

Fluency Passage Pack


Foundational Zone

This resource contains controlled passages designed to support formative assessment as well as systematic, explicit, and frequent practice of oral reading skills.

When used as part of the Lexia® PowerUp Literacy® blended learning model—in conjunction with the online program and teacher-delivered instructional resources—the passages help students build automaticity and fluency.

Each passage is formatted with additional line spacing, a wide right margin, and a line-by-line running word count to provide opportunities for both practice and assessment.

Sample passage with teacher notes:



QUICKSAND
SYLLABLE DIVISION: VC/CLe
WORD COUNT: 184

Foundational | Fluency
Oral Reading Passages

✓✓✓✓ on ✓✓✓✓
 “It’s like being stuck in quicksand.” That’s what someone might

✓ — ✓ grab/SC ✓✓✓✓ — ✓R ✓✓✓✓
 say when they grapple with a puzzle or a problem and see no

10

23

— omitted word

^ inserted word

SC self correction

R repeated word

Time:	Errors:	Self Corrections:	WCPM:	Accuracy:
1:38	7	3	108	96%

Calculations

- words read correctly = total words – errors
- words correct per minute (wcpm) = words read correctly x 60 ÷ seconds to read passage
- accuracy = words read correctly ÷ total words x 100

Note: Self corrections and insertions do not count as errors.

Reading Fluency Passages: Controlled Text

Passage Title	Word Analysis Skill	Word Count	Page
PowerUp Foundational Zone			
Griffin and the Fix-it Jam	Closed Syllables Overview	162	4
A Fantastic Act	Closed Syllables: a & i	138	5
A Rabbit	Closed Syllables: a & i	119	6
Catnap	Closed Syllables: a & i	107	7
The X on the Map	Closed Syllables: a & i	137	8
What Is in the Grass?	Closed Syllables: a & i	101	9
Chipmunks	Closed Syllables: a, i, o & u	117	10
Drums	Closed Syllables: a, i, o & u	89	11
Fran's Fish Shack	Closed Syllables: a, i, o & u	173	12
Just Junk?	Closed Syllables: a, i, o & u	175	13
What a Stink!	Closed Syllables: a, i, o & u	161	14
Fish Facts	Closed Syllables: all vowels	147	15
Get It Done!	Closed Syllables: all vowels	162	16
In the Den	Closed Syllables: all vowels	179	18
The Attic Hunt	Closed Syllables: all vowels	169	20
The Trip	Consonant Blends	136	24
A Long Trip	Consonant Digraphs	123	25
Time to Ice Skate	Hard & Soft c	201	26
A Traffic Fan	Sight Words 1	134	28
Sunfish	Sight Words 2	120	29
What's in the Box?	Sight Words 3	141	30
Whale Watching	Sight Words 4	175	31
High Tide	Silent-e Syllables	180	33
Nine Lives	Silent-e Syllables	153	35
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Passage Title	Word Analysis Skill	Word Count	Page
PowerUp Foundational Zone (continued)			
Sinkholes	Silent-e Syllables	145	39
Will Elwin Sing?	Silent-e Syllables	180	40
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GRIFFIN AND THE FIX-IT JAM
CLOSED SYLLABLES OVERVIEW
WORD COUNT: 162

Griffin ran a small stand. At the stand, he had milk and jam. The jam 15

was fantastic, and it was a hit with people. If a man at the stand 30

was sad, Griffin would hand him a bit of the jam. “Have it! I insist.” 45

And the man would grin. If an infant was mad, Griffin would hand 58

it a bit of the jam. “Have it! I insist.” And the infant would grin. 73

Griffin was glad he had a fantastic fix-it jam at his stand. 85

As Griffin sat to fill a can of jam, a bandit ran past. Before Griffin 100

could blink, the bandit had all the milk and jam. Griffin had to 113

admit that without milk and jam his stand would sink, and he 125

would have to quit. 129

People ran to the stand. “We can fix it! We insist.” Griffin did not 143

have milk. He did not have his fantastic fix-it jam. He did have a 157

big grin and his pals. 162

Time:	Errors:	Self Corrections:	WCPM:	Accuracy:
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A FANTASTIC ACT
CLOSED SYLLABLES: A & I
WORD COUNT: 141

