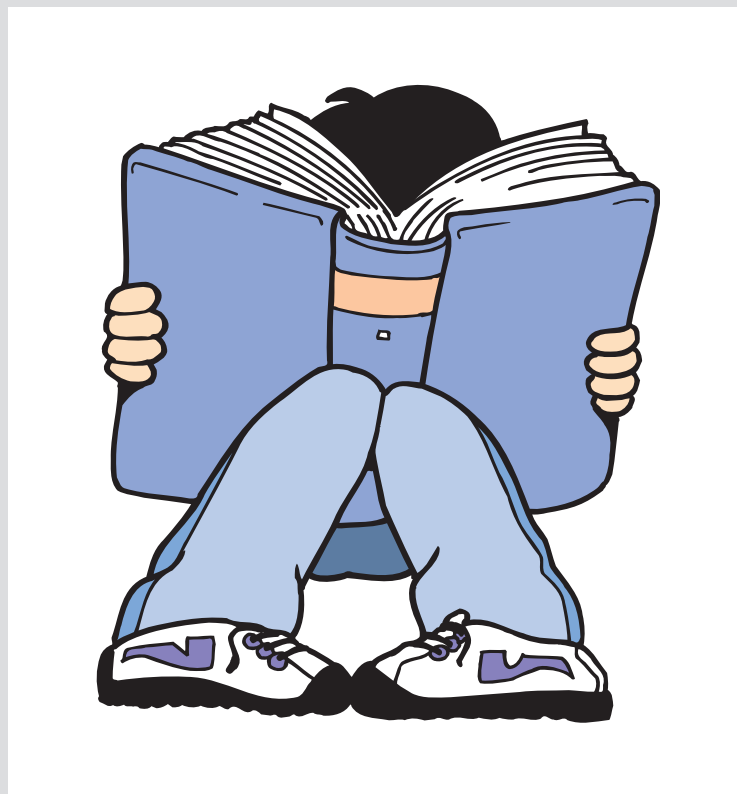


TEACHER MATERIALS

6-8 Week Skills Assessments for
Reading Comprehension and Fluency



GRADE 6
Weeks 6-36

6-8 Week Skills Assessments for Reading Comprehension and Fluency

DESIGN

Skills Assessments are designed to help classroom teachers and grade-level teams determine how effective their delivery of instruction is meeting expected student learning goals in relation to concepts and skills taught in the classroom.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Skills Assessments is to help guide and plan instruction for the next 6-8 weeks. Due to the limited number of test items, skills, and concepts addressed. Skills Assessments are not to be used as an indicator of individual student achievement. They are tools to help educators focus on the percentage of students meeting criteria for each subtest. If teachers find over the course of at least two testing periods there is still a group of struggling students, it is advisable to utilize diagnostic testing to understand specific needs.

USE

The Skills Assessments assist in determining if the class is meeting grade-level expectations for the concepts and skills taught in the classroom. If students are weak in a particular area, the teacher should look ahead to plan for additional instruction or student practice using the materials provided by the program. Grade-level meetings may help teachers determine which skills and concepts need to be reinforced. It is advisable that teachers work together to plan the use of program materials for small group instruction or go beyond the core instructional time to address specific needs.

Assessment Development Team

Authors: Pat Bush, M.R. Hagopian, Michelle Holman, Teri Poppleton, Carol Walker

Editors: Carolyn Farrar, Roxanne Higgins, Roberta Nichols, Melanie Sloomweg, Sharon Van Horn

The Skills Assessments are developed by the assessment team at the Reading Lions Center. Subtest scores should be used for planning instruction and identifying skill areas to enhance learning.

First Edition
© 2008 Reading Lions Center

Overview of Skills Assessments - Grade 6 2008 - 2009

	Week 6	Week 12	Week 18	Week 24	Week 30	Week 36
GRADE 6	Comprehension Fluency	Comprehension Fluency	Comprehension Fluency	Comprehension Fluency	Comprehension Fluency	Comprehension Fluency

GRADE 6	Percentile	Week 6 WCPM ²	Week 12 WCPM	Week 18 WCPM	Week 24 WCPM	Week 30 WCPM	Week 36 WCPM
ORAL READING FLUENCY NORMS¹	25th	98	105	111	115	119	122
	50th	127	134	140	144	147	150
	75th	153	160	167	171	174	177

1 Extrapolated values used by the Reading Lions Center (2005).

2 WCPM = Words Correct Per Minute based on 2005 Norms of Hasbrouck and Tindal.

INSTRUCTIONAL UNITS - GRADE 6

Week 1	Week 4
Week 2	Week 5
Week 3	Week 6

MATERIALS

Each classroom set of materials includes:

- Teacher Materials Booklet
- Student Test Booklets
- Fluency Test Cards
- Skills Assessment Report Forms (blackline masters)

Note: Electronic reporting systems are advisable.

GENERAL PROCEDURES

Students are assessed at the end of each instructional period listed above. The results for each student should be recorded on the Skills Assessment report form (or through an electronic reporting system) and submitted to the site administrator. The Reading Comprehension subtest is administered in whole group sessions. Fluency is assessed individually. The directions and answer keys are provided in the Teacher Materials booklet.

