



**LanguaBooks™**

# **LanguaBooks™ UA**

## User Guide

### Part 1. Getting started

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**LanguaBooks™**

**LanguaBooks™ UA is a library of interactive books for training in speaking  
English and pronunciation improvement.**

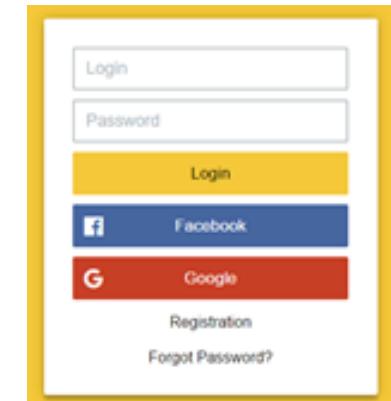
**«LanguaBooks™ – books that Speak, Listen and Teach»**

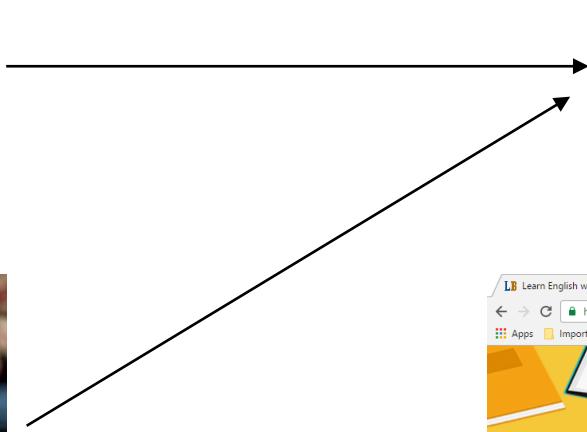
# Contents

- [1.1. Starting the program](#)
- [1.2. Using LanguaBooks by adults and children](#)
- [1.3. Changing the default password](#)
- [1.4. Choosing a book from the library](#)
- [1.5. Work with the microphone](#)
  - [1.5.1. Microphone connection and check](#)
  - [1.5.2. Microphone set up in Windows 10](#)
- [1.6. Working with the book](#)
  - [1.6.1. Reading aloud exercise](#)
  - [1.6.2. Tasks after the book](#)
  - [1.6.3. Completion of work with the book](#)
  - [1.6.4. Book listening mode](#)
- [1.7. Additional instructions and useful information](#)
- [1.8. Feedback and support service](#)

## 1.1. Starting the program

- Before you begin working with LanguaBooks™ make sure that **Google Chrome** browser is downloaded to your computer (PC or MAC).
- If not, please go to: <https://www.google.com/chrome/browser/desktop> and download this bowser.
- To begin your work, go to **Google Chrome** to: <https://ua.languabooks.com> and in right hand corner of the webpage type in your login and password that was given to you during your registration or by your teacher.





<https://ua.languabooks.com>

A screenshot of a web browser displaying the LanguaBooks website at https://ua.languabooks.com/en. The page features a yellow header with the text "Learn English with LanguaBooks™" and "Next-generation interactive books which speak, listen and teach". Below the header is a login form with fields for "Login" and "Password", and buttons for "Login", "Facebook", and "Google". A "Registration" link and a "Forgot Password?" link are also present. The footer contains links for "About Us", "Partners", "Sponsors", and "Language".

What is LanguaBooks™?



LanguaBooks™ utilize state-of-the-art speech scoring technology from [SRI International](#) for language learning and reading skills improvement



The reader receives easy to understand visual feedback on his speaking ability and is there able to improve both language and reading skills



LanguaBooks™ actually measure the spoken words of the reader for correctness and nativeness

## 1.2. Using LanguaBooks by adults and children

Two types of logins are created for users: for children (up to 14 years) and for adults (older than 14 years old). This is due to the fact that pronunciation assessment differs for children's and adult voices. If a child uses the program with adult's login (or the other way around), pronunciation assessment results will be less exact.

