

MORRISON-McCALL SPELLING SCALE

For Grades 2 to 8

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For scoring see page 4, table 2. Also read pages 128-129 in *The Writing Road to Reading*.

GENERAL DIRECTIONS

Select for testing purposes any one of the eight lists of 50 words each given in this booklet.

The eight lists are of equal difficulty, so that all directions given herein apply equally to all of them.

Use the illustrative sentences in which these words are contained. Do not use any others.

Before beginning the test, remove all distracting elements from the environment and make pupils as comfortable as possible. Provide against any disturbances while the test is in progress. Preferably there should be no visitors.

Follow with literal exactness the instructions for giving the test. Avoid preliminary coaching, special helps during test, and unstandardized introductory remarks. Secure attention and coöperation of pupils by your own poise and pleasant manner.

Give directions distinctly, at moderate speed, with careful attention to emphasis, loudly enough for all pupils in the room to hear without difficulty, and confidently enough to secure instant obedience from every pupil. Insist courteously but firmly upon this prompt obedience from the start.

Pronounce all words to all pupils. Do this regardless of whether Grade 2 or Grade 8 or a mixture of several grades is being tested. Pupils will often surprise their teachers by spelling words normally too difficult or by failing to spell words normally too easy for their grade. While the same scale is used for measuring all grades, the norms for upper-grade pupils are much higher than for lower-grade pupils.

Practice pronouncing the words until sure of the exact pronunciation of each and until sure of your ability to enunciate clearly without distorting the correct pronunciation. Use Webster's New International Dictionary as the standard.

Prevent copying by carefully watching any one who attempts to do so. Do not distract others by oral reprimands while a word is being spelled.

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INSTRUCTIONS TO PUPILS

Have pupils clear desks. Provide them with sharpened pencils and uniform paper. Have a few extra pencils available. Have each child write at the top of his page his name, age in years at last birthday, date of birth, school, teacher's name, date, grade, and whether in the first half or second half of the grade.

Have pupils number the lines on their papers from 1 to 50.

Read to pupils: **"We will now have a spelling lesson. There will be 50 words. I will pronounce each word, use it in a sentence, and pronounce it a second time. If you do not understand any word, leave the space blank and wait for the next word. Try to spell each word. Be sure to dot the i's and cross the t's."** In rooms having two or more grades the examiner will add, **"Every one will spell the same words."**

Pronounce each word as in the following illustration: "Your - *Your* books are in the desk - *Your*." Each examiner will pronounce words at such rate as seems best suited to the class.

Collect papers as soon as children have written the last word.

If, *at the close* of the test, younger pupils should seem bewildered and confused, the examiner should smilingly encourage them by explaining that he didn't expect them to spell all the words. He should endeavor to close the test period leaving the children uniformly happy.

DIRECTIONS FOR SCORING

Mark each word either right or wrong. The standard of correctness is absolute accuracy, in order to avoid subjective scoring.

Where two or more spellings are allowed for a word by any standard dictionary, count either spelling as correct.

Count as wrong if the letter "i" does not have a dot or if the letter "t" is not crossed, unless it be a special "final t" construction.

Do not give credit for spelling words not pronounced; e.g., "tops" for the word "top," or "men" for the word "man."

If a child attempts to rewrite a word, consider the obvious intention of the child as the spelling to be scored.

Pay no attention to capitalization.

If in actual doubt as to the child's spelling, count as wrong.

Count the number of words spelled correctly by each pupil.

DIRECTIONS FOR RECORDING

In order to record the scores made by pupils, it is suggested that the teacher or examiner draw up a class record similar to the sample shown on the last page. On this class record will be written the name of the school, grade, etc., the list number and date of the test, the name of each pupil taking the test, his age in years and months, the number of words correct, and, if desired, his Ts, Gs, and Cs, or spelling age. The meanings of these symbols are given below.

If a large sheet of paper is used, the last four columns may be repeated so as to provide for recording two or three scores of each pupil. This will save writing the names and ages again and bring the scores closer together for reference. It will be understood that the age of the child is his age on the date of the first test.

DIRECTIONS FOR INTERPRETING SCORES

When the spelling papers are scored, the classroom teacher will want to ask four questions:

- (1) How does the class or individual pupil compare in spelling achievement with the norms obtained from testing thousands of pupils of the same grade?
- (2) What is the grade status of the individual pupil or of the class? That is, for what grade is the spelling ability of the pupil or class normal?
- (3) How does the pupil compare in spelling achievement: with other pupils of the same age?
- (4) For what age is the spelling ability of the pupil normal?

