

What's in a name: Easy English or Easy Read?

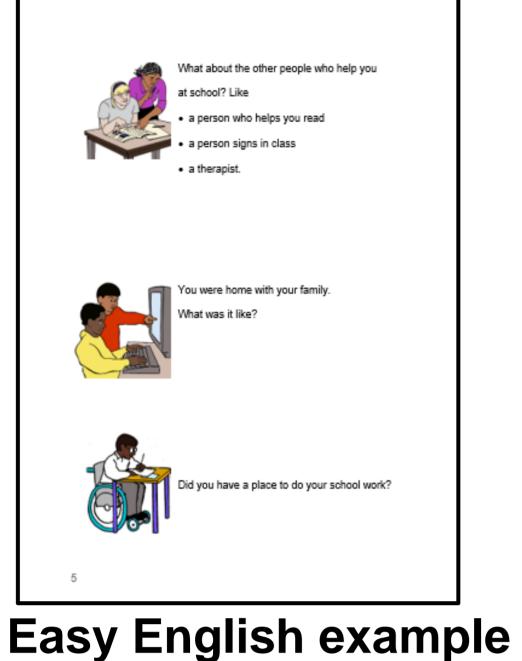
Access Easy English

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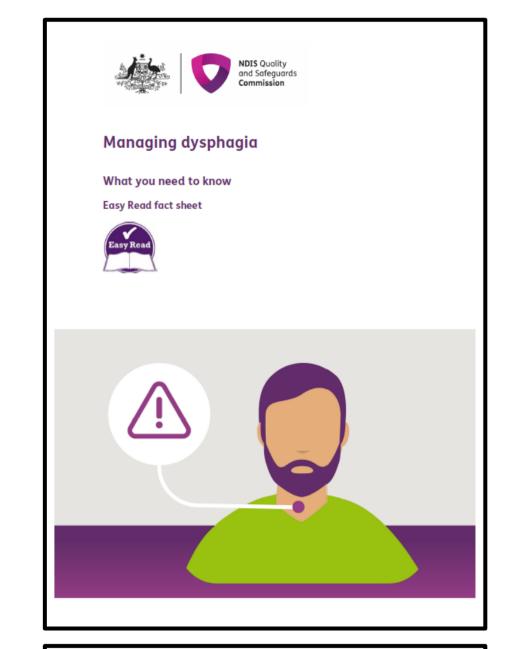


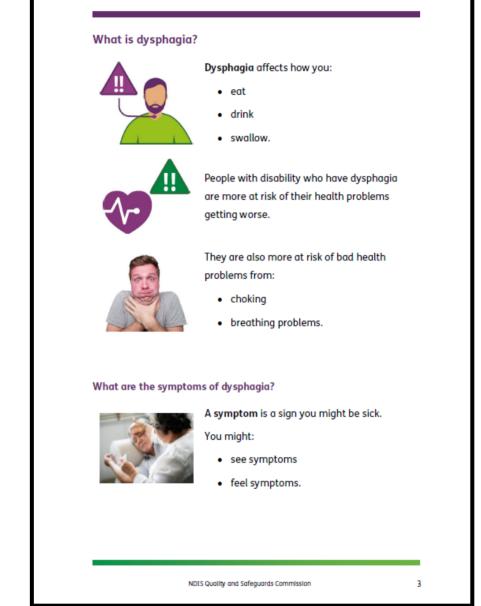
Easy English

- developed in Australia since 2005
- has evolved
- measurable & repeatable elements across format, linguistic elements and images for people with low literacy
- uses universal design & incorporates plain language principles
- designed for any person with low literacy, including those people with intermittent or situational low literacy.

