



Wida Software



Win

No Authoring

*Created with the
Authoring Suite*

Title: **Eighteen Stories**
Author: **Andrew Harrison**
Software design: **Christopher Jones**
Programming: **Ian Trackman**
Publisher: **Wida Software**
Machines: **IBM Windows**
Level: **Lower intermediate**

Type: Reading and listening
comprehension.

System specifications:

IBM 486 with Windows 3.1 or '95. At
least 8MB of RAM and 5MB of free disk
space. CD-ROM player and sound card
required

New Purchases

Basic licence: £38.00
Extended licence: £76.00

Upgrades from Storyboard plus

Basic: £25.00
Extended: £50.00

(25 computers)

UK & EU add 17.5% VAT

Eighteen Stories read by Andrew Harrison

Eighteen Stories (formerly known as *Storyboard plus*) provide extensive reading and listening comprehension using the two programs *Storyboard* and *Gapmaster* (in the *Authoring Suite*). The Windows version provides the sound - stories read by the author - on a CD-ROM. The advantage is that a cassette player is not needed, but more importantly that the students can call up the sound that goes with each exercise and play it and replay it at will without rewinding. Students can also stop and start the reading at any point, or replay the last two seconds in cases of particular difficulty .

In the booklet the author gives many useful pedagogical suggestions about ways to exploit the *Eighteen Stories* in the classroom or self-access situation, with the students in a class or small group or as individuals and also including off-computer activities. He pays particular attention to directed discussions generated by the exercises. The language is authentic in the sense that they are the author's own stories and he is telling events from his own life or range of experience of himself or his friends living in the south of England. The tone is lightly ironic and mostly humorous, very English. His reading has been left intact and not been cleaned up of hesitations, mistakes and repetitions, etc.

The *Storyboard* texts are, however, summaries of his story (the listening passage is the full unabridged account). A full transcript is given on one of the text help pages. The *Gapmaster* texts are complete transcripts from which certain words have been removed.