If someone else wants to use the program, he has to register at:  
<https://ua.languabooks.com>, choose his age range and get a free of charge access to the books.

**Attention!** In the registration form select registration type "Individual" and enter your e-mail address. An email with further registration instructions will be immediately sent to your mailbox.

# 1.3. Changing the default password

- After your first log in to the program it is desirable to change the password if you received it from the teacher, rather than entered one independently during your registration.
- To change your password, in the upper right corner (to the right of your user name) open a dropdown menu and select **Edit profile**.
- In the Edit your profile form, enter you new password (should be not less than 8 symbols) and confirm your password. If it is necessary, enter a new name and last name.
- To save new information press Save button.



Teacher  
School admin  
**Edit profile**  
Logout

Edit your profile

Login:

Password:

Confirm Password:

Firstname:

Lastname:

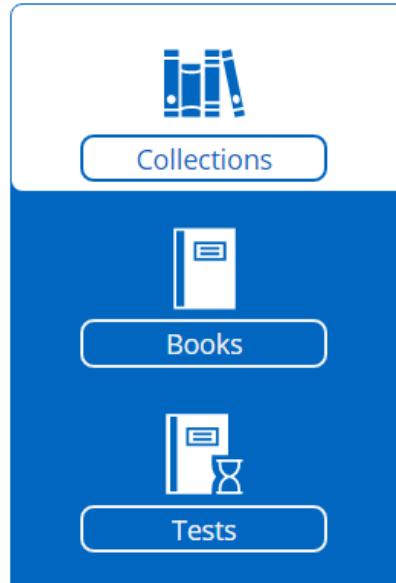
E-mail:

Age:  ▾

Save

## 1.4. Choosing a book from the library

- After you enter the site it will bring you to ***Library-Collections***.
- Two book collections are accessible to students and teachers after the registration:
  - «*LanguaMetrics Kindergarten and Preschool Library*»
  - «*LanguaMetrics Foundation Library with Quiz in Remediation mode*»
- You will be advised on the choice of books and collections by the teacher.
- After you choose a collection, go to the books list that are distributed by complexity levels.
- To begin your work click on the cover image of the book you have chosen.
- Before you begin working with a chosen book, it is necessary to check microphone settings as described below.



## LanguaMetrics Foundation Library with Quiz in Remediation mode

Over 140 American English books for young readers on a wide variety of subjects that will interest children the world over. Builds pronunciation, vocabulary, fluency and comprehension. Contains Quiz Activities in Remediation mode.

The page displays a list of books organized by level. On the left, a vertical column lists levels A through F. To the right of each level, there are two rows of book covers. Each book cover includes an audio icon (a speaker with a dot) and a quiz icon consisting of two overlapping green and purple shapes.

Level	Book Title	Quiz Icon
A	May and the Dime	i 🔊 1/0
A	Dan and Sam	i 🔊 0/0
A	Todd and Tad	i 🔊 1/1
B	The Big Turnip	i 🔊 2/2
B	Hope's Map	i 🔊 2/2
B	Pancakes	i 🔊 2/2
C	(No title shown)	(No icon shown)
D	(No title shown)	(No icon shown)
E	(No title shown)	(No icon shown)
F	(No title shown)	(No icon shown)

## 1.5. Work with the microphone

- During your work with books it is desirable not to use a built in microphone, but to connect a headset instead. A headset will provide a better recording quality of your voice and, respectively, a more correct assessment of your pronunciation.
- Work with books in a quiet room where there is no noise and other people's voices! This is very important for correct assessment of your pronunciation.
- It is very important to place your microphone correctly. The distance from the microphone to your face should be about 3-4, with microphone placed a little sideways from lips, as shown on the picture on the right.  
**Attention!** It is very important that the microphone is placed a little away from lips! In this position the air stream during your speaking won't strike in the microphone and create an undesirable noise and sound distortions.