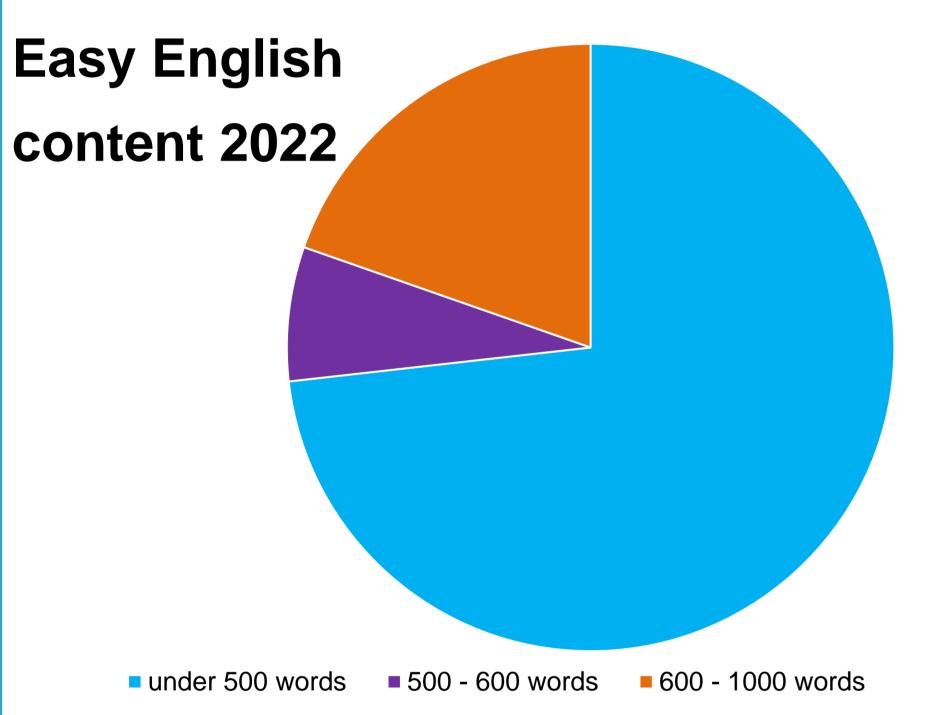
Easy Read

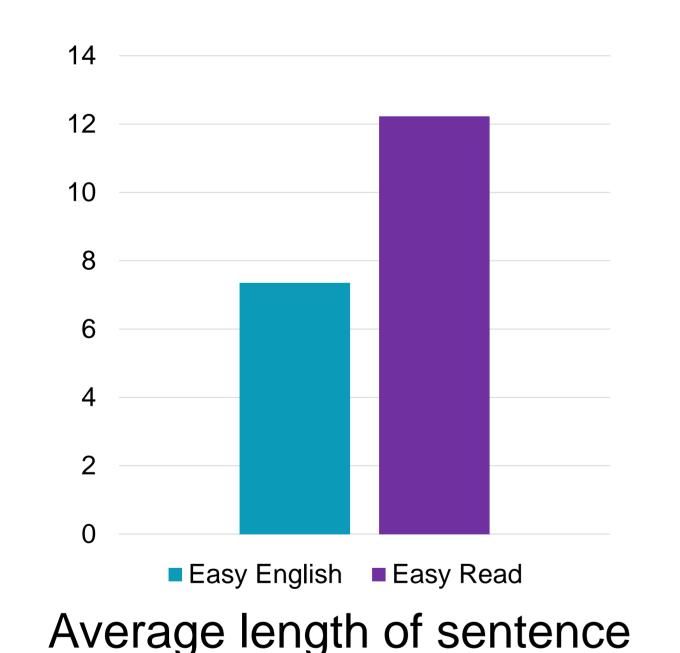
- in 2005 and continues now, to be complex linguistically
- extensive cognitive load for the reader, including visually cluttered
- most often uses photos of people with intellectual disability
- readers recognise it is more complex than Easy English
- · does not use universal design or plain language principles.





