Reading Placement Inventory

Developed for—
K12
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McLean, VA 22102
www.k12.com

Developed by—
DSI, Inc.
Richmond, VA
in conjunction with MetaMetrics, Inc.

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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 course/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 course/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. The greeting cards and gifts that her friends from school had sent only made Juanita feel more _____.
   A. sunshine
   B. electives
   C. lonely
   D. contribution

2. When Mark was four, his _____ moved to Hawaii and they lived close to the beach where he went every day to play.
   A. wrinkle
   B. theory
   C. family
   D. trumpet

3. Ancient Egyptians called their _____ the “gift of the Nile” because the yearly floods brought rich soil.
   A. country
   B. restaurant
   C. pondered
   D. argued

4. Sometimes we use letters to stand for numbers, but this is done only when everyone knows what each letter _____.
   A. designation
   B. admires
   C. evidence
   D. represents

5. My cousin said, “I’m going to bring some ghosts right into this _____,” which she did when I let my eyes trick me.
   A. massive
   B. room
   C. powder
   D. whisper

6. Business letters are addressed to people with no time to _____ so always present your facts as quickly and accurately as possible.
   A. secret
   B. remarkable
   C. waste
   D. crisscross
7. Ivan Pavlov wanted to see if an animal could be trained to _____ a particular reaction, such as drooling, to a sound.
   A. appearance  
   B. muscular  
   C. realization  
   D. connect

8. Every time my little sister’s friend chose a _____, it was either *Cinderella* or certain stories about Winnie-the-Pooh that she had almost memorized.
   A. purple  
   B. story  
   C. sparrow  
   D. tomato

9. After tucking her two children into bed, Martha changed into old slacks and a droopy blouse and _____ to wash her hair.
   A. entirely  
   B. proceeded  
   C. colony  
   D. development

10. As the morning rays of sun danced on the lake, I saw my first small band of _____ moving slowly in a line toward the water.
    A. volcanoes  
    B. gentle  
    C. television  
    D. elephants

11. The combination of letters w-a-t-e-r have no real meaning in themselves unless they are _____ with a particular object or event in the person’s mind.
    A. evaporate  
    B. avocado  
    C. associated  
    D. superstar

12. When George Washington was visiting what is now West Virginia, he heard about the oil in the Kanawha River valley and _____ land with a “burning spring.”
    A. purchased  
    B. caught  
    C. vitamin  
    D. debated

13. According to doctors, certain vitamins and minerals are required if the body is to perform the chemical reactions necessary to _____ itself.
    A. religion  
    B. repair  
    C. accurate  
    D. character
14. Only a portion of the Milky Way galaxy can be seen at any one time, because it is a vast band of stars that completely _____ the Earth.
   A. warbling  
   B. charitable  
   C. beneficial  
   D. encircles

15. Before choosing a site on the island for our permanent camp, we spent two days cautiously _____ the shoreline and the densely-wooded mountains to the north.
   A. lettering  
   B. detail  
   C. exploring  
   D. teachable

16. Just think, not a quarter of an hour ago, here I was sitting, feeling so sorry for the poor girl he was _____ with, and now I’m going to be that poor girl.
   A. interlude  
   B. context  
   C. dancing  
   D. tormentor

17. “No, no,” she said, leaning down toward the tray of antique rings, pointing to the green topaz setting, as her hands _____ the shopkeeper to select that one.
   A. safeguard  
   B. commanded  
   C. geography  
   D. sarcasm

18. Alaskan cities would be very far apart except for bold bush pilots whose ability to land in deep snow makes _____ mean little.
   A. imperative  
   B. daisies  
   C. powerfully  
   D. distance

19. As he sinks deeper into the sand, he has the unspeakable thought that he is caught in quicksand and quickly throws off his backpack to _____ himself as he calls for help.
   A. movement  
   B. lighten  
   C. expedition  
   D. virtuous

20. Capillaries are blood vessels that are so tiny they are fifty times _____ than human hair and blood corpuscles flow through them in single file.
   A. thinner  
   B. correction  
   C. bombarded  
   D. imported
21. Zola recently married Joshua, a quiet sign painter from Brooklyn, whose personality _____ sharply with her new identity as a political activist.
   A. appeared  
   B. umbrella  
   C. contrasted  
   D. unheard

22. A white eagle flew out of the trees in a slanting climb, reached the clear sunshine, and for a moment appeared dazzlingly brilliant, then soared higher, becoming a dark and _____ speck.
   A. experiment  
   B. outcome  
   C. plumage  
   D. motionless

23. Adding _____ to foods to give them color, to enhance their flavor or interrupt the monotony of eating the same foods, has been done by people in every part of the world for centuries.
   A. confirmed  
   B. trudge  
   C. substances  
   D. sensibility

24. When a volcano erupts and lava _____ over the land, the heavy stream of molten rock has a temperature between two and three thousand degrees Fahrenheit that destroys everything in its path.
   A. lethargy  
   B. spreads  
   C. vertebrae  
   D. deserts

25. An area of heavily farmed land supports less wildlife today than an equal area of urban land because modern farming _____ have destroyed the habitats of wildlife.
   A. methods  
   B. summit  
   C. applause  
   D. mountain
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—English A, 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>12</td>
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**Recommended Course/Grade Placement**

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<th># of Correct Responses</th>
<th>Take Grade 5 Test</th>
<th>Take English B Test</th>
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<td>0 to 18</td>
<td>19 to 25</td>
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Using the Results from the Reading Placement Inventory

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

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

☐ The suggested course/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?