FOLLOW-UP AND SUPPORT BY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

The Skills Assessment Report form (blackline master) is an evaluation tool for the classroom teacher, the site administrator, and the reading coach. The teacher is asked to note which students have not reached criterion. The teacher is expected to develop a plan of action to help improve student learning especially for those students identified as needing intensive intervention (scoring 40% or lower).

A copy of the report form, if non-electronic, should be placed in an agreed-upon school file, by an agreed-upon date, for review by the principal. After the principal reviews the students' progress and support needs, the following actions are suggested:

1. Provide written and/or verbal feedback to the teacher on student progress and provide resources and support as needed (e.g., extended time and coaching assistance.)
2. Schedule follow-up meetings with the teacher, coach, and/or whole staff as needed.

6-8 Week Skills Assessments for Reading Comprehension and Fluency

Answer Key and Directions

GRADE 6 - Week 6

TEACHER NOTE: Collect student booklets after each testing session. Do not allow students to browse other subtests before they are administered. Therefore, consider administering the Oral Fluency Reading Passages first.

FLUENCY

Teacher Directions: Refer to “General Directions for **One-Minute** Administration of Reading Passages.” The directions are attached to the fluency materials for each grade level.

Scoring: To be at grade level the student must read at least 127 WCPM (words correct per minute) at the end of the 6th week.

25th Percentile - 98 WCPM

50th Percentile - 127 WCPM

75th Percentile - 153 WCPM

COMPREHENSION (Recommended Time: 30-45 minutes, uninterrupted)

Teacher Directions: Have the students independently read the selection and questions, then silently mark their answers. The selection should be read in its entirety and the questions answered during an uninterrupted block of time. This subtest should be administered similarly to a norm-referenced test.

Scoring: To reach criterion, a student must have at least 8 correct answers.

Key: 1. D 3. C 5. C 7. B 9. D
 2. D 4. D 6. A 8. C 10. A

GRADE 6 - Week 12

TEACHER NOTE: Collect student booklets after each testing session. Do not allow students to browse other subtests before they are administered. Therefore, consider administering the Oral Fluency Reading Passages first.

FLUENCY

Teacher Directions: Refer to “General Directions for **One-Minute** Administration of Reading Passages.” The directions are attached to the fluency materials for each grade level.

Scoring: To be at grade level the student must read at least 134 WCPM (words correct per minute) at the end of the 12th week.

25th Percentile - 105 WCPM

50th Percentile - 134 WCPM

75th Percentile - 160 WCPM

COMPREHENSION (Recommended Time: 30-45 minutes, uninterrupted)

Teacher Directions: Have the students independently read the selection and questions, then silently mark their answers. The selection should be read in its entirety and the questions answered during an uninterrupted block of time. This subtest should be administered similarly to a norm-referenced test.

Scoring: To reach criterion, a student must have at least 8 correct answers.

Key: 1. C 3. A 5. C 7. A 9. D
2. D 4. B 6. B 8. C 10. B

GRADE 6 - Week 18

TEACHER NOTE: Collect student booklets after each testing session. Do not allow students to browse other subtests before they are administered. Therefore, consider administering the Oral Fluency Reading Passages first.

FLUENCY

Teacher Directions: Refer to “General Directions for **One-Minute** Administration of Reading Passages.” The directions are attached to the fluency materials for each grade level.

Scoring: To be at grade level the student must read at least 140 WCPM (words correct per minute) at the end of the 18th week.

25th Percentile - 111 WCPM

50th Percentile - 140 WCPM

75th Percentile - 167 WCPM

COMPREHENSION (Recommended Time: 30-45 minutes, uninterrupted)

Teacher Directions: Have the students independently read the selection and questions, then silently mark their answers. The selection should be read in its entirety and the questions answered during an uninterrupted block of time. This subtest should be administered similarly to a norm-referenced test.

Scoring: To reach criterion, a student must have at least 8 correct answers.

Key: 1. A 3. B 5. C 7. A 9. C
 2. D 4. B 6. A 8. D 10. B

GRADE 6 - Week 24

TEACHER NOTE: Collect student booklets after each testing session. Do not allow students to browse other subtests before they are administered. Therefore, consider administering the Oral Fluency Reading Passages first.

FLUENCY

Teacher Directions: Refer to “General Directions for **One-Minute** Administration of Reading Passages.” The directions are attached to the fluency materials for each grade level.

Scoring: To be at grade level the student must read at least 144 WCPM (words correct per minute) at the end of the 24th week.

25th Percentile - 115 WCPM

50th Percentile - 144 WCPM

75th Percentile - 171 WCPM

COMPREHENSION (Recommended Time: 30-45 minutes, uninterrupted)

Teacher Directions: Have the students independently read the selection and questions, then silently mark their answers. The selection should be read in its entirety and the questions answered during an uninterrupted block of time. This subtest should be administered similarly to a norm-referenced test.

Scoring: To reach criterion, a student must have at least 8 correct answers.

