

Dr Mary Anderson has been involved in language education for more than three decades, in both the academic and the publishing fields. Her doctorate from SOAS was a study of the Fulfulde language of Northern Nigeria, based on fieldwork during which she also learned the basics of Hausa. Her career has spanned teaching German in a French-style lycée in Côte d'Ivoire, commissioning English language teaching books for Oxford University Press, and – whilst she was living in Hong Kong – writing language materials for Yunnan Province in China. She holds the Diploma in English-language teaching to adults from Cambridge University, and is interested in applying the best principles of ELT to the teaching of literacy in other languages.

Mary passionately believes that literacy is the key to empowerment. She was recently commissioned to write a series of books for teaching basic literacy to Hausa children, for which she did extensive research in Nigeria. She is currently writing a series of books for Caribbean schools, where yet again her empathy for local cultures and language backgrounds is being used to the full.