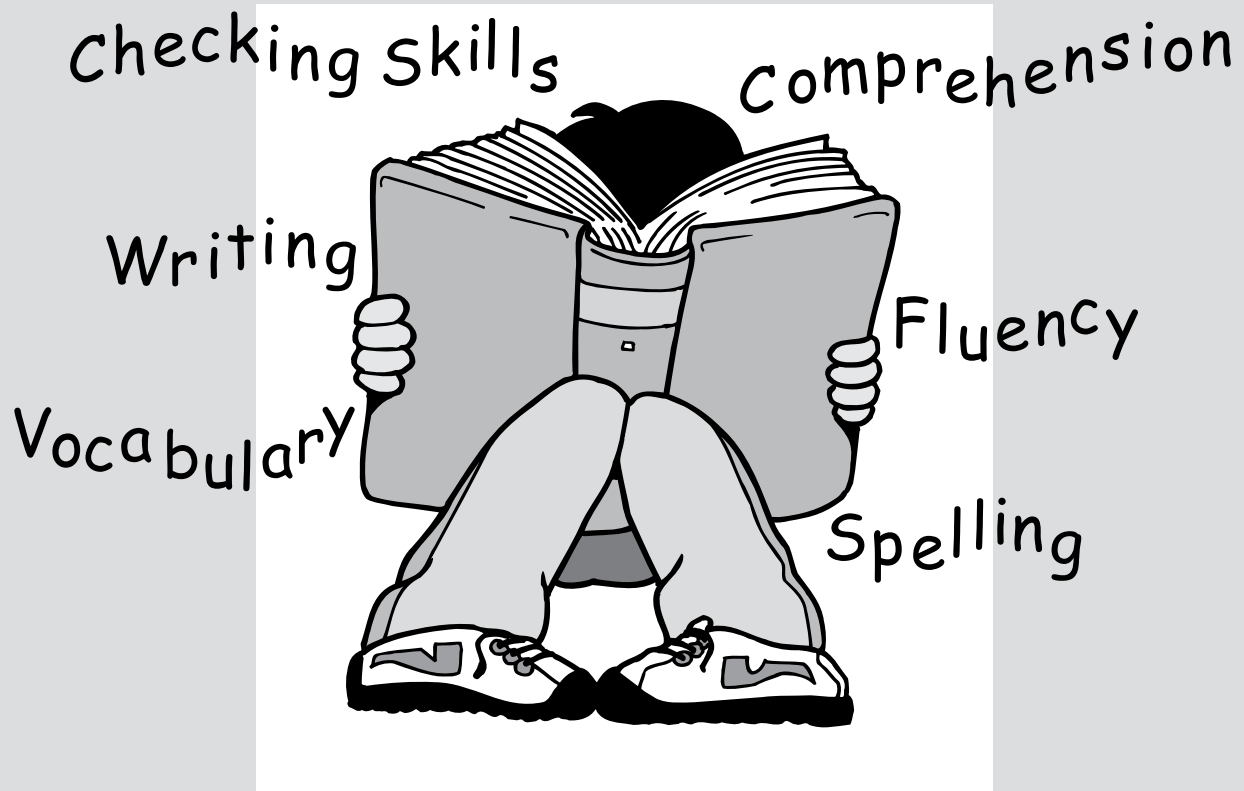


# STUDENT TEST BOOKLET

6-8 Week Skills Assessments Developed for  
Districts Using *Houghton Mifflin Reading*



## GRADE 2 Theme 1

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

**DIRECTIONS:** Read the story carefully. Then read each question and fill in the bubble next to the correct answer.

## Buried Treasure

*by Annie Gage*

On the day we found the treasure, the air was cold. It had been raining a lot.

“Time to put the garden to bed, Amy,” said Mama.

“Do we have to cover it with blankets?” I asked.

Mama smiled. “Sort of,” she said. “We need to cover the garden with leaves.”

I ran across the wet lawn. *Squish, squash, plosh,* said my boots in the soaking grass. Mama opened the shed. She balanced her big rake on the wheelbarrow. I put on my gardening gloves. Then I picked up my little rake.

Most of the leaves had fallen off our trees. Mama and I began raking. I used my hands and the rake to scoop up the leaves. I put the leaves into the wheelbarrow to join the pile Mama had started.