Key: 1. B 3. B 5. C 7. C 9. B
 2. C 4. D 6. A 8. B 10. D

GRADE 6 - Week 30

TEACHER NOTE: Collect student booklets after each testing session. Do not allow students to browse other subtests before they are administered. Therefore, consider administering the Oral Fluency Reading Passages first.

FLUENCY

Teacher Directions: Refer to “General Directions for **One-Minute** Administration of Reading Passages.” The directions are attached to the fluency materials for each grade level.

Scoring: To be at grade level the student must read at least 147 WCPM (words correct per minute) at the end of the 30th week.

- 25th Percentile - 119 WCPM
- 50th Percentile - 147 WCPM
- 75th Percentile - 174 WCPM

COMPREHENSION (Recommended Time: 30-45 minutes, uninterrupted)

Teacher Directions: Have the students independently read the selection and questions, then silently mark their answers. The selection should be read in its entirety and the questions answered during an uninterrupted block of time. This subtest should be administered similarly to a norm-referenced test.

Scoring: To reach criterion, a student must have at least 8 correct answers.

- Key:**
- | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 1. C | 3. A | 5. C | 7. A | 9. D |
| 2. D | 4. B | 6. B | 8. C | 10. B |

GRADE 6 - Week 36

TEACHER NOTE: Collect student booklets after each testing session. Do not allow students to browse other subtests before they are administered. Therefore, consider administering the Oral Fluency Reading Passages first.

FLUENCY

Teacher Directions: Refer to “General Directions for **One-Minute** Administration of Reading Passages.” The directions are attached to the fluency materials for each grade level.

Scoring: To be at grade level the student must read at least 150 WCPM (words correct per minute) at the end of the 36th week.

25th Percentile - 122 WCPM

50th Percentile - 150 WCPM

75th Percentile - 177 WCPM

COMPREHENSION (Recommended Time: 30-45 minutes, uninterrupted)

Teacher Directions: Have the students independently read the selection and questions, then silently mark their answers. The selection should be read in its entirety and the questions answered during an uninterrupted block of time. This subtest should be administered similarly to a norm-referenced test.

Scoring: To reach criterion, a student must have at least 8 correct answers.

- | | | | | | |
|-------------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| Key: | 1. C | 3. B | 5. A | 7. C | 9. B |
| | 2. D | 4. A | 6. D | 8. C | 10. B |

NOTES

General Directions for One-Minute Administration of Reading Passages for the Oral Fluency Subtest

- *This test is administered individually.*
- *Passages are to be administered consecutively during one uninterrupted session.*
- *The purpose of this test is to measure reading rate (automaticity) and accuracy.*
- *For this assessment to be reliable, it must be based on a “cold” reading.*
- *Choose a quiet location in the classroom to administer the test where other students cannot hear the story being read.*
- *Do NOT have students rehearse or browse the stories before they are administered.*
- *Do NOT have students practice reading individual words that may be problematic before the test is administered.*

MATERIALS:

1. Students’ (cardstock) copies of Passage #1 and Passage #2
2. Examiner’s (numbered) copies of Passage #1 and Passage #2
3. Stopwatch
4. Tape recorder - *optional* (Tape recorders facilitate error analysis.)

DIRECTIONS FOR PASSAGES #1 AND #2:

1. Place the cardstock copy in front of the student.
2. Place the numbered copy in front of you. Shield it so the student cannot see what you record.
3. Say these specific directions to the student for Passage #1:
*When I say “Begin,” start reading aloud at the top of this page. Read across the page (DEMONSTRATE BY POINTING). Try to read each word. If you come to a word you don’t know, I will say the word for you. **Read as quickly and accurately as you can, but do not read SO fast that you make mistakes. Do your best reading.***
4. Say “Begin” and start your stopwatch when the student says the first word. If the student fails to say the first word of the passage after 3 seconds, say the word, mark it as incorrect, then start your stopwatch.
5. Follow along on your copy. Put a slash (/) through words read incorrectly.
6. If a student stops or struggles with a word for 3 seconds, say the word and mark it as incorrect.
7. At the end of 1 minute, place a bracket (]) after the last word and say, “Stop.”
8. Repeat for Passage #2, following the directions in steps 3-7.

SCORING PROCEDURE:

Errors include: 1) words read incorrectly; 2) words left out or inserted; 3) mispronounced words; 4) dropped endings or sounds; and 5) reversals (Each reversal is counted as one error).

Self-corrections and word repetitions are NOT marked as errors.

Add the total number of words read, subtract the errors, and write the number of words the student read correctly in the box in the bottom right-hand corner of the page. On the Skills Assessment Report, enter scores (WCPM) for both Passage #1 and Passage #2. Then take the average of the two scores and enter the “averaged” score. When all students have completed the fluency assessment, record classroom totals in the boxes provided (# of students tested, # of students at/above 50th percentile for WCPM, and % of students at/above 50th percentile for WCPM).

Passage #1

Refer to “General Directions for **One-Minute** Administration of Reading Passages.”