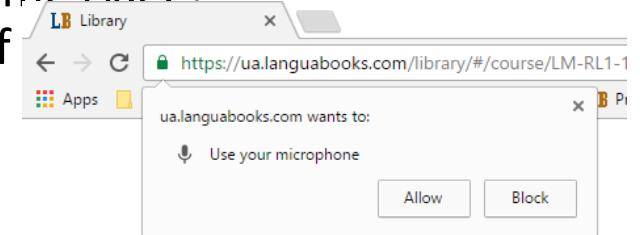
### 1.5.1. Microphone connection and check

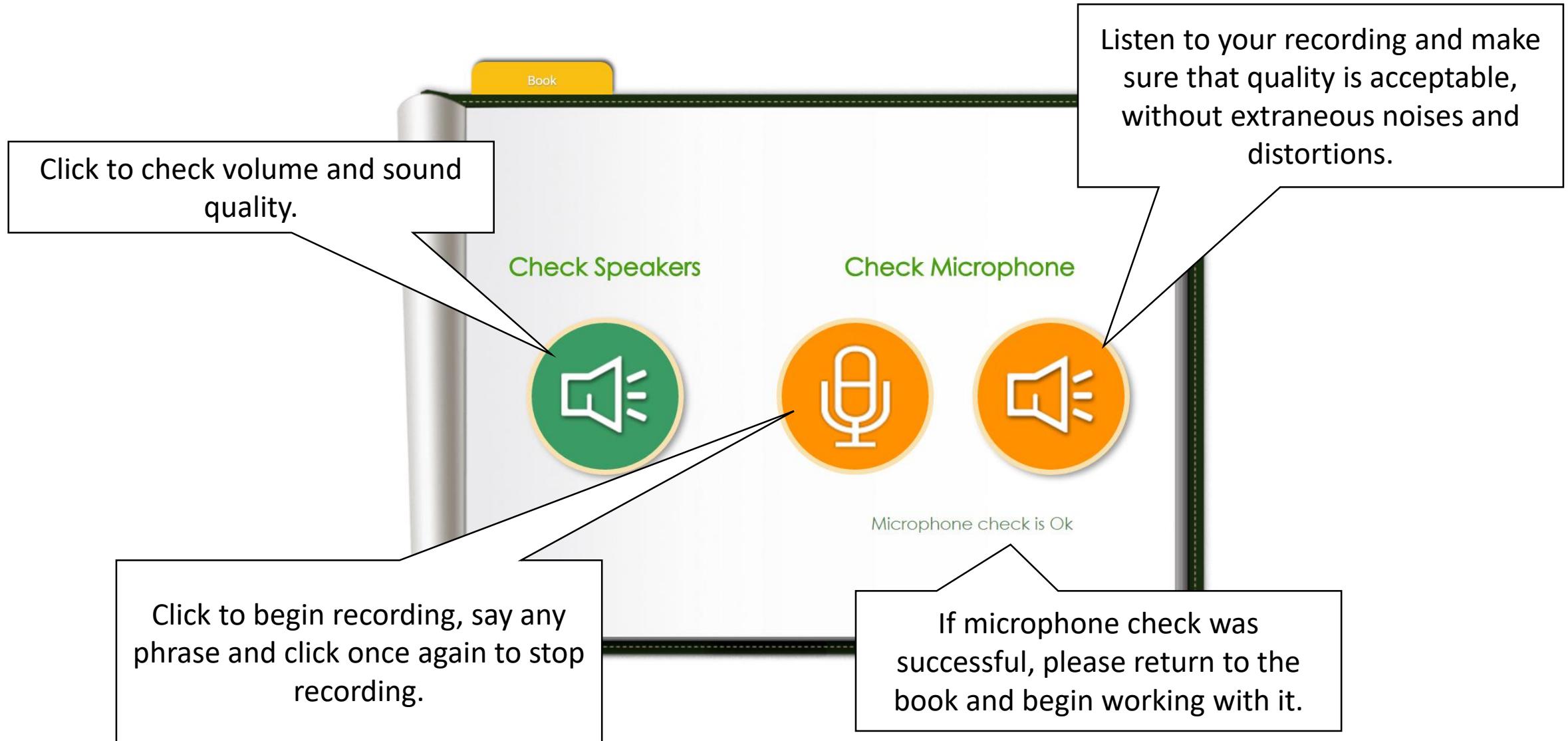
- Step 1: Connect a headset and make sure that it is set as the main device for recording and sound playback. (see Microphone Setup below).
- Step 2: Open the book and in the top left corner of the book click the yellow bookmark **Test Microphone** to go to the microphone check mode.
- Step 3: Press the microphone button  and say any phrase to check its work.