*Now answer the questions about this part of the story.*

1. What does Mama mean when she says, “Time to put the garden to bed, Amy”?
  - A. The garden was wet.
  - B. They had to cover the garden with leaves.
  - C. Leaves had fallen off the trees.
  
2. Amy’s boots squished in the **soaking** grass.  
What does **soaking** mean?
  - A. wet
  - B. cold
  - C. dry

Whenever the wheelbarrow was full, Mama and I wheeled the load to the flower garden and dumped out the leaves. The piles were high! We spread them around. Every inch of dirt was covered.

After five trips from the trees to the flowerbeds, the lawn was bare. “Mama!” I said. “We’ve used up all the leaves under the trees!”

“Yes,” Mama answered, “We still have the whole vegetable garden to tuck in for the winter. I wonder what we should do.”

I looked around the neighborhood. Leaves had fallen onto the road. They lay clumped in the gutters. I pointed at them and asked, “Can we use those?”

Mama laughed. “Of course we can, Amy! What a great idea.”

*Now answer the questions about this part of the story.*

3. When the wheelbarrow was full, what did they do?

- A. They walked around the neighborhood.
- B. They put the leaves in the flower garden.
- C. They played in the leaves.

4. How many trips did Amy and Mama make from the trees to the flowerbed?

- A. seven
- B. five
- C. four

5. Where did Amy and Mama get more leaves for the vegetable garden?

- A. from the flowerbed
- B. from the trees
- C. from the gutters

Watching carefully for cars, we leaned over the curb. Then we raked the leaves out of the gutters. The leaves had been soaking in rainfall for so long they were mushy. A few times, a sour smell rose up from the rot.

“It’s an icky smell for our noses,” Mama said, “But it’s a good smell for the yard. When leaves decompose in dirt, they help feed the soil.”

When we got to the bottom of each leaf pile, our rakes scraped the concrete. The rakes made a loud scratching noise. That is when we found the treasure.

“Oh my goodness!” Mama shouted.

“What is it, Mama? Is something wrong? I asked.

“No, honey, something’s right,” she said.

I looked at the gutter. Under the soggy, rotten leaves were many earthworms. There were so many some had become tangled together in knots.

“Earthworms are good for the soil,” Mama said.

“They make tunnels that help the earth get more oxygen.”

*Now answer the questions about this part of the story.*

6. The leaves smelled sour because

- A. they were wet and rotten.
- B. they were dry.
- C. they were dirty.

7. Mama thought earthworms were helpful because they

- A. can tangle in knots.
- B. help the earth get oxygen.
- C. live in the soil.

“Can we move the worms into our garden?” I asked.

“Good idea,” said Mama. “They will make the soil even healthier for growing flowers and vegetables.”

We found more earthworms under the wet gutter leaves. I carried the worms to the gardens in a little shovel called a trowel. We were just about finished when it was my turn to shout.

“Oooh!” I screamed. “Mama, it’s huge!” There in front of me was the longest, fattest earthworm I had ever seen. It almost looked like a snake.

“That’s a night crawler, Amy,” Mama explained. “It’s just a big earthworm.”

“It sure surprised me!” I said.

After that, I was ready to go inside. So was Mama. All of our gardens’ bare spots were covered with leaves. We had moved all of the earthworms we could find.

“After such hard work,” Mama said, “I think it’s time for the earthworm gardeners to have a special treat. How would you like some watery mud with dirt clods on the side?”

Hot chocolate and brownies had never tasted better.

*Now answer the questions about this part of the story.*



8. In the story, Amy learned

- A. how to rake leaves.
- B. how to make hot chocolate and brownies.
- C. earthworms make soil healthier.

9. A **trowel** is a

- A. night crawler.
- B. rake.
- C. little shovel.

10. In the story, did Amy really eat mud and dirt clods?

- A. No, she had hot chocolate and brownies.
- B. Yes, she used to eat mud when she was little.
- C. No, she just let her mother think she ate them.

TOTAL SCORE: ____/10
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Write **Yes** or **No** on the line to tell whether or not each group of words is a sentence.