Easy Read example





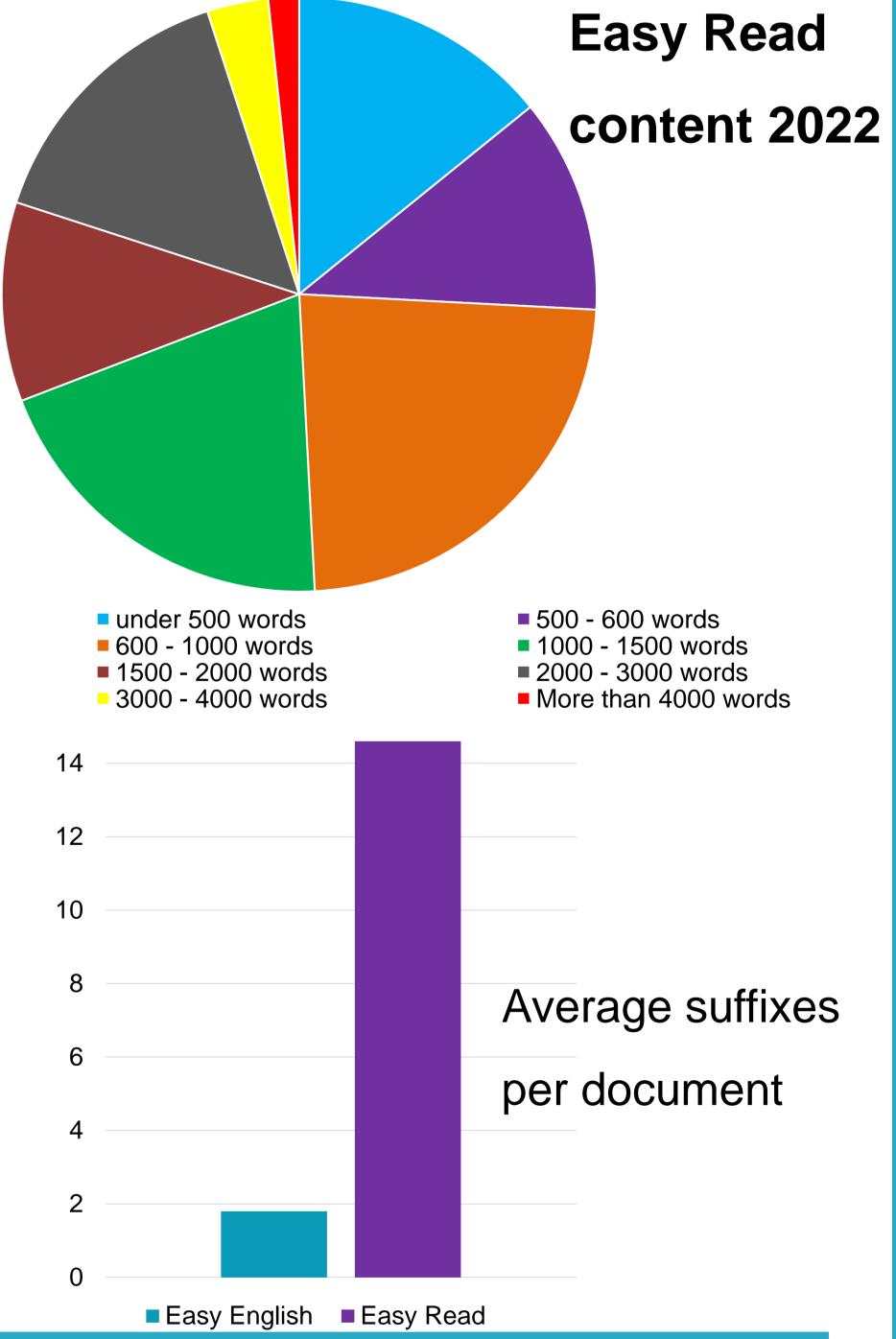
This analysis reviewed all content developed in Easy English in 2022 by the author, (122) and a similar amount publicly available in Australia in Easy Read.

70% of content in Easy English was under 500 words in length. Only 16% of Easy Read content was less than 500 words in length.

Findings replicate finding from 2017, 2019, 2020. Graphs below are some analysis for content under 500 words in length.







Some visual comparisons

Complete an audit of the content written for people with low literacy in your community using these comparison points.

	Easy English	Easy Read
Front cover.	Always. Includes an image	Sometimes. Often a corporate
	about the content.	cover without a clear meaningful
		image.
Headings.	Always supported with	Never supported with
	an image.	an image.
Types of words used.	Everyday words of the audience.	Introduces hard words.
		Uses these through content.
Use of 'ifthen statements.'	Never	Yes. Often numerous in
		each document.
Images per page.	4 maximum.	At least 5.
	Visual clutter reduced.	Common to see 7 or 8 per page.

Poster presented at the International Association of Communication Sciences and Disorders Conference, New Zealand August 2023.