Say these specific directions to the student:

When I say “Begin,” start reading aloud at the top of this page. Read across the page (DEMONSTRATE BY POINTING). Try to read each word. If you come to a word you don’t know, I will say the word for you. Read as quickly and accurately as you can, but do not read SO fast that you make mistakes. Do your best reading.

The Boston Tea Party in 1773 was not a party. It was a risky act of defiance. The events that led up to this act began in England.

A British business had more tea than it could sell in England. The British Parliament let the company sell its excess tea tax-free to American colonists. This gave the company an unfair advantage over local merchants who had to pay taxes. Even though the cost of the tea was lower, colonists were unwilling to pay the unjust taxes.

People in Philadelphia decided to boycott. They forced British tea agents to resign their positions. Colonists in other areas tried blocking the company’s ships. They wanted to keep the vessels from docking in their ports. People in Boston tried the same thing. They were unsuccessful. Three British ships docked in Boston’s harbor. The ships’ officers refused to leave the port.

To protest, colonist Samuel Adams and fifty followers, carrying hatchets and dressed like Mohawk Indians, boarded the ships. They chopped chests of tea open and threw them into the harbor. Paul Revere spread the word of the anti-tax protest.

On April Fool’s day in 1774, the King of England closed the Boston port. The governor of Massachusetts did not support the colonists. Ben Franklin printed unflattering letters about the governor. England scolded Franklin for his critical words. Tax laws and the dressing down of Franklin hardened the colonists. Inevitably, the disputes led to the American Revolution.

EVALUATING CODES FOR ORAL READING

sky (/) word read incorrectly
 blue sky (^) inserted word
 (□) after the last word read

Comments:

FLUENCY SCORE

Number of Words
 Read Per Minute: _____

Number of Errors: — _____

Number of Words
 Read Correctly: _____

Passing Criterion
 (50th %ile) = 127

Errors include: 1) words read incorrectly; 2) words left out or inserted; 3) mispronounced words; 4) dropped endings or sounds; and 5) reversals. Self-corrections and word repetitions are NOT marked as errors.

Passage #2

Refer to “General Directions for **One-Minute** Administration of Reading Passages.”

Say these specific directions to the student:

When I say “Begin,” start reading aloud at the top of this page. Read across the page (DEMONSTRATE BY POINTING). Try to read each word. If you come to a word you don’t know, I will say the word for you. Read as quickly and accurately as you can, but do not read SO fast that you make mistakes. Do your best reading.

Jacob Riis moved to the United States from 8
Denmark when he was twenty-one. Living in his new 18
homeland was difficult. Unable to find work for a long 28
time, he suffered severe hardships. Eventually, he 35
became a police reporter and photographer for the 43
New York Tribune. He was assigned to work in the 53
Lower East Side. There poverty abounded. Although 60
Jacob had been quite poor, he was shocked at the 70
awful conditions of ordinary people who were living 78
in the slums. 81

Jacob vowed to improve the intolerable situations. 88
He photographed the perilous streets, housing blight, 95
and alleyways. Then he wrote a book entitled 103
How the Other Half Lives. The book depicted slum 112
dwellings and abuses of lower-class urban life. It 121
was an effective tool for his cause. After reading the 131
book, Teddy Roosevelt, who was the New York Police 140
Commissioner at the time, called Riis and said, 148
“I have read your book, and I have come to help.” 159
It has been stated that Mr. Riis was “the most useful 170
citizen in America.” 173

Riis, now famous, pushed harder for reform. 180
Living conditions of tenement dwellers improved. 186
Drinking water was purified. Fewer people were 193
contracting cholera, yellow fever, and small pox. 200
His unrelenting efforts helped improve the lives of 208
people across the nation. 212

EVALUATING CODES FOR ORAL READING

sky (/) word read incorrectly
blue ^ sky (^) inserted word
(□) after the last word read

Comments:

FLUENCY SCORE

Number of Words
Read Per Minute: _____

Number of Errors: — _____

Number of Words
Read Correctly: _____

Passing Criterion
(50th %ile) = 127

Errors include: 1) words read incorrectly; 2) words left out or inserted; 3) mispronounced words; 4) dropped endings or sounds; and 5) reversals. Self-corrections and word repetitions are NOT marked as errors.

Passage #1

Refer to “General Directions for **One-Minute** Administration of Reading Passages.”

Say these specific directions to the student:

When I say “Begin,” start reading aloud at the top of this page. Read across the page (DEMONSTRATE BY POINTING). Try to read each word. If you come to a word you don’t know, I will say the word for you. Read as quickly and accurately as you can, but do not read SO fast that you make mistakes. Do your best reading.

Jackie Robinson excelled in sports at the University of California in Los Angeles. He played baseball, track, football, and basketball. He was the first athlete to letter in four sports in the same year at UCLA. This means he received four achievement awards in sports.

After leaving school, he was drafted into the army. While serving, he refused to sit in the back of a bus. He was protesting this common act of racial discrimination. Although he was almost court-martialed over his refusal, the charges were dropped.

