

Placement Test

Preparation: You will need a copy of the novel *Dive Book One: The Discovery*. 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 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 *Dive Book One: The Discovery*. Later, each of you will read part of the first chapter of this novel aloud to me to help me decide if you are ready to read this book.**

Kaz, Dante, Adriana, and Star aren't the best divers in the world. But they've been chosen to spend the summer exploring deep under the Caribbean Sea. These four make the discovery of their lives—and put themselves in danger because of it.

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 6.)
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 divided word luggage.) **This word is divided into two parts because there is not enough room on the line. This word is luggage. What word? *Luggage*. Luggage is the suitcases and bags carried by someone who is traveling. What do we call the suitcases and bags carried by someone who is traveling? *Luggage*.**

(Touch under the name Kaz.) **This name is Kaz. What name? Kaz.**

(Touch under the word catamaran.) **This word is catamaran. What word? Catamaran. A catamaran is a kind of sailboat. What is a catamaran? A kind of sailboat.**

(Touch under the name Adriana.) **This name is Adriana. What name? Adriana.**

(Touch under the name Bobby.) **This name is Bobby. What name? Bobby.**

(Touch under the name Dante Lewis.) **This name is Dante Lewis. What name? Dante Lewis.**

(Touch under the divided word photographer.) **This word is divided into two parts because there is not enough room on the line. This word is photographer. What word? Photographer. A photographer is a person who takes pictures with a camera. What do we call a person who takes pictures with a camera? A photographer.**

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 *Dive Book One: The Discovery*

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

As he dropped his gear and seated himself on	9
the boat, he realized for the first time that he was	20
not alone. Fast asleep amid a mountain of <u>lug-</u>	29
<u>gage</u> lay another boy, smaller than <u>Kaz</u> , but	36
probably the same age.	40
The <u>catamaran</u> bumped up against the tires	47
that lined the dock, and the sleeper shook	55
awake.	56
He rubbed his eyes behind thick glasses and	64
yawned. "You don't look like <u>Adriana</u> , so I guess	73
you must be <u>Bobby</u> ."	77
"Call me Kaz." He indicated the many bags	85
and cases that littered the deck around the other	94
boy. "Diving equipment?"	97
"Camera equipment. <u>Dante Lewis</u> . I'm a <u>pho-</u>	104
<u>tographer</u> ."	104
"An underwater photographer, right?" Kaz	109
prompted.	110
Dante shrugged. "That's what we're here to	117
find out."	119

Excerpt from: Korman, Gordon. Dive: Book One: The Discovery. New York: Scholastic Inc., 2003.