



Windows

Authoring

Title: Wida's Authoring Suite

Author: Christopher Jones
Programming: Ian Trackman
Publisher: Wida Software
Machines: IBM Windows
Level: All levels

Type: A range of language exercises, including gap-filling, reconstruction, language games, pair-matching and more.

Minimum specifications:

IBM 486 with Windows 3.1 '95, or '98. At least 32MB of RAM and 2GB of free disk space. 8x CD-ROM player and soundblaster compatible sound card are desirable.

New Purchases

Bundled price Basic:(All seven titles)	£475.00
Bundled price Extended:	£915.00
Basic licence per title:	£75.00
Extended licence per title:	£150.00
Wide Area Licence (several sites)	£2375

Upgrades from Version 2

Bundled Basic: (7 titles)	£252.00
Bundled Extended:	£504.00
Basic: (per title)	£40.00
Extended:(per title)	£80.00
Extra copies of CD of sample resource materials:	£10.00

UK and EU add 17.5% VAT

Extra copies of Student booklet: (no VAT) £2.50

Extra copies of Teacher booklet: (no VAT) £2.50

Extra copies of The Authoring Suite Companion, (no VAT) £3.50

The Authoring Suite is also available in French, German and Spanish.

Pricing details as above.



Wida's Authoring Suite

Sounds • Pictures • Videos • Rich Text Format • Notepad for Students' Glossaries • Scratchpad for Teachers

The Authoring Suite combines seven of Wida's well-established authoring programs into a single integrated package for Windows.

Click on the title to see a description of each module.

[Storyboard](#) [Testmaster](#) [Gapmaster](#) [Matchmaster](#) [Choicemaster](#)
[Vocab](#) [Pinpoint](#)

The Authoring Suite programs are distributed on 2 3.5" floppy disks and installed on the hard disk. They also come with a CD-ROM of sample resources whose use is optional.

These programs enable extensive use to be made of Windows features: text-based exercises can be enhanced by video, still pictures, sound clips as well as Rich Text formatting.



One still picture, one video clip, and one sound clip can be attached to the exercise as a whole, and each gap, or question item can also have its own associated sound clip or picture as well as a text hint.

Other new features in the Authoring Suite allow the student to take notes while doing the exercise in a Notepad which can be saved and looked at later. These can also be printed or saved for the teacher to examine. Students can also use a Glossary (made by the teacher) which can be drawn on in common by several different files.

The Teacher program includes a Scratchpad which allows text to be easily passed from one exercise to another or imported from an outside program. Word-processed texts can be imported as ASCII or text, but also preferably as Rich Text Format if your word processor allows this (Word for Windows does).

When authoring with text and only a modest number of pictures a hard disk will probably be adequate. Sound and video are voracious of disk storage, however, and even a very large hard disk is unlikely to be enough. For this reason the basic Authoring Suite program is installed from floppy disk with just a basic set of sample materials. More extensive demonstration materials using sound, pictures and video are supplied on the separate CD-ROM disc.

The Authoring Suite comes with full on-screen help notes, but also extensive (but not overpowering) paper documentation for Students and Teachers. The accompanying CD of sample materials also contains a Guided Tour which takes you through all aspects of the programs (English version only). The program is also accompanied by an 80-page booklet called The Authoring Suite Companion written by Tony Williams which offers a wealth of pedagogical advice on how to use the programs with students and also practical tips on creating and incorporating sound, video, etc, how to access accented characters and much more. The booklet can be read on-screen or printed out in whole or in part.

The CD of sample resources, the full colour Student booklet and The Authoring Suite Companion can be purchased separately at low cost.

A fully functioning interactive demonstration CD-ROM of the Teacher and Student programs in English, French, German and Spanish is available.