Two methods are offered for answering the first question. By the first method the teacher simply compares the score of the pupil or class with the grade norms given in Table I. For example, Table 6 shows the scores of some sixth-grade pupils. Pupil A's score was 16 words spelled correctly. Comparing this score with the grade norms in Table I, we see that it is less than the midyear average for third-grade pupils. Pupil C of the same table spelled 37 words correctly, which is better than the standard for sixth-grade pupils of midyear. The class average was 31.4, which was nearer to the fifth-grade norm than to the sixth grade norm. This method answers roughly the second question as to the grade status of the pupil or class.

The second method is the more exact one. It is known as the T-score method and is explained in the section on "T-score in spelling," below, and "Grade status in spelling," page 6. The T-score method enables the teacher to answer the second question also with greater precision.

The T-score method is also used to answer the third question. A measure of a child's spelling achievement in comparison with that of other children of his own age is known as his "Brightness in Spelling" and is represented by the symbol "Bs." The section on "Brightness in spelling," page 5, explains how to find the Bs of a pupil or class.

A convenient method for answering the fourth question is to find what is known as the spelling age of the pupil. Thus, a pupil whose spelling achievement is just equal to that of a 10-year-old child is said to have a spelling age of 10 years (or 120 months) no matter what his actual age may be. The section "Spelling age," page 4, explains how to find the spelling age of a pupil.

TABLE I. GRADE NORMS IN TERMS OF AVERAGE NUMBER OF WORDS SPELLED CORRECTLY

Grade	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Average number of words spelled correctly	11	18	24	30	35	39	42	44

These norms represent average achievement for 57,337 pupils in rural and village schools. There were approximately 8000 pupils tested in each grade except the ninth. The ninth-grade score represents the achievement of nearly 1000 pupils.

T score in spelling. The score of a pupil in any test may be expressed as a T score¹ in spelling (Ts) by means of Table 2.

¹A term introduced by William A. McCall in "Uniform Method of Scale Construction," *Teachers College Record*, January, 1921.

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A Ts of 50 denotes the median spelling ability of unselected pupils whose age last birthday was 12 years. The units of Ts above and below 50 indicate theoretically equal increments of spelling ability, according to the assumption that the spelling ability of 12-year pupils is distributed according to the law of normal distribution. Each 10 units of T-score represent 1 SD (standard deviation) of distribution of 12-year-olds. Any pupil or class, for example, whose Ts is 70 has an ability that is 20 T (or 2 SD) above the mean ability of 12-year-olds.

Find the pupil's total number of words correct in the first column of Table 2 and read the corresponding Ts. This is the pupil's T score in spelling. Thus, the first pupil in Table 6 spelled 16 words correctly, which, according to Table 2, corresponds to a Ts of 36. Table 2 and all others apply to any list.

✓				✓				✓				✓
				TABLE 2								
Words Correct	T's	Spelling Age	G's	Words Correct	T's	Spelling Age	G's	Words Correct	T's	Spelling Age	G's	
0	17	84	1.0	18	37	110	3.5	36	52	156	6.8	
1	20	85	1.3	19	38	118	3.7	37	53	159	7.0	
2	22	87	1.5	20	39	120	3.9	38	54	162	7.3	
3	24	89	1.7	21	40	122	4.1	39	55	165	7.5	
4	25	90	1.8	22	40	124	4.2	40	56	168	7.7	
5	26	92	1.9	23	41	126	4.3	41	57	171	8.0	
6	27	94	2.0	24	42	128	4.5	42	58	174	8.4	
7	28	96	2.1	25	43	130	4.7	43	60	177	8.8	
8	29	98	2.2	26	44	132	4.9	44	61	180	9.3	
9	30	99	2.3	27	44	135	5.1	45	63	184	9.8	
10	31	101	2.4	28	45	137	5.2	46	65	188	10.5	
11	32	103	2.5	29	46	139	5.4	47	67	192	11.2	
12	32	104	2.6	30	47	142	5.6	48	69	196	11.7	
13	33	106	2.7	31	48	144	5.8	49	72	200	12.5	
14	34	108	2.9	32	48	146	6.0	50	77	204	13.0	
15	35	110	3.1	33	49	149	6.2					
16	36	112	3.3	34	50	152	6.4					
17	36	114	3.4	35	51	154	6.6					

Table 3 gives a further interpretation of T scores. It shows the percentage of 12-year-olds (pupils between 12 and 13) whose T scores are exceeded by a T score of 25, 30, 35, etc. Thus, a pupil making a T score of 65 exceeds 93 per cent of 12-year-olds in spelling ability.

