The Reading Placement Inventory has been developed to assist parents/guardians in making educational placement decisions for their child when enrolling her or him in the K12 curriculum. This is a short assessment that measures a child’s ability to read and understand text. While this inventory is not an exact measure of your child’s level of reading comprehension, the results can be used to help guide you in making the decision as to which grade to enroll your child.

The Reading Placement Inventory, like any other test, is just one source of evidence about a reader’s level of comprehension. Decisions about reading placement are best made by using multiple sources of information. To decide on the right program, you should consider information from other tests your child has taken, reports from teachers, reading group placement, lists of books your child has read successfully, and, more importantly, your judgment.

Use the information on page 10 of this booklet when making a grade placement decision for your child.

**Test Administration Directions**

1. Before administering the Reading Placement Inventory, please familiarize yourself with this manual and the test.

   Take a moment to read and answer the test questions.

   You should test your child when he or she is well rested and has adequate time to complete the test in a relaxed manner. The test should be administered in a well-lighted area that is comfortable for the child (e.g., dinning room or kitchen table). The location should also be free of distractions and interruptions.

2. Talk with your child about the Reading Placement Inventory.

   The purpose of this test is to learn more about your child’s reading skills. The test measures reading comprehension skills by asking the child to read an incomplete sentence and select the word that best completes the sentence. Your child will select the best word by circling the letter next to the word.

   This test is un-timed. You can plan on about 20 to 30 minutes to complete the test.
Test Administration Directions (continued)

3. Have your child complete the sample questions on page 4. You can read the sentences to the child to help him or her understand the directions.

*Read to your child:* Read each sentence and the four words beside it. Choose the word that best completes the sentence. Circle the letter next to your answer choice. Remember, only circle one correct answer for each question.

Read the first sentence below “Sample Question 1.” Choose the best word to fill in the blank. Circle the letter next to the word. [pause]

Now, read the sentence below “Sample Question 2.” Choose the best word to fill in the blank. Circle the letter next to the word.

Talk with your child about the correct answers and make sure that your child understands how to indicate his or her answer. The correct answer for Sample Question 1 is “A” and the correct answer for Sample Question 2 is “C.”

4. Now go to the actual test that begins on page 5.

*Read to your child:* Read each sentence and the four words beside it. Choose the word that best completes the sentence. Circle the letter next to your answer choice. Answer as many questions as you can. Remember, only circle one correct answer for each question.

Remember, you should let your child answer the questions on their own, without assistance. This test is designed to measure your child’s level of reading comprehension.

5. After your child has completed the Reading Placement Inventory, go to page 9 for information about scoring the test and using the results.
Sample Questions

Sample Question 1

We eat our _____.
A. food
B. fool
C. flood
D. foot

Sample Question 2

They _____ the fish tank with water.
A. watch
B. crack
C. fill
D. repair
Reading Placement Inventory
Grade 4 Form A

1. The _____ watched for a stray lamb, but the dog kept the herd together.
   A. force
   B. wolf
   C. listen
   D. wigwam

2. The people of Centerville voted yesterday on the _____ for a Main Street mall.
   A. undertook
   B. slippers
   C. velvet
   D. proposal

3. It was the opening of the 1947 World Series and I was the first _____ player to participate.
   A. screening
   B. supper
   C. black
   D. marks

4. When Arion sang for his sailor friends, _____ came from all directions to hear him.
   A. dolphins
   B. dartboard
   C. conceal
   D. inkwell

5. Many dolphins can _____ human speech patterns without being trained.
   A. imitate
   B. table
   C. remain
   D. turkey

6. Carlos had been in New York for five _____ and he missed Puerto Rico more each day.
   A. accept
   B. willows
   C. elbows
   D. months

7. If you become ill, your body _____ different antibodies to help you quickly recover.
   A. dollar
   B. feathers
   C. produces
   D. settles
8. More than sixty thousand wild parrots are caught and _____ for pets each year.
   A. deer  B. sold  C. hopes  D. circle

9. Distance in Nepal, which has eight of the world’s ten highest _____, is given in hours, not miles.
   A. passports  B. scarlet  C. percentage  D. mountains