1. A balanced diet. \_\_\_\_\_
2. He sat by his car. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Mother bought fruits and vegetables. \_\_\_\_\_
4. Scratched his big head. \_\_\_\_\_

Underline the **naming** part of each sentence.

5. Granddaddy brought a special pet.
6. The pig ate too much food.
7. Julius would play with Maya.

Underline the **action** parts of each sentence.

8. All the animals raced up the stairs.
  
9. The floor and windows began to shake and quake.
  
10. A cow, two pigs, three ducks, and a yak played for hours.

TOTAL SCORE: \_\_\_\_/10

**DIRECTIONS:** Read all of the sentences. Decide which one of the underlined words is misspelled. Then fill in the bubble next to the answer.

1.  A. We wondered what was shakeing the house.
  - B. Father's plane was landing at noon.
  - C. We watched the raft as it began sinking.
  - D. My tooth was loose after biting into my sandwich.
2.  A. We watched the fox chase the rabbit across the meadow.
  - B. You may skate at the park or on the sidewalk.
  - C. The robin mad a nest in the tree.
  - D. The chipmunk gathered acorns for the winter.
3.  A. Stan in line quietly while waiting to go outside.
  - B. My mother likes her blue, silk blouse.
  - C. There is a black spot on my shirt.
  - D. We slept in a tent on our camping trip.
4.  A. Are you leaving town today?
  - B. I saw a cute, grey mowse.
  - C. Is this your house?
  - D. Mrs. Brown wrote a letter to a friend.
5.  A. The crowd began to clap when the game ended.
  - B. The feather pillow was soft and fluffy.
  - C. I wint to the hospital to visit my sick friend.
  - D. This will be my second trip to the ocean.

6.  A. Always write your name on your paper.
- B. Turn off all the lihts in the house when you leave.
- C. My jeans were one size too small.
- D. Look at the bright, new flag.
7.  A. My mother sings a song to me each night.
- B. Use a pen with red ink to proofread your work.
- C. There are only a few cookies lefd on the tray.
- D. Don't forget to mail Granddad's gift today.
8.  A. Aunts, uncles, and cousins came to the picnec.
- B. We watched as the sunset turned a brilliant orange.
- C. The raccoon looked like a bandit creeping into our yard.
- D. Children held hands and formed a circle.
9.  A. Papa Bear's porridge was too hot to eat.
- B. As she ran along the shore, the sand felt cool on her bare feet.
- C. We'll need flour to bake bread.
- D. Colorful flours bloom in the spring.
10.  A. Did you go for a ride on your bik today?
- B. The winner of the coin toss picks the side of the field.
- C. Grandmother baked a cherry pie.
- D. A pleasant smile is a nice way to begin the day.

TOTAL SCORE: _____/10
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**PART 1 — Antonyms**

**DIRECTIONS:** Read the sentence. Choose the word that means the **opposite** of the underlined word. Then fill in the bubble next to the word you have chosen.

1. The commotion from the birthday party woke the baby.
  - A. feathers
  - B. calmness
  - C. excitement
  - D. noise
  
2. The ranger released the bear into the forest.
  - A. captured
  - B. slurped
  - C. voted
  - D. freed
  
3. The plane’s cargo was balanced so it could take off.
  - A. felt
  - B. even
  - C. uneven
  - D. downed

**PART 2 — Multiple Meanings**

**DIRECTIONS:** Read the sentence. Read and answer the question. Fill in the bubble next to the answer you have chosen.

4. Everyone was charged the same price for the movie tickets.

In which sentence is the word charged used **in the same way** as in the sentence above?

- A. Baseball fans were charged with energy when their team scored a run.
  - B. The man was charged with speeding on the freeway.
  - C. The storekeeper charged mother only one dollar for the loaf of bread.
  - D. Soccer players charged onto the field for the championship game.
- 
5. He tried to pull the logs up the long, steep hill.
- In which sentence is the word steep used **in the same way** as in the sentence above?
- A. You will have a tasty drink if you steep oranges and spices in hot apple cider.
  - B. There was a steep rise in the number of children absent from school this week.
  - C. I can’t afford to buy that jacket because the price is too steep.
  - D. The hiker’s legs hurt after walking up the steep path.