**Attention!** During the first attempt of using the microphone, you will see the message: "Ua.languabooks.com wants to: Use your microphone" in left upper corner of browser. Press the **Allow** button to allow audio recording.

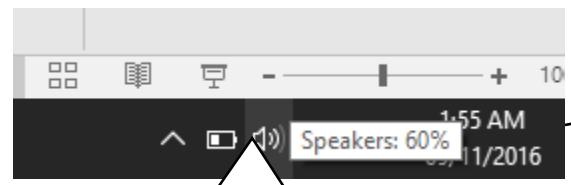
- Step 4: Press the microphone button again  to stop the recording.
- Step 5: If you hear the message «*Your microphone works well*», this means that the microphone is working fine. To go back to the book, click the yellow bookmark «**Book**».
- Step 6: If you hear the message «*Please, speak louder/more softly*», check microphone settings and repeat the sequence of actions from Step 3 no Step 6. You can also listen to your voice recording by pressing the speaker button.  Estimate the quality of your record aurally. Your voice should be clear and without any distortions.



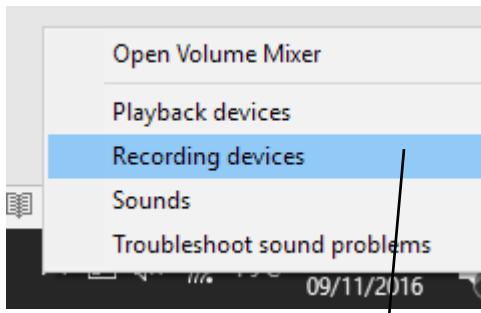


## 1.5.2. Microphone set up in Windows 10

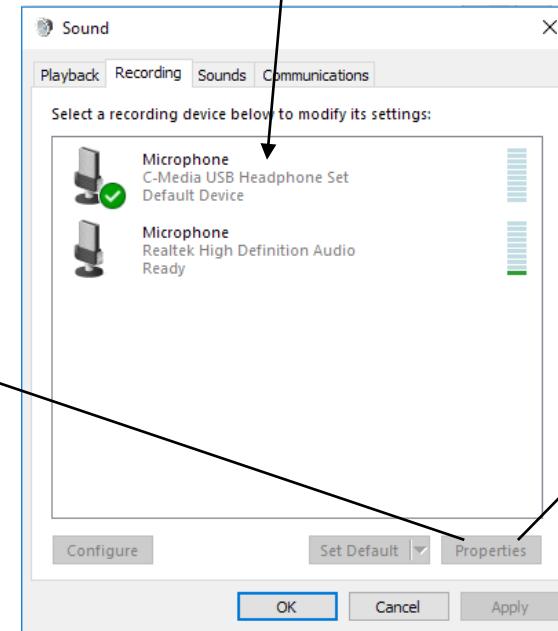
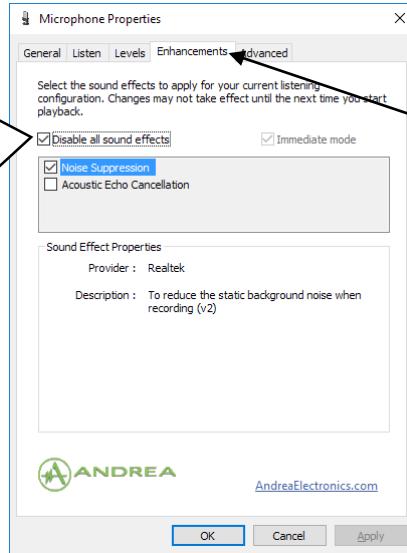
- Step 1: Right click on speaker button  on Windows task bar ( in the right bottom corner of the screen).
  - Step 2: In the menu that appeared, select Recording devices.
  - Step 3: A headset is used for the recording marked by  icon.
- **Attention!** In case selected Active device is not the device that you want to use (for example, a built-in microphone, instead of the headset), it is necessary to change it. To do that click on the necessary device to select it, and then press the **Set as default** button.
- Step 4: Say several phrases into the microphone. The signal level indicator at the connected microphone becomes more active. Signal level is normal, if the level indicator is approximately in the middle or slightly higher than the middle. If signal level is very weak or very strong, go to **Properties** and choose **Levels** to adjust the level of recording.
  - Step 5: If the device has additional settings, disconnect all microphone effects in the bookmark **Enhancement** (for some types of microphones this bookmark may be absent).