TABLE 3

T score	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	65	70	75
Percentage of 12-year-olds exceeding	1	2	7	16	31	50	69	84	93	98	99

Spelling age.¹ A score of 26 words correct is the normal score for the age of just 11 years (132 months). Any pupil, therefore, making a score of 26 is said to have a spelling age of 132 months. In the third column of Table 2 is given the spelling age corresponding to each score.

¹A spelling age corresponds to a mental age obtained by a test of mental ability. A pupil should have a spelling age equal to his mental age, provided his spelling ability is on a par with his mental ability.

Brightness in spelling. A T score of 50 is the norm for the age of just 12 years, 6 months (average age of pupils whose age last birthday was 12 years). A pupil 12 years, 6 months old who makes a Ts of more than 50 is brighter than normal in spelling. Similarly, a pupil 12 years, 6 months old who makes a Ts less than 50 is duller than normal in spelling. The Ts of a pupil just 12 years, 6 months old is, therefore, a measure of his brightness in spelling. Indeed, we may express the brightness of any pupil in spelling in terms of the Ts he would have made if he were just 12 years, 6 months old.

TABLE 4

Age Yrs. Mos.	Normal Ts	Correc- tion (Add to Ts)	Age Yrs. Mos.	Normal Ts	Correc- tion (Add to Ts)	Age Yrs. Mos.	Normal Ts	Correc- tion (Add to Ts)
7-6	24	26	11-0	44	6	14-6	58	-8
7-8	25	25	11-2	45	5	14-8	58	-8
7-10	27	23	11-4	46	4	14-10	59	-9
8-0	28	22	11-6	46	4	15-0	60	-10
8-2	29	21	11-8	47	3	15-2	61	-11
8-4	31	19	11-10	47	3	15-4	62	-12
8-6	32	18	12-0	48	2	15-6	63	-13
8-8	33	17	12-2	49	1	15-8	64	-14
8-10	34	16	12-4	49	1	15-10	65	-15
9-0	34	16	12-6	50	0	16-0	67	-17
9-2	35	15	12-8	51	-1	16-2	69	-19
9-4	36	14	12-10	51	-1	16-4	70	-20
9-6	37	13	13-0	52	-2	16-6	72	-22
9-8	38	12	13-2	52	-2	16-8	74	-24
9-10	39	11	13-4	53	-3	16-10	75	-25
10-0	39	11	13-6	54	-4	17-0	77	-27
10-2	40	10	13-8	54	-4	17-2	78	-28
10-4	41	9	13-10	55	-5	17-4	80	-30
10-6	42	8	14-0	56	-6	17-6	81	-31
10-8	43	7	14-2	57	-7			
10-10	43	7	14-4	57	-7			

Thus, as shown in Table 4, the T score that is just normal for a pupil 12 years, 0 months old is 48. Now it is assumed that if the normal child's Ts increases from 48 to 50 between 12 years, 0 months and 12 years, 6 months, the Ts of any other pupil would increase two points from 12 years, 0 months to 12 years, 6 months. Therefore, if a pupil of 12 years, 0 months makes a Ts of 51, it is assumed that at 12 years, 6 months he will make a Ts of $51 + 2 = 53$. The twelve-year pupil is said to have a Brightness in Spelling¹ (Bs) of 53. He is known to be as bright in spelling, therefore, as a 12 year, 6 months pupil making a Ts of 53.

To find the Bs of a pupil, find his age in Table 4 and note the correction (amount necessary to add to the Ts that is normal for that age to get 50). If the correction is plus, add it to the Ts of the pupil; if it is minus, subtract it.

¹Both the symbol and the idea are borrowed from the writing of Otis.

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Thus, the first pupil in Table 6 is 13 years, 2 months old and made a Ts of 36. The correction for the age of 13 years, 2 months as shown in Table 4 is - 2. Therefore, this pupil's Bs is $36-2=34$.

The normal Bs for all ages is 50. Any pupil making a Bs above 50 is brighter than normal in spelling. A pupil making a Bs of 40 is 10 T (or 1 SD) below the mean of his own age group in spelling ability. Table 3 shows also the significance of a Bs. Thus a Bs of 60 indicates that the pupil exceeds in spelling ability 84 percent of pupils, not 12 years old but of his own age. A Bs of 75 means that a pupil is 25 T (or 2.5 SD) above the mean spelling ability of pupils of his own age. According to Table 3, such an individual is shown to be extremely bright in spelling, since he exceeds 99 percent of pupils of his own age group in spelling ability. In like manner the Bs for a class shows the brightness in spelling of that class as a whole.

Both Ts and Bs are needed. Ts gives a measure of total spelling ability and incidentally shows how much each pupil or class Ts is above or below the mean Ts of 12-year-olds. A Ts scale is used primarily for the purpose of measuring growth in ability from month to month and year to year.

