



## Working With Content and Lexile Levels in Gale Resources

Gale resources offer a variety of ways to find content at appropriate reading levels. In our resources you'll find both **Content Levels**, which are assigned by who the audience for a particular source is and **Lexile** reading levels, which analyze each individual article and assign a score. For more information on the Lexile Framework for Reading, visit [www.lexile.com](http://www.lexile.com). This guide will explain how Content Levels and Lexile scores can be used in **Gale's In Context resources, Kids InfoBits, and InfoTrac periodical resources**.

Lexile Reading Levels are used the same way across all Gale resources. Content Levels vary between Gale resources depending on the audience of the resource and will be defined in each section of this document

The Lexile® score rates the difficulty of text based on word frequency and sentence length. Lexile levels are assigned to periodical content in Gale resources.

The Lexile® reading level (or scale) is a developmental and educational tool designed to match a reader's skills to the text. The reading level assigns a category to a range of scores. For example, scores below 200L are considered beginning-reader material, while scores above 1700L are considered advanced (i.e., at the college level). For more information, refer to the Lexile website - <http://lexile.com>.

*Please note: Lexile scores are only assigned to magazine, academic journal, and newspaper articles. Reference, Primary Sources, and other content types are given a content level only.*

Content/Lexile reading levels are configurable options in all resources except *Kids InfoBits*. If you don't see content or Lexile levels in your Gale resources, please contact Gale's Technical Support (1-800-877-4253) to enable this feature.

### In Context Resources

The *In Context* product suite offers a wealth of content in many formats for a wide variety of researchers. Content level indicators and Lexile scores will display on results pages as well as document pages.

The levels coincide with stages of research: from basic research for facts about a topic, to deeper research for more background and context, to sophisticated information needed for scholarly details and recent developments. Further, content level icons indicate the levels of the sources' intended audiences. Many publishers, such as Gale, U\*X\*L, and *The New York Times*, create reading materials for a targeted audience and these publisher recommendations are the basis of the designated content levels.

Content and Lexile levels are indicated on search results screens and within articles. To see these levels in search results you must choose to view all results within a **Content Type** (Reference, Magazines, Academic Journals, etc.).

*Please note: Lexile scores are only assigned to magazine, academic journal, and newspaper articles. Reference/book content is given a content level only.*

## Content Levels in In Context Resources

### ● Basic = research starting point

Basic content provides a good overview for any researcher beginning a new project. It not only provides a foundation of key facts about a topic, but introduces keywords to help users who continue their research in other materials or on related topics. Basic content level sources are generally those published for readers up to an eighth grade reading comprehension level.

### ■ Intermediate = more detailed content for sophisticated research

Intermediate content builds on the research or information at a basic level. For a more experienced researcher, these articles cover a topic in more detail, offering more background information as well as contextual information to expand on the facts. An Intermediate content level indicates a source published for students from a seventh grade reading comprehension level up through undergraduates, as well as the general public.

### ▲ Advanced = detailed content at a scholarly or professional level

Advanced content allows a student to complete the most sophisticated assignments requiring the latest news and details at a scholarly or professional level. For example, articles from academic journals are generally considered to be Advanced reading. Content labeled with the Advanced icon is appropriate for researchers at the undergraduate up through graduate level studies.

The screenshot displays a search results page for 'Magazines'. The left sidebar includes filters for 'Everything', 'Academic Journals (4)', 'News (2)', 'Magazines (6)', and 'Audio (4)'. Below these are search options and 'Limit Search By' sections for 'SUBJECTS' and 'DOCUMENT TYPES'. The main results area shows three items:

- Dare to explore** (Brief article): A green circle icon. Title: *National Geographic Kids*, August 2013. Summary: Biological oceanographer Kakani Katija studies the motions of marine animals. Here, she tells NG KIDS about a night dive in a nearly pitch-black sea with swarms of jellyfish. [ILLUSTRATION OMITTED] "My team and I plunged..."
- Summer survival guide: summer can be a time for trips, outdoor adventures, and excitement. But sometimes, trouble can...** (Article): A green circle icon. Source: *SuperScience*, May 2012. Summary: [ILLUSTRATION OMITTED] Stranded on a Deserted Island No homework, no parents, no rules-what could be better? Keep in mind there are no video games, Internet, or hot meals either. Step one: Locate sources of fresh water...
- Tech for one, tech for all** (Brief article): An orange square icon. Source: *Newsweek*, December 12, 2011. Summary: Byline: Brian Ries Stocking stuffers for the gadget guru. iPhone...

Annotations on the right side of the image:

- A blue circle highlights the 'Sort By' dropdown menu, which is currently set to 'Date'. An arrow points to it with the text: "Select from the drop box to sort your results by Content Level."
- Another blue circle highlights a tooltip that appears over a green circle icon next to the second article. The tooltip text reads: "Content Level = Basic, Lexile Measure = 770". An arrow points to it with the text: "Hover your mouse over the Content Level indicator to see the Lexile score."

## Finding Articles by Content and Lexile Levels in In Context

To zero in on articles with a particular reading level you can sort your results by Content Level and/or limit your search by Content or Lexile level.

Use the **Sort By** option on your search result to sort your results by Content Level; this will sort Basic articles first, then Intermediate, then Advanced. *Please note: You must choose one Content Type (Reference, Magazines, etc.) to be able to sort your results.*

Use **Advanced Search** to limit your search by Content or Lexile level. You can select multiple Content levels and/or enter your own Lexile range.