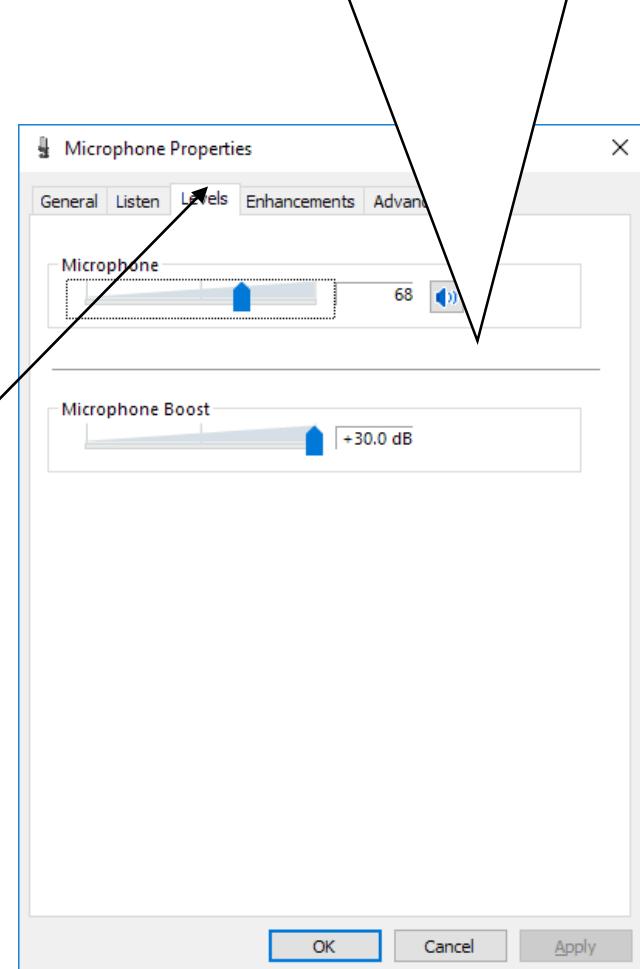
With the right mouse click on the loudspeaker image button