10. In places, the fallen leaves lay so thick they _____ the shrubbery and reached the knees of Diana’s dog.
    A. distrusted  B. habitat  C. cluster  D. covered

11. Jeb often changed his disguise after General Sheridan’s troops started to _____ the roads.
    A. dumped  B. plants  C. patrol  D. address

12. As a teenager, I believe young people can take their knocks and solve their _____ like adults.
    A. problems  B. swerved  C. predicted  D. meadows

13. “You poor thing,” the wealthy woman exclaimed, “the necklace you borrowed was an _____, it was made of paste!”
    A. explained  B. arranging  C. imitation  D. occasional

14. Why did people during the Middle Ages build _____ of stone with moats and drawbridges?
    A. forget  B. pretty  C. homesick  D. castles

15. In 1707, Mount Fuji suddenly _____ violently, leaving Tokyo covered with six inches of ash.
    A. stinger  B. parallels  C. erupted  D. machine
16. Her “generous” offer of a free Bahamas _____ was merely a come-on to get us to listen to the company’s sales pitch.
   A. advance  
   B. vacation  
   C. latitude  
   D. intertwined

17. The villagers were _____ about the astronomer’s “time machine,” and how he could look both outward into space and backward into the past.
   A. rubbish  
   B. talking  
   C. initial  
   D. shrugged

18. The small statue of the Empire State Building that Emanuel’s great aunt gave him was his only _____ of his visit to New York.
   A. popcorn  
   B. giraffe  
   C. succeed  
   D. memory

19. Because rhinos have bad sight, they depend almost entirely on their _____ of smell and hearing to detect danger.
   A. senses  
   B. marked  
   C. bowstring  
   D. searched

20. From the boat, we took pictures of sea birds _____ on big pelicans, waiting to catch a ride wherever the pelicans flew.
   A. pancake  
   B. cripple  
   C. standing  
   D. meadow

21. Clams, scallops, and oysters, which are the types of _____ we usually eat, have two shells hinged together.
   A. compose  
   B. mollusks  
   C. square  
   D. devour

22. Emily Dickinson was in her thirties when she secluded herself from her friends and the world and secretly wrote hundreds of poems _____ after she died.
   A. lanky  
   B. discovered  
   C. blustered  
   D. upgraded

23. He had a burning _____ to be president some day, not for the love of his fellow man, but because he wanted to get back at all those people who had ridiculed him.
   A. influence  
   B. comfort  
   C. desire  
   D. litigation
24. The Bactrian camel, who is the only wild two-humped camel in the world, lives in the Gobi Desert, where the camel goes for long periods without _____.

   A. water
   B. limestone
   C. spaceships
   D. frankness

25. The face of the grandmother at the _____ looked ghastly even when her expression changed from wonder to grief as she comprehended the death of her youngest and favorite grandson.

   A. consult
   B. adult
   C. vantage
   D. funeral
Scoring the Reading Placement Inventory

Use the answer key below to score the test. Count the number of questions that your child answered correctly. Refer to the chart at the bottom of the page for suggested grade placement within the K12 curriculum.

Answer Key—Grade 4, Form A

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question Number</th>
<th>Correct Answer</th>
<th>Question Number</th>
<th>Correct Answer</th>
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<tr>
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<td>D</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>C</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>16</td>
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<td>B</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>C</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
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<td>A</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>D</td>
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Recommended Grade Placement

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<th># of Correct Responses</th>
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<th>Grade 4</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0 to 17</td>
<td></td>
<td>18 to 25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Using the Results from the Reading Placement Inventory

To determine your child’s grade placement, consider all of the following:

☐ The grade my child would be in if he or she were to attend public school this year.

☐ The suggested grade placement for my child from the Reading Placement Inventory.

☐ How my child reads aloud from a book that he or she has read before.
  • Is he able to read the text and explain what is happening in the story?
  • Can she pronounce at least 80% of the words correctly without prompting?

☐ How my child reads aloud from a book that he or she has not read before.
  • Can she pronounce at least 50% of the words correctly without prompting?
  • Can he explain what is happening in the story?