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Works of fiction the length of Facebook status updates: "Just because a story is short, even really, really short, doesn't mean it can't contain multitudes." —The New York Times Book Review Alternately surreal, funny, ominous, and lyrical, Lou Beach's 420 Characters offers an experience as dazzling as any in contemporary fiction. Revealing worlds of meaning in single paragraphs, these crystalline miniature stories that began as Facebook status updates mark a new turn in an acclaimed artist and illustrator's career. This ebook edition has been enhanced with original collages by the author and with exclusive audio of fifteen stories brilliantly read by legendary rock musician Dave Alvin, Golden Globe-winning actor Ian McShane, and Academy Award winner Jeff Bridges. "A tiny book filled with tiny stories . . . Tragic, absurd, and sweet by turns, each snip of a story is a gem, able to hold its own against more standard-length fare." —Flavorwire, A Must-Read Pick Do You Love Game of Thrones? Do You Want To know Every Detail of Every Character in Game of Thrones? Game of Thrones is by far the most captivating TV series of the last 5 years. It is no surprise that everyone and their Dad has seen it. But did you miss some details of the show already or are you new to the show and sometimes are clueless about the connections of different characters and how their stories fit together? You don't want to be the one person in the room who doesn't have a clue to what's going on. Or maybe you just want to know more about each character. This guide was made only for those who are true Game of Thrones Fans who want to know all the details of the characters. This was written by one of the biggest Game of Throne fans there is. I wanted to help you understand the Characters perfectly, so I took all the hard work out so you don't have to jump around the internet to find good information or rewind episodes. I will also give you facts as well as my own view of each character as someone who has watched the show more times than I am comfortable disclosing. "I just don't care enough about your character." "Write Characters Your Readers Won't Forget" is a toolkit for addressing that issue. Packed with 30 exercises, abundant examples, and practical strategies, this guidebook will help you write unforgettable characters who "come alive" on the page, create compelling dialogue, and chart a more breathtaking emotional journeys for your characters. Stant Litore is the author of "The Ansible Stories, The Zombie Bible, The Running of the Tyrannosaurs, " and "Dante's Heart." Best known for his weird fiction, alternate history, and scifi, he has taught frequent courses for writers across the genres and has served as a developmental editor for Westmarch Publishing. His own fiction has been acclaimed by NPR, has served as the subject of scholarly work in "Relegere" and "Weird Fiction Review, " and he has been hailed as "SF's premier poet of loneliness." He lives in Colorado with his wife and two daughters, and is working on his next book. You've seen movies that