Disconnect all additional microphone effects

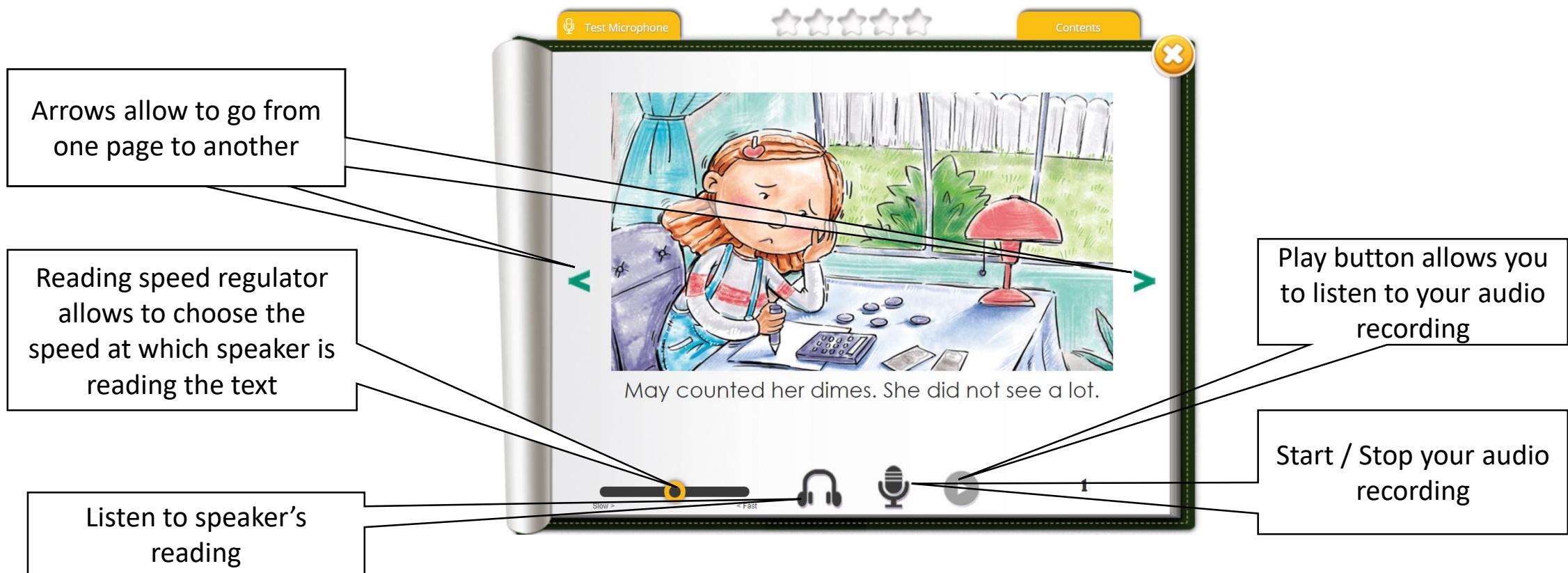


To adjust recording level, go to microphone **Properties-Levels** and adjust **Microphone recording level** and **Microphone Boost** slide switches (if present in your microphone).



# 1.6. Working with the book

- Each book has a title page with books title and author information.  
Click on the green arrow  to go to the next page.
- To go back to the library click on the x button  located in the upper right corner of the book.
- As a rule, the book begins with reading aloud exercise that consists of the text with the drawing (or words with the drawing as in flashcards with words).



## 1.6.1. Reading aloud exercise

- Begin with listening to the speaker's text recording. To do so click on the headset button. 
- Speaker's reading speed may be regulated by moving the speed regulator to the left (to slow it down) or to the right (to speed it up). 
- To record your reading aloud exercise press the microphone button.  The button will change its color to orange and will begin to flicker during the recording period.  Please keep in mind that to stop the recording you need to click the microphone button one more time.
- Read the text. Wait until the program analyses the text read by you. Words that were pronounced completely wrong will be shown in **dark red** color, incorrectly or indistinctly pronounced phonemes in **red** color, and other words that are pronounced correctly will be shown in **green**.
- Moreover, a general reading grade from 1 to 5 stars will be awarded. If you read the text several times, your best result will be kept for records.
- If you have received a voice message from the program prompting you to: "*Please, speak more clearly*", this may be because of several reasons: a) Unclear recording of your voice, b) Noise in the room, c) Your pronunciation. Please try to correct these reasons.
- For independent assessment of your reading, press play button  and listen to the recording. Compare your pronunciation to the speaker's pronunciation. Next time you read, try to reproduce speaker's pronunciation and intonation more precisely.

