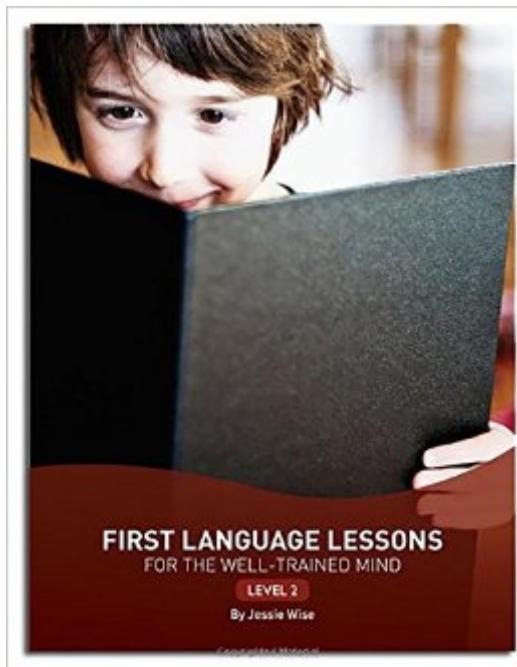


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# First Language Lessons For The Well-Trained Mind: Level 2 (Second Edition) (First Language Lessons)



## **Synopsis**

A complete beginning grammar text that uses copywork, narration, picture study, and other classical techniques to develop the young student's language ability. Scripted lessons give the teacher direction and confidence, while exquisite pencil reproductions of great paintings are used to encourage children in oral composition. Originally published as a single two-year volume, Level 2 (Grade 2, this book) and Level 1 (Grade 1, available separately) have been redesigned as two separate simple-to-use one-year programs. Grade Recommendation: Grade 2. Black-and-white illustrations

## **Book Information**

Series: First Language Lessons

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars (See all reviews) (54 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #21,296 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #26 in Books > Education & Teaching > Schools & Teaching > Parent Participation #31 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Reading & Writing > Grammar #49 in Books > Education & Teaching > Schools & Teaching > Instruction Methods > Language Arts

Grade Level: 1 - 2

## **Customer Reviews**

This is the level 2 book in this curriculum. It used to come as a combined volume with level one, but that changed in the fall of 2010. This book is a teachers manual, and no student book is required until year three. That is one of the benefits of this program, your child can do all the work for this orally. I love the content, order, and pace of this curriculum! I have tried many language arts programs, and this is the one I wish I'd had from the beginning!!! I am also using level 3 with my 3rd grader. Both of my "school age" children have said this is their favorite year so far, and these books have much to do with that. It is such a natural approach to learning the material, while at the same time being extremely thorough. It is written from the Classical Education standpoint, but could be

used by any homeschooler. There is no prep time, which is another bonus! If you want to "see inside the book" you can go to the combined volume of levels 1 & 2 which is still listed on [and look there](#). I am also using *Writing with Ease*, the companion writing program to *First Language Lessons*.

I have to say that after reading reviews of this curriculum, I was hesitant. I have a hyper active 6 year old and was not even sure if I was going to start grammar this year. This has made it very easy to teach him grammar. The important part is that he understands it. I think different programs work differently for each family. For us, this works. He ASKS to do the grammar work. The poems are adapted, but I don't get overly concerned with that. My concern is that he grasps concepts, and he does. I am pleased and will continue to use it.

My boys actually ask to do this book. The lessons are short, and just the right length for my boys who have a hard time sitting still. But, it also teaches them the need to sit and work through a lesson. It introduces a new concept, repeats it, and then adds more. It is a great foundation for young children to build upon.

I recommend this book for home schoolers or for parents who need to work with their children who have fallen behind at school. It is a highly intensive program, but can certainly help to 'fill in the gaps' for kids who have learning issues or who have moved to a school with greater rigor.

We are very impressed with this language arts program. It is well written, builds and reinforces, and complete. No workbook needed for level 1 or 2, just the textbook (non consumable) and your own paper. She covers things I wouldn't have thought to.

So far I really like this book. My kids are surprisingly into these lessons (I say surprisingly because I didn't think grammar lessons would be so well received). Easy, short lessons which require little to no preparation but they are certainly high quality set the bar high for young learners (which I appreciate). My kids have enjoyed learning the memorization passages. I definitely plan to use these with my youngest and will buy the next level when we complete these. My 5 year old is doing level I and my 7 year old is doing level II.

We homeschool our 2nd grader and use this book for grammar. The layout of the book is so precise. The lessons are well written and repetition of concepts over multiple lessons makes it

easier for children to remember what they have learned. I would highly recommend it.

I LOVED level 1. It was new, it was working. However, level 2 follows the EXACT same format as level 1 which I guess shouldn't surprise me but by now both my daughter and I are tired of it (if you didn't do level 1 then you might enjoy it but two years of this is too much). I'm all for rote learning except when it becomes, well, really, really rote. I think something that would make a difference is if they had set the definitions to a song. We're part of Classical Conversations (which I highly recommend) and there is a TON of memory work but it is all set to music so kids never tire of it and it actually helps them to memorize. I guess you could make up your own songs but it would've been nice if the author had thought of music as an option or even writing definitions down, quizzes, . . . anything to give variety and to appeal to different learning styles. I looked ahead to the reviews for level 3 because I am just not sure we can go through the same thing again but I noticed there is a workbook with that one and there is diagramming of sentences. I loved diagramming although I was older when I did it. One of the reviewers for level 3 suggested writing the definition on a piece of paper and reviewing it when working on that part of speech instead of repeating 3 times. I would suggest the same for level 2; figure out some way to commit it to memory other than saying 3 times blandly. I love The Well-Trained Mind book and method so I don't want to discourage you from that but, as with anything, I guess, it needs tweaking. I've already tweaked by adding nature sketching and journaling because my daughter is very good at writing. We also work til the end of a page instead of going by the clock. Maybe if the author revises this series she will add other ways of memorizing. Repeating 3 times is excellent unless you're doing it several times a week for years. Let's keep the rote but make it creative.

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