Of course a 9-year-old pupil or class might have a Ts much below 50 and still be doing exceptionally satisfactory work. There is needed some score which makes allowance for the fact that a pupil or class is younger or older than 12 years, 6 months. The Bs correction automatically makes just this allowance, and the Bs shows pupil or class ability in comparison with pupils or classes of the same age. A young pupil may have a small Ts and a large Bs, and an old pupil may have a large Ts and a small Bs. A pupil or class Ts grows larger from month to month and year to year, whereas the Bs changes little or not at all.

Grade status in spelling (Gs). The number of words any pupil spells correctly or the Ts of any pupil may be expressed in terms of Grade Status in Spelling (Gs). Thus, in Table 2 the Gs corresponding to a score of 18 is given as 3.5. This means that a score of 18 is normal for the third grade at the end of the fifth month of instruction. A Gs of 3.7 means spelling ability normal for the third grade after seven months of instruction, etc.

Classification in spelling (Cs). In order to compare the grade status of one pupil or class taking the test at one time of year, with that of another pupil or class taking the test at another time of year, it is necessary to refer their score to some definite time of year. The Gs that a pupil has or will have at the middle of the year (fifth month) is called his Classification in Spelling (Cs). Thus, if September is the first month of the school year, the fifth month will be January, and it is assumed that if a pupil (see first pupil in Table 6) has a Gs of 3.3 in November, he will have a Gs of 3.5 in January (middle of the year). He is said, therefore, to have a Cs of 3.5. Similarly, if a pupil has a Gs of 6.4 in November (see second pupil in Table 6) his Cs (Gs in January) is 6.6. Assuming the pupil's Gs increases 0.1 each month, as would be expected, his Cs remains 6.6 throughout the year. The normal Cs for Grade 6 is 6.5. This pupil, therefore, is always just 0.1 in Cs, or one month, ahead of the normal ability of the sixth grade. The normal Cs for all sixth-grade pupils is 6.5 as long as they remain in the sixth grade; the norm for all seventh-grade pupils is 7.5 throughout the year, etc.

Table 5 shows the correction to be applied to the Gs of a pupil to find his Cs.

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Thus, if a pupil is tested in the first month, add .4 to his Gs to find his Cs; if tested in the second month, add .3 ; if tested in the sixth month, subtract 0.1 ; etc.

TABLE 5

Month . . .	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Cs Correction	+.4	+.3	+.2	+.1	0	-.1	-.2	-.3	-.4	-.5

Class standing. To find the Ts, Bs, Gs, and Cs of the class or grade as a whole, find the mean (average) age and mean Ts of the class. From these values find the class Bs, Gs, and Cs in the same manner as would be done in the case of an individual having that age and Ts, as shown in Table 6. Since the pupils whose scores are given in Table 6 are sixth-grade pupils, their grade norm in Cs is 6.5. The first pupil's Cs is only 3.5. This means that his spelling ability is just normal for the third grade. He is, therefore, three full grades below the norm for the sixth grade. The class as a whole is 0.4 Cs or 4 months below normal for sixth grades in general. In this connection it must be remembered that classes differ in age. The mean age of this class is less than the mean age of the ordinary sixth grade, and the class Bs shows that it is practically a normal class for its mean age.

TABLE 6. HYPOTHETICAL SCORES OF LOW-SIXTH-GRADE PUPILS TESTED IN NOVEMBER, SHOWING THE CORRESPONDING VALUES OF Ts, Bs, Gs, AND Cs.

Name	Age		WORDS CORRECT	Ts	Bs	Gs	Cs
	Yrs.	Mos.					
A	13	2	16	36	34	3.3	3.5
B	12	6	34	50	50	6.4	6.6
C	10	7	37	53	60	7.0	7.2
D	11	4	34	50	54	6.4	6.6
E	13	5	36	52	48	6.8	7.0
Class	12	2		48.2	49.2	5.9	6.1

Accuracy of scale scores. All the words in each list of this spelling scale were selected from Ayres' Spelling Scale and Buckingham's Extension of Ayres' Spelling Scale, in such a way as to make all lists equally difficult, and the words were required in addition to appear among the 5000 most commonly used words as reported in Thorndike's Word Book.

To test this equivalence, List 1 was applied to 33,299 pupils. List 2 to 10,542 pupils, and List 3 to 13,490 pupils. These pupils were a random sampling from Grades 2 through 9 in the rural and village schools of New York State. Since the three T scales (not necessarily the individual words) proved to be *almost exactly identical*, we have assumed that all lists are similarly equivalent, since all were constituted in the same way. Also we have combined the data from the three lists so that the final T, B, and C scales are based upon 57,331 pupils.