Early in the last century, African-American athletes were not allowed to play professional baseball with Major League ball teams. In 1945 Branch Rickey, the general manager of the Brooklyn Dodgers, knew it was wrong. He also knew it would take an extremely unusual talent to overcome the long-standing race barrier. When one of his scouts told him about Jackie Robinson, Rickey was certain he had the right man. By hiring Jackie Robinson, he defied strong resistance.

Robinson signed on knowing he would face many hardships. Even some of his teammates hurled racial slurs at him. He had promised Rickey he would control his anger and not respond to the abuse. He kept his word.

Robinson played second base. Soon others would follow: Satchel Paige, Willie Mays, and Hank Aaron, the first hitter to beat Babe Ruth’s home run record. Each is a legend, but Jackie Robinson was the first to persevere and break the race barrier.

EVALUATING CODES FOR ORAL READING

sky (/) word read incorrectly
 blue ^ sky (^) inserted word
 (□) after the last word read

Comments:

FLUENCY SCORE

Number of Words
 Read Per Minute: _____

Number of Errors: — _____

Number of Words
 Read Correctly: _____

Passing Criterion
 (50th %ile) = 134

Errors include: 1) words read incorrectly; 2) words left out or inserted; 3) mispronounced words; 4) dropped endings or sounds; and 5) reversals. Self-corrections and word repetitions are NOT marked as errors.

Passage #2

Refer to “General Directions for **One-Minute** Administration of Reading Passages.”

Say these specific directions to the student:

When I say “Begin,” start reading aloud at the top of this page. Read across the page (DEMONSTRATE BY POINTING). Try to read each word. If you come to a word you don’t know, I will say the word for you. Read as quickly and accurately as you can, but do not read SO fast that you make mistakes. Do your best reading.

Ann Bancroft was born in 1955. She spent her early childhood in a rural area of Minnesota. Ann overcame a learning disability and graduated from college. She taught physical education and wilderness survival.

In 1986, Ann heard that a group was forming an expedition to the North Pole. She displayed her first risk-taking traits by becoming part of the six-member team.

The group was going to replicate the experiences of adventurers that had first traveled this cold and desolate land long ago. They wanted the journey to match the expedition of earlier explorers. The team had to be self-sufficient. Taking only what they needed, they used dogsleds and walked. No plans were made for additional supplies to be provided during their trek. Ann was the first woman to arrive at the North Pole under these primitive and arduous conditions. It took fifty-six days.

Ms. Bancroft has continued to explore. She became the first woman to ski across Greenland. She led the first team of women on a skiing odyssey over six hundred miles to the South Pole. Traveling about ten miles each day, the undertaking lasted sixty-seven days. Ann’s message to others: “Girls should go on thinking there is a world out there that is theirs for the taking.”

EVALUATING CODES FOR ORAL READING	
sky (l)	word read incorrectly
blue sky (^)	inserted word
(□)	after the last word read

Comments:

FLUENCY SCORE	
Number of Words	
Read Per Minute:	_____
Number of Errors:	— _____
Number of Words	
Read Correctly:	_____
Passing Criterion (50th %ile)	= <u>134</u>

Errors include: 1) words read incorrectly; 2) words left out or inserted; 3) mispronounced words; 4) dropped endings or sounds; and 5) reversals. Self-corrections and word repetitions are NOT marked as errors.

Passage #1

Refer to “General Directions for **One-Minute** Administration of Reading Passages.”

Say these specific directions to the student:

When I say “Begin,” start reading aloud at the top of this page. Read across the page (DEMONSTRATE BY POINTING). Try to read each word. If you come to a word you don’t know, I will say the word for you. Read as quickly and accurately as you can, but do not read SO fast that you make mistakes. Do your best reading.

The Louisiana Purchase in 1803 doubled the size of a young United States. Purchasing this vast, fertile land helped our country rise to world-power status. The events leading up to history’s largest peaceful land transfer are extremely interesting.

The sale of the Louisiana Territory to the United States by Napoleon was the result of a complex chain of events. France first claimed the land as its own. The French and Indian War shifted the balance of power among France, England, and Spain. At the end of the war in 1762, France gave the land to Spain. Forty years later, Spain began to decline as a world power. France again became interested in Louisiana. During secret talks, France convinced Spain to return the territory.

When news reached President Thomas Jefferson in the States, he conferred with France. He wanted to purchase New Orleans and Louisiana. The United States wanted this land. Many American settlers and merchants lived in the region.

France was having financial problems. It could no longer defend the territory. Napoleon talked officials into selling the entire area. The land was purchased for fifteen million dollars. This was a mere three cents an acre. Today, this region is often referred to as “the nation’s breadbasket.” It provides an abundance of the country’s food products.

EVALUATING CODES FOR ORAL READING

sky (/) word read incorrectly
 blue ^ sky (^) inserted word
 (□) after the last word read

Comments:

FLUENCY SCORE

Number of Words
 Read Per Minute: _____

Number of Errors: — _____

Number of Words
 Read Correctly: _____

Passing Criterion
 (50th %ile) = 140

Errors include: 1) words read incorrectly; 2) words left out or inserted; 3) mispronounced words; 4) dropped endings or sounds; and 5) reversals. Self-corrections and word repetitions are NOT marked as errors.

