The SAS Language Reference: Dictionary provides detailed reference information for the major language elements of Base SAS software:
- data set options
- formats
- functions and CALL routines
- informats
- Application Response Measurement (ARM) macros
- statements
- SAS system options.

It also includes the following four appendixes:
- DATA Step Object Attributes and Methods
- ENCODING= values for SAS commands and statements
- DATA step debugger
- Recommended reading.

For extensive conceptual information about the SAS System and the SAS language, including the DATA step, see SAS Language Reference: Concepts.