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LIST 1

1. run	The boy can run.	run
2. top	The top will spin.	top
3. red	My apple is red.	red
4. book	I lost my book.	book
5. sea	The sea is rough.	sea
6. play	I will play with you.	play
7. lay	Lay the book down.	lay
8. led	He led the horse to the barn.	led
9. add	Add these figures.	add
10. alike	These books are alike.	alike
11. mine	That bicycle is mine.	mine
12. with	Mary will go with you.	with
13. easy	Our lessons are not easy.	easy
14. shut	Please shut the door.	shut
15. done	Has he done the work?	done
16. body	The chest is part of the body.	body
17. anyway	I shall go anyway.	anyway
18. omit	Please omit the last verse.	omit
19. fifth	This is my fifth trip.	fifth
20. reason	Give a reason for being late.	reason
21. perfect	This is a perfect day.	perfect
22. friend	She is my friend.	friend
23. getting	I am getting tired.	getting
24. nearly	Nearly all the candy is gone.	nearly
25. desire	I have no desire to go.	desire
26. arrange	Please arrange a meeting for me.	arrange
27. written	I have written four letters.	written
28. search	Search for your book.	search
29. popular	He is a popular boy.	popular
30. interest	Show some interest in your work.	interest
31. pleasant	She is very pleasant.	pleasant
32. therefore	Therefore I cannot go.	therefore
33. folks	My folks have gone away.	folks
34. celebration	There will be a celebration today.	celebration
35. minute	Wait a minute, please.	minute
36. divide	Divide this number by ten.	divide
37. necessary	It is necessary for you to study.	necessary
38. height	What is your height?	height
39. reference	He made reference to the lesson.	reference
40. career	Her career as a doctor was long.	career
41. character	He has a good character.	character
42. separate	Separate these papers.	separate
43. committee	The committee is small.	committee
44. annual	This is the annual meeting.	annual
45. principle	The theory is wrong in principle.	principle
46. immense	The man carried an immense load.	immense
47. judgment	The teacher's judgment is good.	judgment
48. acquaintance	He is an acquaintance of mine.	acquaintance
49. discipline	The army discipline was strict.	discipline
50. lieutenant	He is a lieutenant in the army.	lieutenant

LIST 2

1. can	I can go with you.	can
2. ten	I have ten cents.	ten
3. old	How old are you?	old
4. six	I am six years old.	six
5. ice	He sipped on the ice.	ice
6. child	The child is ill.	child
7. his	His arm was broken.	his
8. that	That is my dog.	that
9. far	How far are you going?	far
10. form	Form a circle.	form
11. glad	I am glad to see you.	glad
12. same	Her name is the same as mine.	same
13. night	Owls come out at night.	night
14. cent	I haven't a cent.	cent
15. within	Keep within the law.	within
16. point	Point towards north.	point
17. money	How much money do you have?	money
18. picture	Whose picture is this?	picture
19. change	Do not change your position.	change
20. number	Number your papers.	number
21. struck	He was struck by lightning.	struck
22. personal	It is a personal matter.	personal
23. address	Do you know her address?	address
24. several	I have several hats.	several
25. known	I have known her for a year.	known
26. their	Their homes were flooded.	their
27. perhaps	Perhaps you are right.	perhaps
28. popular	Golf is a popular game.	popular
29. against	He fell against the wall.	against
30. treasure	The hidden treasure was found.	treasure
31. investigate	I will investigate the noise.	investigate
32. certain	I am certain of the date.	certain
33. really	Are you really going?	really
34. conference	The teachers had a conference.	conference
35. business	His business is important.	business
36. citizen	Mr. Smith is a good citizen.	citizen
37. elaborate	The decorations were elaborate.	elaborate
38. association	They formed a large association.	association
39. evidence	We have plenty of evidence.	evidence
40. secretary	The secretary is accurate.	secretary
41. character	He has a good character.	character
42. cordially	He welcomed us cordially.	cordially
43. especially	I am especially happy today.	especially
44. disappoint	I will not disappoint you.	disappoint
45. decision	The boy made an excellent decision.	decision
46. parliament	We attended a session of Parliament.	parliament
47. recommend	Can you recommend a good book?	recommend
48. endeavor	Endeavor to do your best.	endeavor
49. privilege	it is your privilege to go.	privilege
50. villain	The burglar was a villain.	villain