transport you into outer space and shove you into the middle of martial arts battles. You've dodged bullets with John Wayne, fought off aliens with Sigourney Weaver, rocketed past planets with Carrie Fisher and Mark Hamill, soared with Christopher Reeve as Superman, and driven through walls with Arnold Schwarzenegger. Now, you want to become an action film actor, too . . . but how? The tough truth of the trade is finally revealed by author Jason Norman and those who learned how to put the "act" in "action." Discover the secrets of their work, from seeming to become the characters moviegoers love and hate to the unique trade tricks that only insiders have known—until now. Join your favorite stars from Star Wars, Terminator, Million Dollar Baby, Suicide Squad, Casino, Midnight Express, Death Wish, Towering Inferno, Hunger Games: Catching Fire, Karate Kid, and other action-packed movies that inspired you. Want to be the next Bruce Willis so you can yell something like "Yippee Ki Yay, motherf\*\*\*er?" Take action. Illustrated with more than 140 photos. Index. About the author: Jason Norman's previous works include Welcome to Our Nightmares: Behind the Scene With Today's Horror Actors and Behind the Screams. He has won two Virginia Press Association awards. "I really enjoy your writing how you so eloquently can change my ramblings into a wonderful piece of work. It was a honor to read your words." - Stephanie Finocchio "You really can write, be factual, and entertain all at the same time." - Patrick Reynolds "It is so beautifully written! I will be honored to have your book on my bookshelf someday." - Christian Pitre Former private investigator and New York Times notable author David Corbett offers a unique and indispensable toolkit for creating characters that come vividly to life on the page and linger in memory. Corbett provides an inventive, inspiring, and vastly entertaining blueprint to all the elements of characterization—from initial inspiration to realization—with special insights into the power of secrets and contradictions, the embodiment of roles, managing the "tyranny of motive," and mastering crucial techniques required for memorable dialogue and unforgettable scenes. This is a how-to guide for both aspiring and accomplished writers that renders all other books of its kind obsolete. This work has been selected by scholars as being culturally important and is part of the knowledge base of civilization as we know it. This work is in the public domain in the United States of America, and possibly other nations. Within the United States, you may freely copy and distribute this work, as no entity (individual or corporate) has a copyright on the body of the work. Scholars believe, and we concur, that this work is important enough to be preserved, reproduced, and made generally available to the public. To ensure a quality reading experience, this work has been proofread and republished using a format that seamlessly blends the original graphical elements with text in an easy-to-read typeface. We appreciate your support of the preservation process, and thank you for being an important part of keeping this knowledge alive and relevant. "Anything we take for granted, Mr. Everett means to show us, may turn out to be a lie." —Wall Street Journal \* Finalist for the Los Angeles Times Book Prize \* Finalist for the PEN / Faulkner Award for Fiction \* A story inside a story inside a story. A man visits his aging father in a nursing home, where his father writes the novel he imagines his son would write. Or is it the novel that the son imagines his father would imagine, if he were to imagine the kind of novel the son would write? Let's simplify: a woman seeks an apprenticeship with a painter, claiming to be his long-lost daughter. A contractor-for-hire named Murphy can't distinguish between the two brothers who employ him. And in Murphy's troubled dreams, Nat Turner imagines the life of William Styron. These narratives twist together with anecdotes from the nursing home, each building on the other until they crest in a wild, outlandish excursion of the inmates led by the father. Anchoring these shifting plotlines is a running commentary between father and son that sheds doubt on the truthfulness of each story. Because, after all, what narrator can we ever trust? Not only is Percival Everett by Virgil Russell a powerful, compassionate meditation on old age and its humiliations, it is an ingenious culmination of Everett's recurring preoccupations. All of his prior work, his metaphysical and philosophical inquiries, his investigations into the nature of narrative, have led to this masterful book. Percival Everett has never been more cunning, more brilliant and subversive, than he is in this, his most important and elusive novel to date. Create Complex Characters How do you create a main character readers won't forget? How do you write a book in multiple-third-person point of view without confusing your readers (or yourself)? How do you plant essential information about a character's past into a story? Write Great Fiction: Characters, Emotion & Viewpoint by award-winning author Nancy Kress answers all of these questions and more! This accessible book is filled with interactive exercises and valuable advice that teaches you how to: • Choose and execute the best point of view for your story • Create three-dimensional and believable characters • Develop your characters' emotions • Create realistic love, fight, and death scenes • Use frustration to motivate your characters and drive your story With dozens of excerpts from some of today's most popular writers, Write Great Fiction: Characters, Emotion & Viewpoint provides you with the techniques you need to create characters and stories sure to linger in the hearts and minds of agents, editors, and readers long after they've finished your book. The complete book of Chinese characters that covers every aspect of, and therefore answers all the questions one might have for, these fascinating ancient language symbols from script evolution to colour-illustrated biographies including proper Stroke sequences and from the complete Compound anatomy to the trinity of Sounds, Semantics, and Synopses. This series of books is the ultimate guide and reference for first-time learners as well as masters of the language. It is for both the teachers and self-motivated students. This is the 1st volume of the series, covering the 1st 100 most frequently used Chinese characters as presented with their full colour illustrations and arranged in columns from right to left on the front cover. For its extensive colour illustrations throughout, this book is best read with a colour screen reader. Vivid and memorable characters aren't born: they have to be made. &#x2013;&#x2013;This book is a set of tools: literary crowbars, chisels, mallets, pliers and tongs. Use them to pry, chip, yank and sift good characters out of the place where they live in your memory, your imagination and your soul. &#x2013;&#x2013;Award-winning author Orson Scott Card explains in depth the techniques of inventing, developing and presenting characters, plus handling viewpoint in novels and short stories. With specific examples, he spells out your narrative options—the choices you'll make in creating fictional people so "real" that readers will feel they know them like members of their own families. &#x2013;&#x2013;You'll learn how to: &#x2013; draw the characters from a variety of sources, including a story's basic idea, real life—even a character's social circumstances&#x2013; make characters show who they are by the things they do and say, and by their individual "style"&#x2013; develop characters readers will love—or love to hate&#x2013; distinguish among major characters, minor characters and walk-ons, and develop each one appropriately&#x2013; choose the most effective viewpoint to reveal the characters and move the storytelling&#x2013; decide how deeply you should explore your characters' thoughts, emotions and attitudes The beloved, #1 global bestseller by John Green, author of The Anthropocene Reviewed and Turtles All the Way Down "John Green is one of the best writers alive." -E. Lockhart, #1 bestselling author of We Were Liars "The greatest romance story of this decade." -Entertainment Weekly #1 New York Times Bestseller • #1 Wall Street Journal Bestseller • #1 USA Today Bestseller • #1 International Bestseller Despite the tumor-shrinking medical miracle that has bought her a few years, Hazel has never been anything but terminal, her final chapter inscribed upon diagnosis. But when a gorgeous plot twist named Augustus Waters suddenly appears at Cancer Kid Support Group, Hazel's story is about to be completely rewritten. From John Green, #1 bestselling author of The Anthropocene Reviewed and Turtles All the Way Down, The Fault in Our Stars is insightful, bold, irreverent, and raw. It brilliantly explores the funny, thrilling, and tragic business of being alive and in love. When the character in the book gets an invitation to visit his Auntie in her book, he's all set to go. But when he tries to get out of his book, he runs into some trouble. He can't get out at the top of the page, and he can't get out at the bottom. So he tries going forward -- and going forward works! By foot, on wheels, unfazed by the occasional mountain or river in his way, the plucky Character finally zips right out of his own book...and right into his auntie's. When the Character in the Book gets an invitation to visit his dear Auntie, he's all set to go. But when he tries to get out of his book, he runs into some trouble. He can't get out at the top of the page, and he can't get out at the bottom. So he tries going forward, and going forward works just fine. By foot, on wheels, unfazed by the occasional mountain or river in his way, the plucky Character zips out of his own book—and right into his Auntie's! When the Character in the Book gets an invitation to visit his dear Auntie, he's all set to go. But when he tries to get out of his book, he runs into some trouble. He can't get out at the top of the page, and he can't get out at the bottom. So he tries going forward, and going forward works just fine. By foot, on wheels, unfazed by the occasional mountain or river in his way, the plucky Character zips out of his own book—and right into his Auntie's! A raw and blazing novel by "the single, most brain-searingly dangerous man of letters. Read him at your peril." (Anthony Bourdain) An aging New Yorker, a writer named Nick, feels life ebbing out of him. The world has gone to hell and Nick is so sick of it all that he can't even have a glass of champagne. Then one night he meets a tantalizing young woman who agrees to come back to his apartment. Their encounter is the most strangely extraordinary of his life. Propelled by uncontrollable, primordial desires, he enters a new and unimagined dimension of the forbidden and is filled with a sexual and spiritual ecstasy that is

