training in creating quality, and age-appropriate, localized texts, provide the resources to support this** (within a maximum of 20 hours training).
6. **Multilingual support.**
 - a. Must be Unicode-compliant and support Latin, Arabic, and Devanagari scripts and the necessary diacritical,¹ tone and accent marks, as well as any characters from the International Phonetic Alphabet needed for African, Asian, and Latin American languages written in Latin, Arabic or Devanagari scripts.
7. **An option for users to set technical boundaries for their readers:**
 - a. Pre-established settings for appropriate decodable and leveled structures; and
 - b. Customized word lists generated by the writer or from inputted lists or texts in the language.

¹ The International Phonetic Alphabet, The International Phonetic Association, [http://www.langsci.ucl.ac.uk/ipa/IPA_chart_\(C\)2005.pdf](http://www.langsci.ucl.ac.uk/ipa/IPA_chart_(C)2005.pdf). 2013.



8. **Production of custom word lists from text inputted by users.**
 - a. Users should be able to filter word lists by one or more phonemes/letters.

9. **Based on the reading level of their intended audience, users can create templates that automatically set:**
 - a. Font type
 - b. Font size
 - c. Word and line spacing
 - d. Number of words on a page
 - e. Sentence length

10. **Graphical elements which users can add to their readers.**
 - a. Most common image and graphic file formats including, at a minimum, .jpeg and .png file formats.

11. **Ability to create prepress or print-ready readers that can be printed with a wide range of printing technology (from desktop to large commercial printing equipment)**
 - a. Readers should be able to be outputted to PDF **and** a common editable format in which layout is preserved when opened through free-to-use software (e.g. HTML); but if creating electronic readers, they should be outputted to at least .epub format.

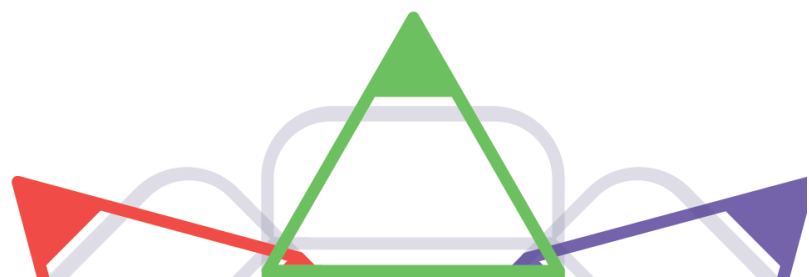
12. **A clear and concise manual written in English at no more than sixth grade level** (as determined by a common [readability program](#)).
 - a. The manual should guide users through the writing and exporting process and provide troubleshooting for any common issues.

13. **Accessibility.**
 - a. Although the main focus of this prize is to create printed texts, developing electronic readers is encouraged, but not required. Any electronic readers supported by the software should include provisions for writers and children with disabilities, for instance text-to-speech functionalities and ability to connect with assistive technologies.

14. **Development conducive to open source coding.**
 - a. Software must be built using only source code you have the exclusive rights to and/or source code released under an open source compatible license.
 - i. The solver must hold all the necessary rights, licences, permissions and consents for images, content etc. contained within your software and manual.
 - b. Code should be well documented, highly readable, and follow the best practices of the development community.

15. **Ability to capture and collate data on software usage and make publically available.**

This is a desired but non-essential criterion. It will, however, be taken into consideration during the judging process.



- a. Software should capture basic meta-data on the readers being produced (language, country etc.).
- b. Software should have the capability for users to upload resulting readers to a freely accessible global repository (the global repository does not need to be created already).