LIST 3

1. is	He is here.	is
2. now	Come now!	now
3. little	Little children like to play.	little
4. did	Did you go?	did
5. hat	Put on your hat.	hat
6. hot	The rolls are hot.	hot
7. was	She was here yesterday.	was
8. ran	Bob ran to the store.	ran
9. told	She told a story.	told
10. sold	He sold his top.	sold
11. hope	I hope to go to the movies.	hope
12. room	This is your room.	room
13. light	The light hurts my eyes.	light
14. stamp	Stamp the letter.	stamp
15. push	Push the door open.	push
16. third	The third problem is easy.	third
17. few	I have read a few books.	few
18. wire	The basket is made of wire.	wire
19. tax	People tax themselves.	tax
20. there	There goes the mail carrier.	there
21. raise	Raise the window.	raise
22. request	Your request will be granted.	request
23. truly	The money is truly yours.	truly
24. cities	Many people live in cities.	cities
25. sail	Boats sail on the water.	sail
26. whose	Whose apple is this?	whose
27. attempt	Attempt to spell correctly.	attempt
28. search	Search carefully for your book.	search
29. consider	Consider the consequences.	consider
30. complete	John's work is complete.	complete
31. piece	Would you like a piece of pie?	piece
32. system	The city has a water system.	system
33. national	We sang the national anthem.	national
34. refer	To whom do you refer?	refer
35. absence	His absence was felt.	absence
36. majority	We will go with the majority.	majority
37. unfortunate	It was unfortunate.	unfortunate
38. session	We went to a work out session.	session
39. discussion	We were in a deep discussion.	discussion
40. experience	It was a fun experience.	experience
41. proceed	Proceed with caution.	proceed
42. practical	This is a practical example	practical
43. preliminary	It is a preliminary report.	preliminary
44. receipt	Keep the receipt.	receipt
45. possess	Do you possess a key?	possess
46. restaurant	I like this restaurant.	restaurant
47. parallel	Parallel lines never meet.	parallel
48. physician	She is my physician.	physician
49. kerosene	Kerosene is an oil that burns.	kerosene
50. pneumonia	He had pneumonia.	pneumonia

LIST 4

1. she	Is she at home?	she
2. man	That man is good.	man
3. good	Be a good boy.	good
4. this	This book is mine.	this
5. over	The ball is over the fence.	over
6. say	You must say your prayers.	say
7. belong	Does this pen belong to you?	belong
8. stand	Please stand up.	stand
9. sick	The doctor is sick.	sick
10. foot	I hurt my foot.	foot
11. sister	My sister is here.	sister
12. inside	Come inside the tent.	inside
13. mail	Please mail my letter.	mail
14. two	I have two apples.	two
15. began	I began work last week.	began
16. watch	Watch that horse.	watch
17. happen	It does not happen often.	happen
18. sight	I lost sight of the bird.	sight
19. bridge	The bridge is long.	bridge
20. front	The front of the car is smashed.	front
21. elect	I hope they elect my choice.	elect
22. refuse	I refuse to go.	refuse
23. pleasure	It was a great pleasure.	pleasure
24. vacation	I had two months vacation.	vacation
25. repair	I must repair my wheel.	repair
26. surprise	It will be a surprise.	surprise
27. select	Please select your gifts.	select
28. weigh	How much do you weigh?	weigh
29. publication	It was a good publication.	publication
30. adopt	He will adopt the child.	adopt
31. century	That happened a century ago.	century
32. assist	Will you assist me?	assist
33. summon	Please summon help.	summon
34. invitation	I accept the invitation.	invitation
35. automobile	I have a new automobile.	automobile
36. colonies	The colonies will govern themselves.	colonies
37. foreign	She is of foreign birth.	foreign
38. arrangement	I like the flower arrangement.	arrangement
39. campaign	The campaign is beginning.	campaign
40. imagine	Can you imagine a fairy?	imagine
41. extreme	His tastes are extreme.	extreme
42. organization	It is a large organization.	organization
43. immediate	I had an immediate reply.	immediate
44. employees	The employees had a raise in pay.	employees
45. accommodate	I will gladly accommodate you.	accommodate
46. superintendent	He is the superintendent.	superintendent
47. allege	I allege he is not guilty.	allege
48. stationery	He gave me a box of stationery.	stationery
49. vaguely	His impression was vaguely remembered.	vaguely
50. sovereign	The sovereign prince is ill.	sovereign