as intense as it is unholy. Suddenly Nick's senses are alive. He feels strong, unconquerable, beyond all inhibition and earthly morality. He indulges in life's pleasures, pure and perverse, sublime and dangerous, from the delicate flavors of the perfect tomato to the fleshy beauty of a woman's thigh. But Nick's desire to sustain his rapture leads him to a madness and a darkness far greater and dreadful than have ever ridden the demon mares of night. Writing in a lineage that includes Dante, William S. Burroughs, Charles Bukowski, Hubert Selby, Jr., and Hunter S. Thompson, Nick Tosches may be America's last real literary outlaw—a fearless, uncensorable seeker of our deepest secret truths and desires, from the basest to the most beautiful. *Me and the Devil* is outrageous, disturbing, and brilliant, a raw and blazing novel truly unlike any other. Like the man said: Read him at your peril. Create Convincing Characters That Readers—and Editors—Can't Resist! It's the question that eternally plagues all good writers: How can you describe the thoughts and feelings of characters who have backgrounds or psychological aberrations with which you have no personal experience? How can you describe the feelings of a drug addict if you've never been one? How can you write about being a prisoner if you've never been to jail? You can do all the research you want, but the question still remains: How do you convincingly portray characters if you've never lived in their skin? In *Breathing Life Into Your Characters*, writing consultant and professional psychotherapist Rachel Ballon, Ph. D., shows you how to get in touch with the thoughts and feelings necessary to truly understand your characters—no matter what their background or life experiences. She'll show you how to:

- Develop a psychological profile for every character
- Turn archetypes into conflicted characters
- Think like a criminal to convincingly write one
- Reveal personalities through the use of nonverbal communication

In addition, you'll learn how to effectively use Ballon's "Method Writing" system—taught previously only in her writing workshops—to explore your own feelings, memories, and emotions to create characters of astonishing depth and complexity! Create characters that leap off the page—and into readers' hearts! Populating your fiction with authentic, vivid characters is a surefire way to captivate your readers from the first sentence to the last. Whether you're writing a series, novel, short story, or flash fiction, *Creating Characters* is an invaluable guide to bringing your fictional cast to life. This book is a comprehensive reference to every stage of character development. You'll find timely advice and helpful instruction from best-selling authors like Nancy Kress, Elizabeth Sims, Orson Scott Card, Chuck Wendig, Hallie Ephron, Donald Maass, and James Scott Bell. They'll show you how to:

- Effectively introduce your characters
- Build a believable protagonist
- Develop strong anti-heroes and compelling villains
- Juggle multiple points of view without missing a beat
- Craft authentic dialogue that propels the story forward
- Motivate your characters with powerful objectives and a believable conflict
- Show dynamic character development over the course of a story

No matter what your genre, *Creating Characters* gives you the tools necessary to create realistic, fascinating characters that your readers will root for and remember long after they've finished the story. Go back to school with *Biscuit* and share the love of reading with your beginner reader! *Biscuit* can't wait to go to school! Even though no dogs are allowed, he is determined to see and do everything that takes place at school. But what will happen when the teacher discovers a puppy in the classroom? Reassuring and sweet, *Biscuit Goes to School* is an excellent choice to share with little ones getting ready for preschool, kindergarten, or first grade. This *My First I Can Read* book is carefully crafted using basic language, word repetition, sight words, and sweet illustrations—which means it's perfect for shared reading with emergent readers. The active, engaging *My First I Can Read* stories have appealing plots and lovable characters, encouraging children to continue their reading journey. This book is an examination of characters in the books of Kings; showing how understanding and interpretation of key characters affects readings of the story. The volume begins with more general pieces addressing how the study of characters can shed light on the composition history of Kings and on how characters and characterization can be considered with respect to ethics, particularly with respect to the moral complexity of biblical characters. Contributors then consider key characters within the Kings narrative in depth, such as Nathan, Bathsheba, Solomon and Jezebel. The contributors use their own specific expertise to analyze these characters and more, drawing on insights from literary theory and considering such approaches as questioning our view of a particular character with based on the character within the text with whom we identify. Contributors also assess whether or not characters as portrayed in the biblical text necessarily match up to their possible counterparts in history.

"The Japanese government may someday recognize it as it ought to. Tuttle's contribution to creating an intelligent interest in Japan among the English-speaking public, and deepening understanding of Japanese overseas." —Hokubei Mainichi (San Francisco) Awarded the 1969 Prize for the Society of the Promotion of International Cultural Relations, this is the most comprehensive Japanese book of its kind. Containing Japanese-English and English-Japanese sections, it is an essential reference tool for serious students studying the Japanese language or for business people and tourists wishing to learn Japanese before they travel. Special features include: Lists over 5,000 carefully selected characters with their 10,000+ current readings and almost 70,000 compounds in current use, all with concise English definitions. Scientifically arranged by a logical extension of the traditional radical system so as to make the finding of a given character almost foolproof, saving hours of time. Makes provision for quickly finding characters either in their traditional or their modern and often greatly altered forms, thus serving for both prewar and postwar literature. Includes 14 valuable appendices giving (1) instructions for the most efficient use of the book, (2) discussions of the written language in general and particularly of its recent and far-reaching official modifications, and (3) much helpful #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • ONE OF TIME MAGAZINE'S 100 BEST YA BOOKS OF ALL TIME

