

## Placement Test

Preparation: You will need a copy of the novel *Julian's Glorious Summer*. Students being tested should read from the actual novel not from the Placement Test Scoring Sheet. Underline the difficult words from the Placement Test Scoring Sheet in the copy of the novel students will read from. You will need 1 copy of the Placement Test Scoring Sheet for each student you will be testing. You will need a timer.

### Instructions for Recording Student Responses and Scoring:

As students read the passage use the following procedure to record errors.

**Word read incorrectly:** Write what the student said above the word. Count as 1 error.

**Added word:** Write a caret with the word above it where the word was inserted. Count as 1 error.

**Unknown word:** Give the student 3 seconds to say the word and then tell him or her the word. Write a T above the told word. Count as 1 error.

**Deleted words:** Draw a line through any words that are left out. Do not count deleted words when counting the total words read per minute.

**Repeated words:** Draw a wavy line under the word(s) that were repeated.

**Self-correct:** Put a check mark above the word.

Repeated words and self-corrected words do not count as errors. Students are already penalized for time with these types of errors.

Record words read per minute (wrpm) and errors on the top part of the Placement Test Scoring Sheet. To calculate the accuracy percentage, use the following formula: Subtract the number of errors from the wrpm. Divide this number by the wrpm. Multiply by 100. Example:  $76 \text{ (wrpm)} - 5 \text{ (errors)} = 71$  divided by  $76 = .934$  x 100 = 93% accuracy.

**Students reading at least 50 wrpm with 90% accuracy can be placed in this novel study. Remember, this is the student's instructional level not his or her independent reading level.**

### Instructions for Administering the Placement Test

1. Fill in student information on the top portion of the Placement Test Scoring Sheet.

### Setting the Scene

2. (\*Note: This part of the test can be done individually, with a small group of students, or with a whole class. Hold up a copy of the novel for students to see.) **This book is called *Julian's Glorious Summer*. Later, each of you will read part of the first page of this novel aloud to me to help me decide if you are ready to read this book.**

(Show students the illustration on page 4.) **In this novel a boy named Julian has just started his summer vacation. (Point to Julian.) This boy's name is Julian. What is this boy's name? Julian. He starts the story by telling you about what kind of person he is.**

### Hard Word Review

3. (Note: This part of the placement test needs to be administered individually. Give the student a copy of the novel open to page 5.)
4. **Some of the hard words are underlined on this page. We will practice these hard words before you read part of this page aloud to me.**

(Touch under the word practically.) **This word is practically. What word? Practically. Practically means usually. What does practically mean? Usually.**

(Touch under the divided word stories.) **This word is divided into two parts because there is not enough room on the line. This word is stories. What word? Stories.**

(Touch under the words absolutely necessary.) **These words are absolutely necessary. What words?** *Absolutely necessary.* **When something is absolutely necessary, you have to do it. You have no other choice. What words can you use to describe something that you have to do—you have no other choice?** *Absolutely necessary.*

(Touch under the divided word vacation.) **This word is divided into two parts because there is not enough room on the line. This word is vacation. What word?** *Vacation.*

5. **You will read part of this page aloud to me. I would like you to track under the words with your finger as you read aloud. You will read aloud for 1 minute. I will tell you when to stop reading. Be careful to read exactly what is on the page.** (Start the timer and record student errors as indicated above.)

## **Placement Test Scoring Sheet for *Julian's Glorious Summer***

Name of Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ Tester: \_\_\_\_\_  
Words Read Per Minute (wrpm) \_\_\_\_\_ Errors: \_\_\_\_\_ Accuracy % \_\_\_\_\_  
Placement: \_\_\_\_\_  
Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

I am a nice person. I <u>practically</u> almost always	9
tell the truth. I really don't like making up <u>sto-</u>	19
<u>ries</u> . I only do it when <u>absolutely necessary</u> .	26
That's the way it was at the beginning of the	36
summer.	37
It was the first morning after school got out. I	47
was sitting in our swing, making circles in the	56
sand with my tennis shoe and watching some	64
ants go by. Every last one was in a hurry.	74
"Take your time!" I said to them. "This is <u>va-</u>	84
<u>cation!</u> "	

Excerpt from: Cameron, Ann. *Julian's Glorious Summer*. New York: Random House, 1987.