LIST 5

1. is	The apple is red.	is
2. now	Now is the time for play.	now
3. you	You must be quiet.	you
4. all	All the boys are here.	all
5. must	You must recite today.	must
6. come	Come with me.	come
7. door	Close the door.	door
8. yard	This stick is a yard long.	yard
9. got	I got a new hat yesterday.	got
10. blow	Blow out the light.	blow
11. cast	Cast aside your worries.	cast
12. blue	Her eyes are blue.	blue
13. eye	My eye hurts.	eye
14. they	They will be waiting.	they
15. able	He is able to be out.	able
16. dash	He made a dash for the door.	dash
17. begun	Have you begun your work?	begun
18. stood	He stood erect.	stood
19. offer	I made them a good offer.	offer
20. rule	What rule did you use?	rule
21. aboard	He is now aboard the ship.	aboard
22. district	It happened in your district.	district
23. navy	I want to join the navy.	navy
24. beautiful	What a beautiful tree.	beautiful
25. trouble	Keep out of trouble.	trouble
26. period	Every period is filled.	period
27. connection	There is no connection here.	connection
28. wear	Wear your uniforms.	wear
29. machine	The machine is broken.	machine
30. secure	The fastenings are secure.	secure
31. total	What is the total score?	total
32. difference	There is little difference.	difference
33. official	He is the best official we have.	official
34. accept	I will accept your offer.	accept
35. various	I have various kinds of candy.	various
36. assure	I will assure him of his safety.	assure
37. expense	You have been an expense to me.	expense
38. testimony	His testimony could not be shaken.	testimony
39. coarse	This material is coarse.	coarse
40. independent	He is independent.	independent
41. athletic	She is athletic.	athletic
42. bicycle	I have a new bicycle.	bicycle
43. convenient	It will be convenient for me.	convenient
44. exquisite	The trimmings are exquisite.	exquisite
45. orchestra	The orchestra played several times.	orchestra
46. thoroughly	I am thoroughly displeased.	thoroughly
47. cemetery	Let's go to the cemetery.	cemetery
48. tortoise	The tortoise lives on land.	tortoise
49. appropriate	Congress will appropriate large sums.	appropriate
50. proficiency	His proficiency was remarkable.	proficiency

LIST 6

1. it	It is time to go.	it
2. the	The snow is falling.	the
3. will	Will you go with me?	will
4. your	Your paper is soiled.	your
5. make	Make up your mind.	make
6. hand	Give me your hand.	hand
7. yes	Yes, I will go.	yes
8. bring	Bring me another book.	bring
9. north	I expect to go north.	north
10. block	We live on the same block.	block
11. card	Did you leave your card?	card
12. post	The post has fallen.	post
13. glass	Do not break the glass.	glass
14. would	Would you like some cake?	would
15. gone	They have been gone for an hour.	gone
16. fell	He fell and hurt himself.	fell
17. collect	Please collect the papers.	collect
18. fix	The men will fix the chair.	fix
19. suffer	She did not suffer any.	suffer
20. carry	Carry this package for me.	carry
21. jail	He is in jail.	jail
22. restrain	He could not restrain his anger.	restrain
23. fourth	This is the fourth period.	fourth
24. flight	The birds flight was rapid.	flight
25. entrance	The entrance is closed.	entrance
26. addition	The addition is correct.	addition
27. firm	The firm is bankrupt.	firm
28. entertain	I will entertain your mother.	entertain
29. toward	We went toward the north.	toward
30. honor	Have you no honor?	honor
31. mention	Do not mention my name.	mention
32. examination	The examination was difficult.	examination
33. victim	He is a victim of circumstances.	victim
34. impossible	It is impossible to hear.	impossible
35. decide	Decide for yourself.	decide
36. relief	My relief was sincere.	relief
37. responsible	Who is responsible for this?	responsible
38. principal	He is the principal of the school.	principal
39. columns	How many columns have you?	columns
40. individual	Who is this individual?	individual
41. sincerely	He spoke sincerely.	sincerely
42. calendar	Where is the calendar?	calendar
43. artificial	Those flowers are artificial.	artificial
44. familiar	Those sounds are familiar.	familiar
45. perceived	I perceived the answer.	perceived
46. surgeon	He is a great surgeon.	surgeon
47. enthusiasm	This enthusiasm is wonderful.	enthusiasm
48. extraordinary	He is an extraordinary person.	extraordinary
49. immediately	I left immediately after you.	immediately
50. lieutenant	He is first lieutenant.	lieutenant