The extraordinary, beloved novel about the ability of books to feed the soul even in the darkest of times. When Death has a story to tell, you listen. It is 1939. Nazi Germany. The country is holding its breath. Death has never been busier, and will become busier still. Liesel Meminger is a foster girl living outside of Munich, who scratches out a meager existence for herself by stealing when she encounters something she can't resist—books. With the help of her accordion-playing foster father, she learns to read and shares her stolen books with her neighbors during bombing raids as well as with the Jewish man hidden in her basement. In superbly crafted writing that burns with intensity, award-winning author Markus Zusak, author of *I Am the Messenger*, has given us one of the most enduring stories of our time. "The kind of book that can be life-changing." —The New York Times "Deserves a place on the same shelf with *The Diary of a Young Girl* by Anne Frank." —USA Today DON'T MISS BRIDGE OF CLAY, MARKUS ZUSAK'S FIRST NOVEL SINCE THE BOOK THIEF. In this brilliantly illuminating group portrait of the men who came to be known as the Founding Fathers, the incomparable Gordon Wood has written a book that seriously asks, "What made these men great?" and shows us, among many other things, just how much character did in fact matter. The life of each—Washington, Adams, Jefferson, Franklin, Hamilton, Madison, Paine—is presented individually as well as collectively, but the thread that binds these portraits together is the idea of character as a lived reality. They were members of the first generation in history that was self-consciously self-made men who understood that the arc of lives, as of nations, is one of moral progress. Rules for Raising Little Girls "As the father of a daughter, I wish I'd read this very funny book sooner, if only to know that it's OK for a grown man to wear a tutu." - Dave Barry "Required reading for any parent who doesn't know pants from leggings." - Dan Zevin, author of *Dan Gets a Minivan: Life at the Intersection of Dude and Dad* It's easy to imagine how you'd raise a boy—all the golf outings, lawnmower lessons, and Little League championships you'd attend—but playing dad to a little princess may take some education. In *Oh Boy, You're Having a Girl*, Brian, a father of three girls, shares his tactics for surviving this new and glittery world. From baby dolls and bedtime rituals to potty training and dance recitals, he leads you through all the trials and tribulations you'll face as you're raising your daughter. He'll also show you how to navigate your way through tough situations, like making sure that she doesn't start dating until she's fifty. Complete with commandments for restroom trips and properly participating in a tea party, *Oh Boy, You're Having a Girl* will brace you for all those hours playing house—and psych you up for the awesomeness of raising a daughter who has you lovingly wrapped around her little finger. "Somehow, Brian Klems has taken one of the most traumatic situations known to a father—having a daughter—and made it into something so completely hilarious you'll laugh until you've got oxygen deprivation!" - W. Bruce Cameron, author of *8 Simple Rules for Dating My Teenage Daughter* William Kilpatrick's recent book *Why Johnny Can't Tell Right from Wrong* convinced thousands that reading is one of the most effective ways to combat moral illiteracy and build a child's character. This follow-up book—featuring evaluations of more than 300 books for children—will help parents and teachers put his key ideas into practice. *Character—What Is It Anyway?* is a trailblazing attempt to uncover the specific nature of character, because character is fundamental to our success and wellbeing. It is a basis upon which we elect people to public office, hire employees, choose who we want to do business with, choose our mates, friends, and more. That such an important a subject has been given so little attention is surprising. Character can be your best friend or it can be your worst enemy. Strong character enables us to lead good, successful, and long lives. For example, people with the character trait of persistence

tend to become more successful because they "keep on keeping on" until they achieve their goals. Conversely, weak character can lead people to failure, poverty, homelessness, imprisonment, and even death. Our prisons are full of people who lack the character trait of self-control; they have stolen, done drugs, raped, and killed, all because of that missing character trait. Yes, character is important in our lives. What Is Character-What Is It Anyway? provides many examples of how we can strengthen whatever traits of our own character that may need strengthening. The author pulls no punches while giving the subject of character the attention it deserves. His biggest desire is that Character-What Is It Anyway? will be both a help and a blessing to you, because there is more to learn here. According to author Daniel Jones, "Prior to writing this book, I used to wonder about character and exactly what it is. At the time, it occurred to me I had never seen a book, an article or a tract on the subject of character. I had never heard of an expert on character. I had never even seen what I consider to be a definition of character. Dictionaries and others have 'defined' character by mentioning some of the character traits, such as persistence, patience, moral strength, integrity, and so forth. However, such traits, themselves, are not character. These traits are 'components' of character. Therefore, the traits are a description of character and not a definition of character. Character has more than forty different traits. I thought long and hard about this for months, and eventually, the specific definition of character 'popped' into my head. I provide that definition towards the end of this book." Published to coincide with the 60th anniversary of Captain America, this lavishly illustrated volume examines the "Marvel" comic book characters' origins and subsequent evolution. 300 color illustrations.