Passage #2

Refer to “General Directions for **One-Minute** Administration of Reading Passages.”

Say these specific directions to the student:

When I say “Begin,” start reading aloud at the top of this page. Read across the page (DEMONSTRATE BY POINTING). Try to read each word. If you come to a word you don’t know, I will say the word for you. Read as quickly and accurately as you can, but do not read SO fast that you make mistakes. Do your best reading.

In 1979, Jan Scruggs, an honored Vietnam War veteran, had an idea. The idea was to build a memorial. Its purpose was to honor the soldiers who had died during this unpopular war.

The following year, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund held a national design contest. Maya Lin, a young, talented woman was studying structural design and sculpture at Yale. She entered the contest. Her entry was a polished, black-granite, v-shaped wall. It was inscribed with the names of the 58,000 who had perished. Maya won the competition.

Some people felt the design was not suitable. They wanted a different tribute to the fallen heroes. Critics were split into supporters and opponents. Both sides were eventually satisfied. The parties agreed to erect a statue of three soldiers with a flag at the entrance.

The wall was completely funded through private donations. It has become one of our most valued monuments. People visit it daily seeking the names of friends and relatives who died. Photographs, flowers, and mementos are tearfully placed on the sidewalk in front of the wall. These items are kept and cataloged in a building near the site. A scaled-down version of the wall travels throughout the country. This allows people unable to visit Washington D.C. to see the names of their loved ones.

EVALUATING CODES FOR ORAL READING

sky (/) word read incorrectly
 blue sky (^) inserted word
 (□) after the last word read

Comments:

FLUENCY SCORE

Number of Words
 Read Per Minute: _____

Number of Errors: — _____

Number of Words
 Read Correctly: _____

Passing Criterion
 (50th %ile) = 140

Errors include: 1) words read incorrectly; 2) words left out or inserted; 3) mispronounced words; 4) dropped endings or sounds; and 5) reversals. Self-corrections and word repetitions are NOT marked as errors.

Passage #1

Refer to “General Directions for **One-Minute** Administration of Reading Passages.”

Say these specific directions to the student:

When I say “Begin,” start reading aloud at the top of this page. Read across the page (DEMONSTRATE BY POINTING). Try to read each word. If you come to a word you don’t know, I will say the word for you. Read as quickly and accurately as you can, but do not read SO fast that you make mistakes. Do your best reading.

Around 100 B.C., a tribe called the Anasazi lived in the desert regions of Arizona. Once they were a nomadic tribe. They eventually settled down and colonized. These people were thought to have a primitive culture. However, after examining their ancient society, scientists changed their minds.

These early people built amazing cities. Their dwellings indicated they had an advanced knowledge of architecture. Some of the buildings were three stories high and made from stone. One village had an arena and a ball court. Rooms for religious rites were built throughout their pueblos. Their artistic skills are amply displayed in stone drawings on caves and canyon walls.

The Anasazi’s ability to survive the blistering heat in the high desert plateau was also discovered. Their buildings had a clever structural design. Their homes were constructed above underground stone crevices. Air pockets in the fissures stored chilly night air that was released during the day. This created a highly efficient exchange of air. The cool breezes made afternoons bearable.

Anasazi were able to farm the arid land due to ash from an ancient volcano. Its porous properties retained moisture from scant rainfall. This residue covered eight hundred square miles. The tribe abandoned their adobe villages in the mid-twelfth century A.D. No one knows why. Some people think a severe, extended drought caused the departure. Fortunately, remains of their civilization were not destroyed.

EVALUATING CODES FOR ORAL READING	
sky (/)	word read incorrectly
blue (^)	inserted word
(□)	after the last word read

Comments:

FLUENCY SCORE	
Number of Words	
Read Per Minute:	_____
Number of Errors:	— _____
Number of Words	
Read Correctly:	_____
Passing Criterion (50th %ile)	= <u>144</u>

Errors include: 1) words read incorrectly; 2) words left out or inserted; 3) mispronounced words; 4) dropped endings or sounds; and 5) reversals. Self-corrections and word repetitions are NOT marked as errors.

Passage #2

Refer to “General Directions for **One-Minute** Administration of Reading Passages.”

Say these specific directions to the student:

When I say “Begin,” start reading aloud at the top of this page. Read across the page (DEMONSTRATE BY POINTING). Try to read each word. If you come to a word you don’t know, I will say the word for you. Read as quickly and accurately as you can, but do not read SO fast that you make mistakes. Do your best reading.