## PART 3 — Context Meaning

**DIRECTIONS:** Read the sentence. Using context, choose the word that means the **same**, or **about the same**, as the underlined word. Then fill in the bubble next to the word you have chosen.

6. We crammed our backpacks full of food and water for the long hike.
- A. stuffed
- B. voted
- C. emptied
- D. moved
7. We spent hours getting prepared for our vacation.
- A. crunched
- B. ready
- C. cozy
- D. chimes

## PART 4 — Synonyms

**DIRECTIONS:** Read the sentence. Choose the word that means the **same**, or **about the same**, as the underlined word. Then fill in the bubble next to the word you have chosen.

8. The mailman delivered the package to the school on time.
- A. protected
- B. brought
- C. spread
- D. cruised
9. The hungry, stray dog dug through the garbage can.
- A. tired
- B. starving
- C. polite
- D. hobbled
10. The painting was a very good imitation.
- A. record
- B. pantry
- C. surprise
- D. copy

TOTAL SCORE: _____/10
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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.*

Jenny was in a hurry. She skipped down 8  
the block and jumped over a puddle. She ran 17  
up the path and around the hedge. Saturday 25  
morning was story time at Grandma’s. 31  
Several of Jenny’s relatives would be there. 38  
She didn’t want to be late. It was almost ten 48  
o’clock. 49  
When Jenny reached the porch, she 55  
knocked on the oak door. She heard someone 63  
turn the doorknob. Paul, her favorite cousin, 70  
opened it. “Am I late?” asked Jenny. 77  
“No,” said Paul. “But you are the last to 86  
arrive. Let’s join the others.” 91  
Story time was usually held on the back 99  
porch. Last night it had rained. It was cold 108  
outside, so they agreed to meet in the house. 117  
They sat by the cozy fireplace in the living 126  
room. Some drank hot chocolate while they 133  
listened to the stories. 137  
Jenny clung to her book. She read the 145  
first story from her school reader. Then each 153  
of her cousins took turns reading their stories. 161  
After that, grandmother told them a funny 168  
tale. The children enjoyed hearing about life 175  
on the farm. 178

**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) = 53

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.

It was Monday evening. Rob was waiting 7  
 for his dad to get home. As usual, they would 17  
 trade stories after eating dinner. First, Rob 24  
 read from his book. Then his father told 32  
 stories about childhood baseball games. 37  
 He always loved to play on the corner lot. 46  
 Sometimes, his father told tall tales. Rob liked 54  
 both kinds of stories. Today, Rob had a good 63  
 story to read to his dad. It was about an old 74  
 fur trader. 76  
 Just then his dad came through the 83  
 kitchen door. “What story will you tell me 91  
 tonight?” asked Rob. 94  
 His father said he wasn’t sure. “Maybe I’ll 102  
 share a very exciting story about the time my 111  
 friends and I won a ball game. The prize was 121  
 free tickets to a Cubs game.” 127  
 After a quick family meal, the two sat 135  
 down. Rob took his book from his backpack. 143  
 He eagerly began reading about the fur 150  
 trader. When he finished reading, he closed 157  
 his book. Now he was ready to listen to his 167  
 dad’s baseball story. 170

**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)       =     53

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.

## Narrative Writing Prompt

**Writing Situation:** You are thinking of writing a story about magic shoes.

**Purpose:** To entertain

**Audience:** Your classmates

**Writing Directions:** Write a make-believe story about a character who finds a pair of magic shoes. Make an idea web before you begin writing your story.

### Student Checklist:

<b>Revising</b>
<p>___ Does your beginning tell when and where your story takes place?</p> <p>___ Did you give details that describe the main character?</p> <p>___ Does the middle of your story tell the main events?</p> <p>___ Are the events in your story in order?</p> <p>___ Do you have an ending to your story?</p> <p>___ Do you have complete sentences?</p>
<b>Proofreading</b>
<p>___ Did you capitalize proper nouns and the beginnings of sentences?</p> <p>___ Did you end all sentences with the correct punctuation?</p> <p>___ Did you spell all words correctly?</p> <p>___ Did you indent paragraphs?</p>

Conventions Score: _____/4 Genre Score: _____/4 Writing Traits Score: _____/4	<b>TOTAL RUBRIC SCORE:</b> _____/4
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# NOTES

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**Sixth Edition**

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