

## Protea Textware



Windows

Some Authoring

**Title:** Interactive Picture Dictionary

**Type:** Dictionary with Exercises

**Publisher:** Protea Textware

**Author:** Heather Kaufmann et al

**Machines:** Windows

**Language:** English

**Level:** Beginners

### System Requirements

Microsoft Windows version 3.1 or later  
MPC2, SVGA with 256 colours,  
PC 486/66MHz, 8MB RAM minimum. 2x  
CD player, microphone  
Networkable.

**Single-user:** £85.00

**5-user licence:** £185.00

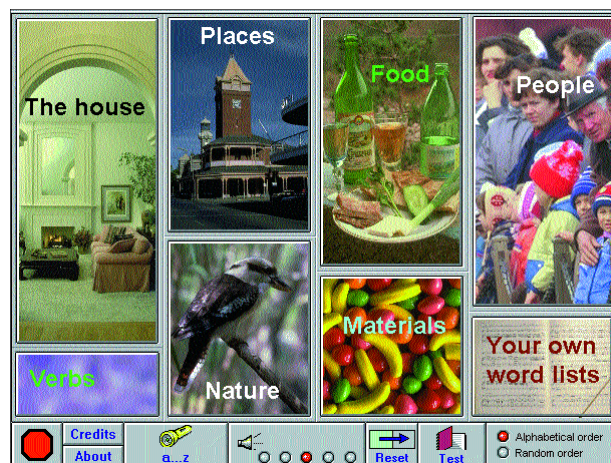
**10-user licence:** £260.00

**Site licence:** £330.00

**Additional CDs (with multiple-user licences):** £15.00

**EU & UK add 17.5% VAT**

## Interactive Picture Dictionary



The *Interactive Picture Dictionary* is produced by Protea textware of Victoria, Australia. In this case 'interactive' in the title is what you hope it might be but often isn't. It is a dictionary of 800 words for English beginners, with 600 photos, pronunciation of English words and also words written and spoken in sentence contexts. Learners can test their listening and reading in a variety of ways, including drag-and-drop and type-in gap-filling, multiple choice and spelling tests.

The key feature is the lexis. These are grouped in seven main categories, **The House, Places, Nature, Food, Materials, People, Verbs**; an extra category allows users to add their own word lists and context sentences (but not pictures). These are subdivided into 40 topics, including **The Body, Tools, Prepared Food, The Car, States and Capital cities (of Australia), Clothes, Animals, Australian animals, Colours and Sports**.

Because it is aimed at adult learners of ESL, EFL and adult basic literacy learners, the designers rightly chose words of interest to them: far more emphasis on objects close to real life, and less on cuddly toys. The House section for instance, goes into great detail, giving pictures of pan scrubbers, toilet roll holders, dessert spoons, table spoons – items of greater importance in life to someone coming to live in an English-speaking country than to a tourist who expects hotel cleaning staff to clean the dishes and the toilet.

The words are appropriate throughout the world with one or two exceptions, such as *skivvy* and *doona* (*rollneck pullover* and *duvet*).



## The Alphabet

The *Alphabet* aimed at adult language and literacy learners includes thirty creative and motivating exercises. This simple-to-use program is learner-centred, interactive and self-paced.

Module 1 covers **lower case letters**, Module 2 **upper case**, Module 3 **upper and lower case**. These all concentrate on demonstrating and reinforcing alphabetical order and letter identification skills. Module 4 is on **using the keyboard** and Module 5 presents **spelling exercises**. This last module contains a number of different activities in six units which cover single-word spelling, i.e. copy a word, spell after seeing (a variation of 'look/cover/write/check'), missing letters in the word, single word dictation, spell from memory, and match word to picture (multiple-choice). The layout is colourful and clear, with few confusing or unnecessary instructions to distract the user.

A copy of an evaluation of the *Alphabet* used with Australian students with learning difficulties is available upon request.

## Protea Textware



Windows

No Authoring

**Title:** The Alphabet

**Type:** Alphabet trainer

**Publisher:** Protea Textware

**Author:** Heather Kaufmann et al

**Machines:** Windows

**Language:** English

**Level:** Beginners

### System Requirements

Windows version 3.1 or later MPC2, SVGA  
with 256 colours, PC 486/66MHz, 8MB  
RAM minimum. 2x CD player. Networkable.

**Single-user:** £55.00

**5-user** £110.00

**Multi-user licence:** £220.00

**EU & UK add 17.5% VAT**