Who first discovered America? Usually, the credit goes to Christopher Columbus. In 1492, he landed on this continent and claimed he had found a new world. However, there are ample clues other explorers had reached the shores of North America before Columbus. Evidence suggests people from Asia were here prior to Columbus. Once, a shallow waterway linked the northern part of Asia to Alaska. People from Asia could have traveled between the two continents. Perhaps they were the first humans to have discovered this land. We know Vikings were aggressive explorers. A long-standing debate has taken place over a Viking map of Vinland. Carbon dating of this map suggests they arrived about fifty years before Columbus. Some claim this map is authentic; others say it is a forgery. Men from Portugal traveled to the New World. They sailed along the Atlantic coast. Strange symbols have been found on a massive landmark known as Dighton Rock. They are thought to have Portuguese origins. Are these writings proof these sailors explored America before Columbus? In the end, which country claims the honor of discovering America is a moot point. Native Americans had been here for thousands of years. They had settled in villages from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean. However, Columbus’s landing is regarded as the most historically important. Unlike the others, he set up two-way commerce between the Old World and the New World.

EVALUATING CODES FOR ORAL READING

sky (/) word read incorrectly
 blue ^ sky (^) inserted word
 (□) after the last word read

Comments:

FLUENCY SCORE

Number of Words
 Read Per Minute: _____

Number of Errors: — _____

Number of Words
 Read Correctly: _____

Passing Criterion
 (50th %ile) = 144

Errors include: 1) words read incorrectly; 2) words left out or inserted; 3) mispronounced words; 4) dropped endings or sounds; and 5) reversals. Self-corrections and word repetitions are NOT marked as errors.

Passage #1

Refer to “General Directions for **One-Minute** Administration of Reading Passages.”

Say these specific directions to the student:

When I say “Begin,” start reading aloud at the top of this page. Read across the page (DEMONSTRATE BY POINTING). Try to read each word. If you come to a word you don’t know, I will say the word for you. Read as quickly and accurately as you can, but do not read SO fast that you make mistakes. Do your best reading.

John Phillip Sousa is best remembered for his rousing, 9
 marching music. Known as “The March King,” his most 18
 famous composition is “Stars and Stripes Forever.” Never 26
 idle for long, Sousa composed one hundred thirty-six 35
 marches. He demonstrated his unusual talent as a young 44
 boy. When he was only thirteen years old, Sousa began an 55
 apprenticeship with the Marine Band in Washington, D.C. 63
 By age twenty-six, he had been appointed bandleader. 72
 The famous band was assigned to the president of the 82
 United States. This band still plays at official functions. 91
 Sousa was not just interested in marching bands; he 100
 enjoyed band concerts in theaters and invented a new kind 110
 of tuba. The large tuba was perfect for outdoor marching, 120
 but its blaring sound was too direct for concert halls. 130
 The tuba’s flared bell, angled parallel to the ground, sent 140
 sound forward. Concert halls required something different. 147
 Sousa designed a new brass instrument that was better 156
 suited for the stage. Then he had the new piece manufac- 167
 tured. It was a circular tuba with a bell facing upward. 177
 The sound was sent toward the ceiling instead of into the 188
 audience. It became known as the sousaphone in honor of 198
 its inventor. 200
 During his lifetime, Sousa received several honorary 207
 degrees and fought for music education and composers’ 215
 rights. He continued to tour and conduct his own band 225
 until the age of 77. 230

EVALUATING CODES FOR ORAL READING	
sky (/)	word read incorrectly
blue sky (^)	inserted word
(□)	after the last word read

Comments:

FLUENCY SCORE	
Number of Words	
Read Per Minute:	_____
Number of Errors:	— _____
Number of Words	
Read Correctly:	_____
Passing Criterion (50th %ile)	= <u>147</u>

Errors include: 1) words read incorrectly; 2) words left out or inserted; 3) mispronounced words; 4) dropped endings or sounds; and 5) reversals. Self-corrections and word repetitions are NOT marked as errors.

Passage #2

Refer to “General Directions for **One-Minute** Administration of Reading Passages.”

Say these specific directions to the student:

When I say “Begin,” start reading aloud at the top of this page. Read across the page (DEMONSTRATE BY POINTING). Try to read each word. If you come to a word you don’t know, I will say the word for you. Read as quickly and accurately as you can, but do not read SO fast that you make mistakes. Do your best reading.

The life of Stephen Foster, like the lives of many talented people in history, has become embedded in folklore. Before he was thirty, Foster had written and published many songs. He was a popular musical genius. He lived in the era of slavery and musical shows. Foster tried to write songs that could be appreciated by all people. He accomplished this impressive feat by composing songs with lyrics that touched the hearts of young and old. His first big hit was “Oh! Susanna.” Songs such as “Jeannie with the Light Brown Hair,” “My Old Kentucky Home,” and “Old Folks at Home” became familiar favorites.

During his lifetime, no copyright laws existed. Composers were not protected from other people stealing their work. Musicians were allowed to rewrite any composer’s song. All they had to do was create a new or different musical arrangement.

Foster realized people were infringing on the ownership of his compositions. So, he would sometimes write his own contracts. At that time, this was a practice considered highly unusual.

Publishing houses also took advantage of him. They made one-time, buy-out payments for his songs. Steven Foster died penniless. Had current copyright laws been in place at the time, he would have received millions of dollars for his creative talents.