Author Samantha Keel is a paramedic who has created a blog called ScriptMedic for the purpose of helping writers understand how injuries work in the real world. She has written this book to show writers how to use the real world of medicine in their fiction. Create unforgettable characters your readers will love! 45 Master Characters will make your characters and their stories more compelling, complex and original than ever before. You'll explore the most common male and female archetypes—the mythic, cross-cultural models from which all characters originate—and learn how to use them as foundations for your own unique characters. Examples culled from literature, television and film illustrate just how memorable and effective these archetypes can be—from "Gladiators" and "Kings" like Rocky Balboa and Captain Ahab to "Amazons" and "Maidens" like Xena and Guinevere. The mythic journeys of heroes and heroines—the progression of events upon which each archetype's character arc develops—are also examined. Building such a "journey" into your character's story will enable you to stop worrying about what happens next and get on with telling your tale. It's a power-packed method for creating characters that stand the test of time! This book is a rendezvous with ten characters that will take you into their lives. Each character is unique, with its own strengths, flaws, desires, and various shades and undertones. From The Mister(y) in Black, The Dying Man to Mr. and Mrs. Rana, there is an element of surprise, suspense, sympathy, and a myriad of other emotions weaved into each story. The journey is brief, with each story barely three pages long, but the characters are large and memorable. How do genres develop? In what ways do they reflect changing political and cultural trends? What do they tell us about the motivations of publishers and readers? Combining close readings and formal analysis with a sociology of literary institutions and markets, *Minor Characters Have Their Day* offers a compelling new approach to genre study and contemporary fiction. Focusing on the booming genre of books that transform minor characters from canonical literary texts into the protagonists of new works, Jeremy Rosen makes broader claims about the state of contemporary fiction, the strategies of the publishing industry over recent decades, and the function of literary characters. Rosen traces the recent surge in "minor-character elaboration" to the late 1960s and works such as Jean Rhys's *Wide Sargasso Sea* and Tom Stoppard's *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*. These early examples often recover the voices of marginalized individuals and groups. As the genre has exploded between the 1980s and the present, with novels about Ahab's wife, Huck Finn's father, and Mr. Dalloway, it has begun to embody the neoliberal commitments of subjective experience, individual expression, and agency. Eventually, large-scale publishers capitalized on the genre as a way to appeal to educated audiences aware of the prestige of the classics and to draw in identity-based niche markets. Rosen's conclusion ties the understudied evolution of minor-character elaboration to the theory of literary character.

An irrepressible new girl dethrones the reigning recess bully by becoming her friend in this infectious playground romp. Mean Jean was Recess Queen and nobody said any different. Nobody swung until Mean Jean swung. Nobody kicked until Mean Jean kicked. Nobody bounced until Mean Jean bounced. If kids ever crossed her, she'd push 'em and smooch 'em, lollapalooosh 'em, hammer 'em, slammer 'em, kitz and kajammer 'em. Until a new kid came to school! Parents and teachers will appreciate the story's deft handling of conflict resolution (which happens without adult intervention). "A lively story about the power of kindness and friendship" -- Publishers Weekly "A lighthearted look at a serious topic in schools and on playgrounds everywhere..." -- School Library Journal "Great for reading aloud and joining in." -- Booklist Set in the future when "firemen" burn books forbidden by the totalitarian "brave new world" regime. This book is a quick and easy way to learn basic Chinese Characters. All beginning Chinese language learners struggle to memorize and learn to write Chinese characters. The First 100 Chinese Characters adopts a structural approach which helps students to quickly master the basic characters that are fundamental to this language. Intended for beginning Chinese students, this character book presents characters that have been carefully selected for rapid and effective learning. The English meanings, pronunciations in hanyu pinyin and alternate forms (if any) for each Chinese character are presented along with a stroke order guide and spaces for writing practice. Printed with gray guidelines, the stroke order guides are designed to be traced over to teach students the standard sequence of strokes used to write the character. Related compounds and phrases are given to assist in vocabulary building. Three indexes at the back allow the characters to be looked up by their English meanings, hanyu pinyin pronunciations, or radicals. Extra practice sheets are also provided. This Chinese character book contains: Step-by-step stroke order diagrams show you how to write each character. Special boxes with grid lines help you practice writing them correctly. Compounds and sample sentences provide easy vocabulary building. Hanyu pinyin romanizations identify and help you pronounce every word.