LIST 7

1. and	You and I will go.	and
2. last	I went the last time.	last
3. we	We are tired.	we
4. out	Come out of the dark.	out
5. make	Make him come in.	make
6. ring	Ring the bell.	ring
7. low	The ceilings are low.	low
8. tell	Tell the truth.	tell
9. white	Her teeth are very white.	white
10. spring	The cats will spring at you.	spring
11. south	The birds have gone south.	south
12. town	What town is this?	town
13. party	We had a fine party.	party
14. any	Have you any money?	any
15. suit	Is that suit new?	suit
16. fight	Wild animals fight.	fight
17. file	File those letters.	file
18. born	Were you born in 2000?	born
19. built	He built a canoe.	built
20. chain	Make a daisy chain.	chain
21. shed	The horse is in the shed.	shed
22. royal	The royal palace was destroyed.	royal
23. population	What is the population of Boston?	population
24. travel	I shall travel a great deal.	travel
25. importance	The work is of great importance.	importance
26. employ	We employ two girls.	employ
27. region	What region are you in?	region
28. salary	What is your salary?	salary
29. success	Her success is wonderful.	success
30. promise	Promise to keep quiet.	promise
31. arrive	When does your train arrive.	arrive
32. particular	I am not particular.	particular
33. estimate	Can you estimate the amount?	estimate
34. concern	He is a member of our concern.	concern
35. entitle	It will entitle you to a prize.	entitle
36. occupy	Do not occupy all the space.	occupy
37. beginning	This is the beginning of a new chapter.	beginning
38. apparent	His delight was apparent.	apparent
39. desirable	This is a desirable location.	desirable
40. innocent	Are you innocent of this deed?	innocent
41. appreciate	I appreciate your kindness.	appreciate
42. disease	This disease is incurable.	disease
43. associates	They are business associates.	associates
44. finances	The finances are well handled.	finances
45. recommended	You are well recommended.	recommended
46. precipice	She fell over the precipice.	precipice
47. physician	He is my physician.	physician
48. mortgage	The mortgage is due tomorrow.	mortgage
49. dispensary	There is a new dispensary in our town.	dispensary
50. guarantee	I will guarantee his work.	guarantee

LIST 8

1. go	You may go.	go
2. up	Put up the window.	up
3. my	My head hurts.	my
4. time	What time is it?	time
5. street	What street is this?	street
6. live	Where do you live?	live
7. soft	The ice cream is soft.	soft
8. five	I have five cents.	five
9. spent	I spent all my money.	spent
10. river	This river is small.	river
11. deep	The river is deep.	deep
12. stay	Stay in the house.	stay
13. upon	The gloves were upon the table.	upon
14. could	Could you mend the toy?	could
15. track	The track is six miles long?	track
16. buy	Please buy me some candy.	buy
17. provide	I will provide for the future.	provide
18. goes	He goes away today.	goes
19. center	Point to the center of the circle.	center
20. death	His death was very sad.	death
21. retire	It is time to retire.	retire
22. objection	Have you any objection?	objection
23. proper	Is this the proper heading?	proper
24. rapid	His work is rapid.	rapid
25. carried	I carried the banner.	carried
26. property	The property is mine.	property
27. convict	The convict escaped.	convict
28. visitor	We have a visitor.	visitor
29. drown	Do not drown the kitten.	drown
30. wreck	There was a sad wreck today.	wreck
31. supply	The supply was exhausted.	supply
32. affair	It was a gala affair.	affair
33. accident	It was an accident.	accident
34. associate	I will not associate with them.	associate
35. political	There is a political meeting tonight.	political
36. probably	Probably we shall be late.	probably
37. application	You must file your application.	application
38. ascending	I was ascending the stairs.	ascending
39. extremely	We are extremely thankful to you.	extremely
40. leisure	We spent our leisure time fishing.	leisure
41. emergency	I reached for the emergency brake.	emergency
42. foreigners	There are foreigners to this city.	foreigners
43. development	The development was perfect.	development
44. intelligent	She is an intelligent child.	intelligent
45. seized	The man seized the falling child.	seized
46. orchestra	The orchestra played well.	orchestra
47. syllables	Pronounce the syllables clearly.	syllables
48. mortgage	The mortgage is due.	mortgage
49. persistence	Her persistence was amazing.	persistence
50. incessant	The talking was incessant.	incessant

Quick Grade Level Finder

Number of Words Correct	Grade Level
0	1.0
1	1.3
2	1.5
3	1.7
4	1.8
5	1.9
6	2.0
7	2.1
8	2.2
9	2.3
10	2.4
11	2.5
12	2.6
13	2.7
14	2.9
15	3.1
16	3.3
17	3.4
18	3.5
19	3.6
20	3.9
21	4.1
22	4.2
23	4.3
24	4.5
25	4.7
26	4.9
27	5.1
28	5.2
29	5.4
30	5.6
31	5.8
32	6.0
33	6.2
34	6.4
35	6.6
36	6.8
37	7.0
38	7.3
39	7.5
40	7.7
41	8.0
42	8.4
43	8.8
44	9.3
45	9.9
46	10.5
47	11.2
48	11.7
49	12.5
50	13.0