EVALUATING CODES FOR ORAL READING

sky (/) word read incorrectly
 blue ^ sky (^) inserted word
 (□) after the last word read

Comments:

FLUENCY SCORE

Number of Words
 Read Per Minute: _____

Number of Errors: — _____

Number of Words
 Read Correctly: _____

Passing Criterion
 (50th %ile) = 147

Errors include: 1) words read incorrectly; 2) words left out or inserted; 3) mispronounced words; 4) dropped endings or sounds; and 5) reversals. Self-corrections and word repetitions are NOT marked as errors.

Passage #1

Refer to “General Directions for **One-Minute** Administration of Reading Passages.”

Say these specific directions to the student:

When I say “Begin,” start reading aloud at the top of this page. Read across the page (DEMONSTRATE BY POINTING). Try to read each word. If you come to a word you don’t know, I will say the word for you. Read as quickly and accurately as you can, but do not read SO fast that you make mistakes. Do your best reading.

When most people speak about rain forests, 7
 they refer to the lush, tropical regions in the jungles 17
 near the equator. People seldom mention the dense, 25
 temperate rain forests located along the Pacific coast. 33
 This forest ranges from Alaska to Oregon. Here 41
 warm, moist air from the Pacific Ocean drops up to 51
 sixteen feet of rain in a single year. 59
 Let us examine a few differences between 66
 temperate and tropical rain forests. Both ecosystems 73
 receive a great deal of rain. Tropical forests have rain 83
 evenly spread throughout the year. Strong shower 90
 bursts occur frequently. In contrast, temperate rain 97
 forests have lengthy wet seasons and fairly dry 105
 summers. Fog provides the necessary moisture for 112
 plants during the summer. 116
 A tropical rain forest has three layers: the forest 125
 floor, the understory, and the canopy. It is home for 135
 well over half of the earth’s plant and animal species. 145
 The poor soil supports a wealth of vines, climbing 154
 plants, and broad-leafed evergreens. The temperate 161
 rain forest has a less complex ecology. Its cool 170
 winters limit the numbers and variety of life forms 179
 that survive there. The most common trees are 187
 evergreens. 188
 Tropical rain forests are more fragile than 195
 temperate rain forests. However, both forests are 202
 threatened. Once they are destroyed, it will take 210
 years for these ecosystems to revive. 216

EVALUATING CODES FOR ORAL READING	
sky (/)	word read incorrectly
blue ^ sky (^)	inserted word
	(□) after the last word read

Comments:

FLUENCY SCORE	
Number of Words	
Read Per Minute:	_____
Number of Errors:	— _____
Number of Words	
Read Correctly:	_____
Passing Criterion	
(50th %ile)	= <u>150</u>

Errors include: 1) words read incorrectly; 2) words left out or inserted; 3) mispronounced words; 4) dropped endings or sounds; and 5) reversals. Self-corrections and word repetitions are NOT marked as errors.

Passage #2

Refer to “General Directions for **One-Minute** Administration of Reading Passages.”

Say these specific directions to the student:

When I say “Begin,” start reading aloud at the top of this page. Read across the page (DEMONSTRATE BY POINTING). Try to read each word. If you come to a word you don’t know, I will say the word for you. Read as quickly and accurately as you can, but do not read SO fast that you make mistakes. Do your best reading.

The bison, native to North America, is also called a buffalo. The powerful male is twice the weight of the female. It measures over six feet tall at its shoulders and weighs nearly a ton. The bison’s shaggy, brown fur grows longest on the animal’s head, neck, and shoulders; a straggling beard hangs from its chin. Both male and female have short, curving horns. Despite their massive size, buffalo are agile runners, capable of sprinting up to thirty-five miles an hour.

Herds of buffalo were rapidly dying by the early 1800s. Once, the animals numbered over sixty million. People were pushing across the continent. The herds had to compete with the settlers. They were turning the animals’ grazing grounds into farmland. The westward expansion encroached upon the buffalo’s habitat. Building the railroad from the Atlantic to Pacific Ocean made the buffalo’s demise certain. Organized hunting parties killed this huge mammal for sport. People shot the animal from trains as they passed through its territory.

Some settlers were concerned. They thought the slaughter of the buffalo might also wipe out Native Americans. Bison were an important staple and their main source of protein. They used the hides for clothing, blankets, and shelter. In 1885, fewer than nine hundred buffalo remained on the plains. Cattlemen became alarmed. So people created refuges to save the animals. Today, herds number around 200,000. Hopefully, the buffalo will endure for future generations to enjoy.

EVALUATING CODES FOR ORAL READING

~~sky~~ (/) word read incorrectly

blue
^ sky (^) inserted word

(□) after the last word read

Comments:

FLUENCY SCORE

Number of Words
Read Per Minute: _____

Number of Errors: — _____

Number of Words
Read Correctly: _____

Passing Criterion
(50th %ile) = 150

Errors include: 1) words read incorrectly; 2) words left out or inserted; 3) mispronounced words; 4) dropped endings or sounds; and 5) reversals. Self-corrections and word repetitions are NOT marked as errors.

First Edition

© 2008 Reading Lions Center

**Unauthorized reproduction of this booklet, or any part thereof, is strictly prohibited.
Permission to reproduce materials must be obtained in writing from the Reading Lions Center.**