

# A new hairstyle

**Start to Read Series**

SHEILA DUKE

NSWAMES

W/1 | Lw1 Lmm | 1 | 1/1 | 1

QUALITY LANGUAGE & LITERACY

## Book Review by Sue Creagh, Milpera

A New Hairstyle is one of three titles in the Start to Read Series, published by NSW AMES. Other titles in the series include Coffee Time and Moving House. The materials have been designed for low literacy adult learners but would have relevance to older secondary learners as well.



“A New Hairstyle” is a recount of a visit to a hairdresser for a new hairdo, and within the recount there is a short procedural text about the actual haircut. The text is structured carefully and clearly lends itself to teaching about simple sentence structure, use of dialogue, and a range of frequently used cohesive devices. Also, all process types (action, saying, sensing and relating) are included in the reader.

The kits contain an extensive range of materials to accompany the reader. These materials include:

- glossy A4 size reproductions of each picture in the reader
- key vocabulary from the reader on sight cards, again grouped (eg “the colour”, “on Tuesday”) in order to reinforce functional grammar structures within the sentences
- each sentence in the reader is written on separate cardboard strips. The cardboard strips for the sentences and words are strong and glossy but may benefit from being laminated)
- a CD with the reader as a PDF file. The CD has an audio file so that the student can view each page and hear it read as well.
- 12 photocopiable worksheets to accompany the reader. These are great! They would work very well with low literacy students and provide an excellent model for development of similar materials with other readers. They cover comprehension, spelling and letter shapes, verbs, adjectives, nouns, alphabetical order, prepositions, Wh questions and pronunciation.

Prices given on the NSW AMES website are Reader: \$8.13, Teacher’s Kit (which include the reader): \$41.77. (These prices are excluding GST).

I think the kit is great and provides an excellent, ready-to-go resource.