Stars – overall grading of your pronunciation

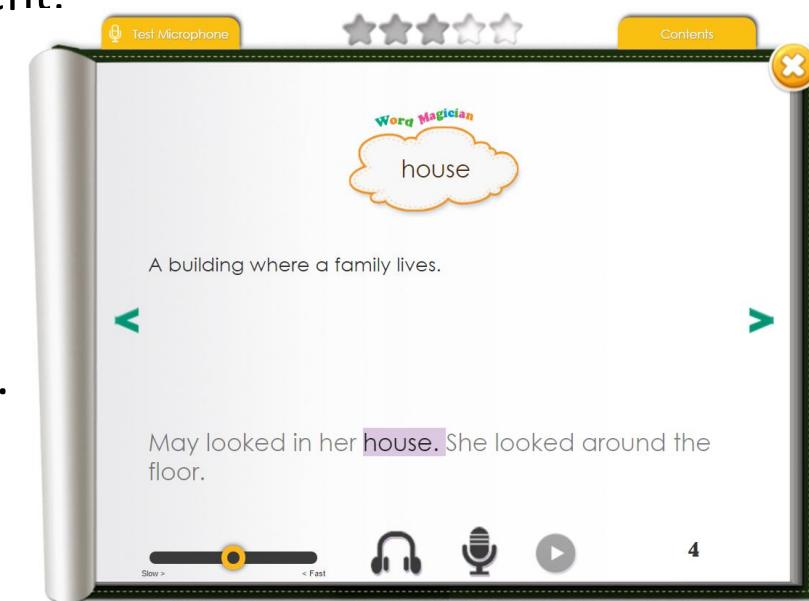
Word that is pronounced right, but contains wrong or unclear phonemes.



May counted her dimes. She did not see a lot.

