

Placement Test

Preparation: You will need a copy of the novel *Philip Hall Likes Me. I Reckon Maybe*. 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: $97 \text{ (wrpm)} - 4 \text{ (errors)} = 93$ divided by $97 = .958$ x 100 = 96% accuracy.

Students reading at least 100 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 *Philip Hall Likes Me. I Reckon Maybe*. Later, each of you will read part of page 5 of this novel aloud to me to help me decide if you are ready to read this book.**

(Show students the picture on the page opposite the inside title page.) **This illustration shows Beth Lambert, the girl who is the narrator of the story and one of the main characters. The book tells the story of the friendship between Beth and Philip Hall, a boy in her sixth grade class.**

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 these pages. We will practice these hard words before you read part of these pages aloud to me.**

(Touch under the word sweat.) **This word is sweat. What word? *Sweat*. Another word for sweat is perspiration. What is another word for perspiration? *Sweat*.**

(Touch under the word denim.) **This word is denim. What word? *Denim*. Denim is a kind of hard-wearing fabric that is often used to make jeans, jackets, or shirts. What kind of hard-wearing fabric is often used to make jeans, jackets, or shirts? *Denim*.**

(Touch under the divided word wondered.) **This word is divided into two parts because there is not enough room on the line. This word is wondered. What word? *Wondered*. Wondered means thought about. What word means thought about? *Wondered*.**

(Touch under the name Philip Hall.) **This name is Philip Hall. Philip Hall is a boy in Beth Lambert's class at school. Who is Philip Hall? *A boy in Beth Lambert's class at school*.**

(Touch under the word poultry.) **This word is poultry. What word? *Poultry*. Poultry are birds such as chickens, turkeys, ducks, or geese that are raised for meat or eggs. What do we call birds such as chickens, turkeys, ducks, or geese that are raised for meat or eggs? *Poultry*.**

(Touch under the word dairy.) **This word is dairy. What word? *Dairy*. A dairy farm is a farm that produces milk from cows. What kind of farm produces milk from cows? *A dairy farm*.**

(Touch under the words dime-store.) **These words are dime-store. What words? *Dime-store*. A dime-store is a store that sells things for a cheap price. What kind of store sells things for a cheap price? *A dime-store*.**

(Touch under the word blacktop.) **This word is blacktop. What word? *Blacktop*. Blacktop is what some people call a paved road. It is called blacktop because the top of a paved road is black.**

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 *Philip Hall Likes Me. I Reckon Maybe.*

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

Pa wiped the <u>sweat</u> from his forehead with the sleeve of	11
his <u>denim</u> shirt. "That Hall boy again? Don't go telling me	22
he's number-one best in everything".	28
"Everything," I said . "Just everything." And yet Pa's	36
question started me wondering something I never <u>won-</u>	44
<u>dered</u> before. Is <u>Philip Hall</u> number one only 'cause I let	54
him be? Afraid he wouldn't like me if I were best? Shucks	66
no! And that's too silly to even think about.	75
The wind was a-blowing up the dust on the dry dirt road	88
that ran between our pig and <u>poultry</u> farm and Mr. Hall's	99
<u>dairy</u> farm. A long time ago my mama showed me what to	111
do when the road is dry from lack of rain and the wind	124
comes up to make matters worse. Secret is to walk along	135
the grass at the very edge of the road. Takes longer, but at	148
least you can get to the highway clean.	156
Long after I had walked halfway, I spotted his shirt	166
as red as <u>dime-store</u> lipstick. Up there where the dirt road	178
meets up with the <u>blacktop</u> .	183
"Hey Philip! Hey, hey, <i>Phil-ip!</i> "	188

Excerpt from Greene, Bette. *Philip Hall Likes Me. I Reckon Maybe*. New York: Scholastic, Inc., 1974.