

INTRODUCTION

Communicative dysfunction related to neurological impairment is a significant rehabilitation problem in the educational and health care community. Adolescents and adults with language and cognitive disorders require specialized attention in order to achieve the highest potential possible. Specific clinical materials that address the identified level or levels of breakdown are critically important if effective help is to be given. Clinicians and teachers must search for those aids which will allow for appropriate and meaningful intervention.

—Michael I. Rolnick, Ph.D., Director, Speech and Language Pathology Department, William Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak, Michigan

These words were written in 1984—exactly twenty-five years prior to the publication of the revised and updated second edition of this *Workbook for Language Skills*. Since then, thousands of copies of this workbook have been sold and many more thousands of pages have been used and/or given to adolescents and adults to aid in the process of their learning or recovery. In these intervening years, the field of speech and language pathology has developed and changed and grown in many ways; but one fact remains clear: relevant, appropriate, and quality treatment materials are still needed for individuals. While technological choices and evidence-based regimens are advancing—and rightly so—the use of paper and pencil for clear, uncomplicated independent work remains viable and even preferable in some circumstances. For this reason, in addition to its continuing popularity, the *Workbook for Language Skills* has been reborn after twenty-five years with a thorough makeover.

The makeover begins with the outside and continues on the inside pages of the book.

- A new tan ring binder with pockets, tabbed dividers with bold print, and sturdier paper keeps the exercises fresh and easy to use.
- Newly formatted pages with larger, clearer print, visual line aids, and example boxes are designed to be user-friendly.
- The table of contents reflects clear divisions for the Reading, Writing, and Word Retrieval sections of the book with target area names that more clearly reflect their contents.
- Two exercises were omitted from the original version, and two new exercises were added.
- Extra pages have been added to twenty exercises.
- The questions in half of the book were rewritten, and vocabulary was changed to replace or update obsolete words or ideas, dated or politically incorrect references, and boring or repeated words or concepts.
- A user's guide has been added to give instructions, helpful suggestions and strategies.
- An assignments page has been added to help users keep track of what has to be done and to provide a useful record of progress over time.
- A totally new suggested answer key is included for most of the exercises.

We believe we have encompassed the best of the original book and hope that you agree that this revised and updated second edition is a much-improved tool that will help you the user or you the clinician achieve your goals.

Thank you for your continued support of Brubaker Books, your feedback, and your dedication to using our quality treatment materials to stimulate the brain and provide practice, a challenge, and perhaps even a chuckle or two.