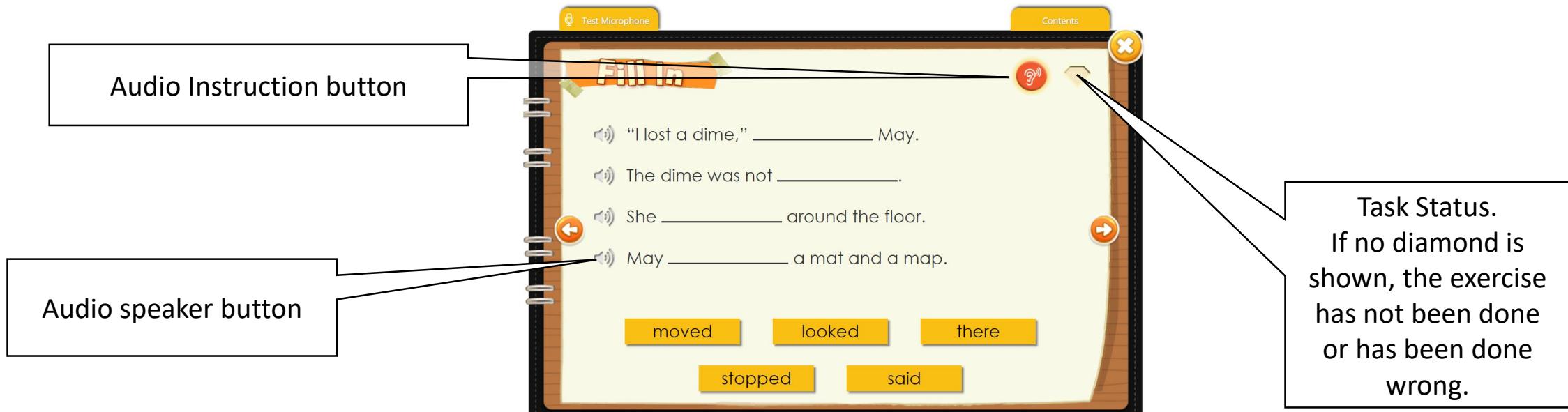
Mispronounced word

- To train your pronunciation of most problematic phrases, highlight a part of the text with a mouse, just like in text editors, and then listen and read only that selected fragment. Reading assessment shown in stars above the book will not be awarded; however, pronunciation errors will be shown in red color. The goal is to get as little red color in your reading as possible.
- To cancel selected fragment, click on the highlighted text with a mouse.
- If the text is too big, try breaking it into parts. Select each part of the text and work on it separately. Once you feel confident about each segment, try reading the full text again.
- If you click on separate word, you will enter the **Dictionary** mode where you may get acquainted with word's audio and definition, as well as to read this word separately and practice its pronunciation.



## 1.6.2. Tasks after the book

- After reading majority of the books offer different test types.
- To listen to the exercise instruction press the Audio Instruction button. 
- If in there is an audio in the task, click the Audio speaker button to listen to it. 
- Book tasks are evaluated by points in the form of diamonds.  
- Results of the passed tests will be shown as you exit the book. For all tasks that were done correctly you may collect a total of 5 diamonds.



### 1.6.3. Completion of work with the book

- You may end your work with the book at any time by clicking on the cross button  or after you have reached the last book page and pressed «**The End**» button.
- After exiting the book a report with processing results for the whole book will appear: in points (diamonds) awarded for reading and for tests.
- **Attention!** Points appear only after the **whole** book has been processed!
- To go to the library press the «**Go to the library**» button. To continue working with the book, press «**Return to the book**» button.

**The End**



## 1.6.4. Book Listening Mode

- Book listening mode allows you to listen to all book's pages in the row. Pages will be turned automatically.
- To listen to the book, enter the library where all books are shown. Press Speaker button located under the book's cover and begin listening activity.



A screenshot of a book page from "May and the Dime". The left side shows a colorful illustration of a family of four riding bicycles on a path. The right side contains text and a page number. At the bottom, there are navigation controls for pausing, fast-forwarding, and turning pages.

Finally, it was time to set off. Freddie's mom and dad packed the bags. They hung them on the backs of the bicycles. Freddie had a small backpack full of sandwiches and bottles of water.

7

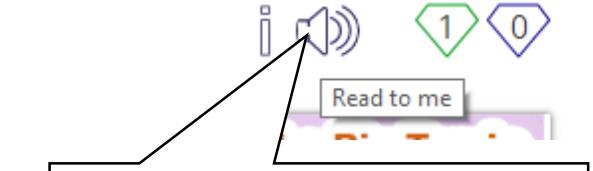
Pause / Continue

Slow ▶ Fast ▶

◀ ▶

Book Listening Mode

Page browsing



# 1.7. Additional instructions and useful information



You can find all current instruction videos, presentations and commercials on LanguaBooks YouTube channel. Instructions playlist is located at:  
[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL52xoLhpGZF3vogXZOipDx7Fj\\_8avl5Nf](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL52xoLhpGZF3vogXZOipDx7Fj_8avl5Nf)

LanguaBooks Users group on Facebook is intended for exchange of users' experiences with LanguaBooks, to their questions and answers. Join it to be in the loop of all latest events, for an opportunity to ask questions or share your LanguaBooks user experience:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1753257171583854>

We publish all latest news about the LanguaBooks project, as well as about other projects of LanguaMetrics company and its partners. Please check Like to stay updated on our latest news and events.

<https://www.facebook.com/ua.Languabooks>

## 1.8. Feedback and support service



If you have questions or comments about using the program, please contact LanguaBooks support service:

[lbua@languametrics.com](mailto:lbua@languametrics.com)