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
1. In early spring we start to look for the tulips we _____ as bulbs in the fall.
   A. diesel
   B. rocks
   C. salted
   D. planted

2. Each year the people of Hawaii hold a _____ to honor Kamehameha, the first great king of the islands.
   A. festival
   B. recognize
   C. contribute
   D. process

3. Eagles hunt snakes, small _____, and other birds up to the size of small turkeys.
   A. embark
   B. toxic
   C. mammals
   D. oxcart

4. When my dog is hungry, she _____ every command to sit and stay until I feed her.
   A. pound
   B. obeys
   C. sidelines
   D. recruit

5. Lit up by the moon, the lake looked celestial, catching the _____ of a thousand glittering stars.
   A. wildflowers
   B. bananas
   C. reflections
   D. imported

6. She woke up in a flood of bright light _____ by shadowy figures who talked in strange voices.
   A. surrounded
   B. washer
   C. earshot
   D. faucets
7. Ice helps _____ food because the cold temperature causes bacteria to become less active.
   A. raffle
   B. overflow
   C. floral
   D. preserve

8. As the graduation speaker _____ on and on, Jenny looked at her watch for the twentieth time and thought of all she wanted to become.
   A. equated
   B. droned
   C. bombard
   D. fiction

9. The room was dark, so dark that even after giving her eyes a while to accustom themselves to the _____, she still could see nothing.
   A. distrust
   B. blackness
   C. smoothness
   D. cluster

10. If you put a pencil in a glass half-filled with water, the submerged end of the pencil seems _____ from the half above the water.
    A. gesture
    B. curious
    C. barren
    D. separated

11. The first control of traffic was done by foot patrolmen who _____ with their hands before they had hand-controlled traffic signals.
    A. compiled
    B. directed
    C. perfumed
    D. replenished

12. The word “igloo” brings to my _____ visions of dog sleds, endless nights and fishing through holes in the ice.
    A. wrapping
    B. relevant
    C. mind
    D. recycle

13. The tour guide in Yosemite National Park watched the _____ closely and threatened to fine them if they continued to pick wildflowers.
    A. station
    B. perish
    C. girls
    D. vanquish
14. Many times young people injure themselves in a single thoughtless lie that results in the permanent loss of _____ of other people.
   A. respect  
   B. alarmed  
   C. addressed  
   D. movement

15. When Patrick Henry in his speech against the Stamp Act said, “Caesar has his Brutus,” he _____ the Americans could overthrow King George.
   A. quivered  
   B. decent  
   C. implied  
   D. discarded

16. Janis _____ paper, paints and paste and set to work to make her own Christmas cards with a snow scene and greeting.
   A. interfered  
   B. assembled  
   C. interred  
   D. advanced

17. Detectives such as Sherlock Holmes always solve the mystery because no one else can break the secret code or _____ the clues.
   A. diagnosis  
   B. immune  
   C. calculator  
   D. analyze

18. Whoever made the miles of giant, straight lines and the _____ from rocks found on the plateau in southern Peru continues to remain a mystery.
   A. nature  
   B. designs  
   C. disguised  
   D. pastels

19. “If you wanted Henry’s truck,” she said, her _____ becoming shriller as she got even more angry, “why didn’t just you buy it instead of asking my father?”
   A. servant  
   B. mangle  
   C. discourage  
   D. voice

20. Because of the high cost of butter fats, _____ are made from animal or vegetable fats flavored to taste like butter.
   A. resentment  
   B. wreckage  
   C. substitutions  
   D. reaction
21. When Grandfather would say “It takes a heap of living in a house to make a home,” I only half understood until the twister _____ our neighbor’s house.
   A. destroyed  
   B. octopus  
   C. postage  
   D. fastener

22. The _____ through the treetops focused on the sparrows pecking nervously in the grass, and left hidden the cat that lurked nearer and nearer the edge of the shadows.
   A. sunlight  
   B. piercing  
   C. nullify  
   D. chimps

23. When Joan of Arc was thirteen, she began to hear “voices” which she said told her that she must bring _____ to France by having Dauphin Charles, heir to the throne, crowned king.
   A. latitude  
   B. glittering  
   C. peace  
   D. compliment

24. In the wood yard, I walked through a raging _____ between red ants and black ants that were much larger but frequently outnumbered two-to-one by the smaller red enemy.
   A. occurring  
   B. battle  
   C. antagonize  
   D. hinder

25. Even though the furniture in the log cabin was adequate, it was _____ and sparse, and much of it was built-in, such as bookcases, bunk-type beds and even the televisions which were set in the walls.
   A. afternoon  
   B. contribute  
   C. substance  
   D. practical
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 5, Form A

<table>
<thead>
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<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>14</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>C</td>
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<td>7</td>
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Recommended Grade Placement

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<th>Grade 5</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td># of Correct Responses</td>
<td>0 to 18</td>
<td>19 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?