**Important:** When you limit your search by Lexile reading level, your results will only come from *Magazines, Academic Journals, News, and Multimedia* (those that also offer text). *Reference, Primary Documents, and other content types will be excluded from your search as they are not assigned Lexile scores.*

**Content Level**

Basic  Intermediate  Advanced

**Lexile Range**

Minimum  Maximum

*Minimum value is 0 and maximum is 1300*

## Kids InfoBits

*Kids InfoBits* is Gale's exciting database designed especially for students in kindergarten through grade five. Complete with an engaging, developmentally appropriate graphic interface, premier reference content and the best magazines for elementary students, *Kids InfoBits* addresses the way kids learn and conduct research — and makes it fun!

*Kids InfoBits* uses three content levels and Lexile reading levels. Content levels are displayed within search results and both Content Levels and Lexile scores are shown within articles. You'll also find a Key for the content levels on your search result screen. *Note: Lexile levels are displayed only for Magazine and News articles.*

Click the Content Levels Key link to open the Key.

Each article displays its Content Level.

Lexile scores are shown within the article view.

### Content Levels in *Kids InfoBits*

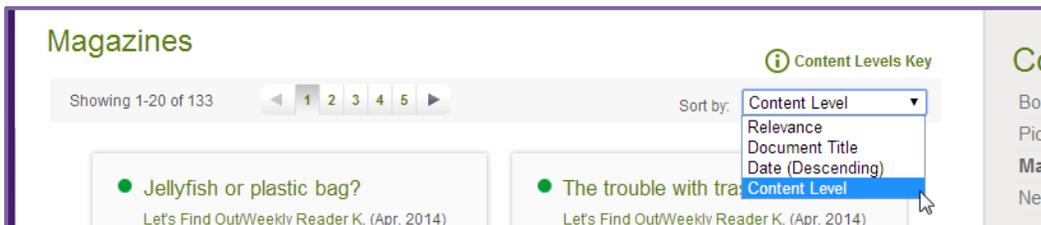
- Easy = best for beginning readers
- Intermediate = best for upper elementary and middle school students
- ▲ Advanced = sources for librarians, teachers, and parents

## Finding Articles by Content and Lexile Levels in In Context

To zero in on articles with a particular reading level you can sort your results by Content Level and/or limit your search by Content or Lexile level.

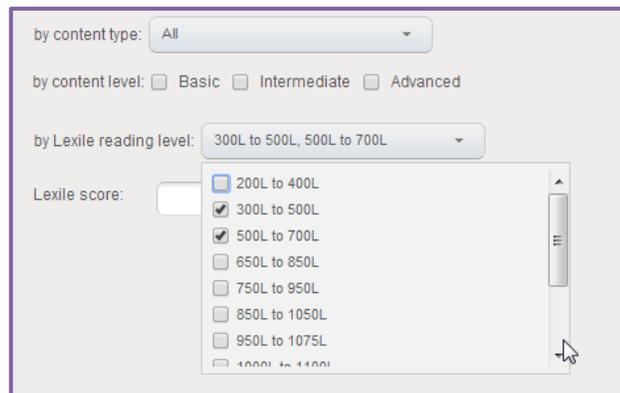
Use the **Sort By** option on your search result to sort your results by Content Level; this will sort Basic articles first, then Intermediate, then Advanced.

*Please note: You must choose one Content Type (Books, Magazines, etc.) to be able to sort your results.*



Use **Advanced Search** to limit your search by Content or Lexile level. You can select multiple Content levels and/or enter your own Lexile score or range or choose from the preselected ranges.

**Important:** When you limit your search by Lexile reading level, your results will only come from Magazines and News. Books and Images will be excluded from your search as they are not assigned Lexile scores.



## Periodical (InfoTrac) Resources

Gale's InfoTrac product line offers Lexile reading levels. You'll find them noted in your search result as part of the article's citation. These periodical resources use Lexile Reading Levels: *Academic OneFile*, *Expanded Academic ASAP*, *General OneFile*, *General Reference Center Gold*, *Health Reference Center-Academic*, *InfoTrac Collections* (small subject focused databases, i.e. *Environmental Studies Collection*), *Student Edition*.

523 Magazine Results for [Basic Search](#) Keyword (coral reefs) LIMITS: With Full Text (  ) And Subject ("Coral reefs"  )

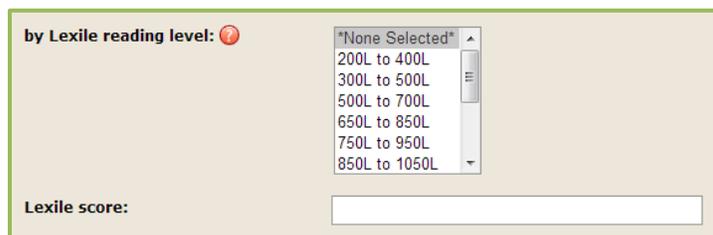
1. [Coral Reefs in Palau Surprisingly Resistant to Naturally Acidified Waters](#)  
*Space Daily*. (Feb. 4, 2014) Word Count: 1142. Reading Level (Lexile): 1470.  
 Byline: Staff Writers Washington DC (SPX) Jan 17, 2014, 2014 Ocean researchers working on the coral reefs of Palau in 2011 and 2012 made two unexpected discoveries that could provide insight into corals' resistance and ...

Lexile Reading Levels are shown in your search results.

## Finding Articles by Lexile Levels in Periodical Resources

To zero in on articles with a particular Lexile reading level you can limit your search by Lexile level by using Advanced search. (Sorting by Lexile reading level is not available.)

Use **Advanced Search** to limit your search by Lexile level. You can select a range from the preselected ranges or enter your own score or range.



**Questions? Call Gale Technical Support at 1-800-877-4253.**