I am Hannah the Grand, and I want you to sit right where you are. 15

I have a fantastic act for you. You might gasp. You might clasp your 29

hands. You won't want to blink or you will miss it! 40

I have a silk hat. I can put my hand right through the hat. If I put a 58

strip of fabric in it, I can flip the hat and pull the fabric from there. If I 76

tip a drink into the hat, it will spill right out. 87

I want you people to clap as I tap the silk hat. Tap! Tap! Tap! It's a 104

pink rabbit, right out of the hat! I do not want a pink rabbit. I want a 121

tan rabbit. Tap! Tap! Tap! There is the tan rabbit! 131

You have to admit that my act is fantastic, right?! 141

Time:	Errors:	Self Corrections:	WCPM:	Accuracy:
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A RABBIT
CLOSED SYLLABLES: A & I
WORD COUNT: 119

A rabbit is out there in the grass. I want it to sit still for me. I want 19

to put out my hand and pat the rabbit. I slip past a big plant. I stand as 36

still as I can. The rabbit does not blink. I slip through the grass. The 51

rabbit does not sniff me. I stand still. The rabbit is right before me. 65

This is fantastic! 68

I put out my hand to tap the rabbit. It does not sprint from me. 83

In fact, it is a bit stiff. I squint at it. I grin because I could put this 101

rabbit in my lap. Rabbits won't sit still for people, but this rabbit will. 115

This rabbit is plastic! 119

Time:	Errors:	Self Corrections:	WCPM:	Accuracy:
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CATNAP
CLOSED SYLLABLES: A & I
WORD COUNT: 107

Tim can't nap because of his cat. If Tim wants to have a nap on 15

a mat, the cat will sit there. If Tim wants to have a nap in the 31

van, the cat will sit there. If Tim wants to stand still and have a 46

nap where he is, the cat will sit on him. People might ask if Tim 61

could put the cat out so he could have a nap. Tim insists the cat 76

is his pal and a pal should come before a nap. He won't admit 90

that if his cat was, in fact, a pal, it would grant him the right 105

to nap. 107

Time:	Errors:	Self Corrections:	WCPM:	Accuracy:
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THE X ON THE MAP
CLOSED SYLLABLES: A & I
WORD COUNT: 137

What is in the attic? There is a big bin with a clasp. In the bin is a silk 19
bag. In the silk bag is a map, and on the map is an X in big print. 37
It is a map of a tract of land where I have been. Does the X stand for 55
where people hid fantastic swag? I will have to dig there. 66
The X on the map insists I should dig where the land dips at the 81
pond. I dig there. It is a big task! At last, I have a big pit. 97
There is no fantastic swag. Am I at the right pond? I squint at the 112
map. By the X is a stamp: P-L-A-N-T-S. The X does stand for where to 127
dig. It is where to dig to put in plants! 137

Time:	Errors:	Self Corrections:	WCPM:	Accuracy:
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WHAT IS IN THE GRASS?
CLOSED SYLLABLES: A & I
WORD COUNT: 101

If you scan the grass, you might miss it. What is sprinting through	13
the grass? There are six hints in the list.	22
Hint 1: It is a mammal.	28
Hint 2: It is fast on land, but it won't swim.	39
Hint 3: If it licks you, it is as if there is sand.	52
Hint 4: It might hiss and spit if it is in a conflict.	65
Hint 5: It could sniff out a rat and attack it.	76
Hint 6: It should come if you call it and sit in your lap to nap.	92
What is in the grass? It is a cat.	101

Time:	Errors:	Self Corrections:	WCPM:	Accuracy:
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CHIPMUNKS
CLOSED SYLLABLES: A, I, O & U
WORD COUNT: 117

Chipmunks are animals that live in many places around the 10

world. They might live in a log or dig down in the land and live 25

there. They are busy animals and can run up, down, and around 37

rocks, stumps, and shrubs. Chipmunks are not big. In fact, they 48

could fit in your hand. Chipmunks eat a lot of nuts. You might 61

see them dash off with some to add to their stash. Chipmunks 73

will also eat the eggs of other animals, such as frogs. Chipmunks 85

have infants in the spring. The infant chipmunks live with their 96

mothers for a bit as pups. Dogs and bobcats hunt chipmunks. 107

Cats and rats are also not friends of the chipmunk. 117

Time:	Errors:	Self Corrections:	WCPM:	Accuracy:
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DRUMS

CLOSED SYLLABLES: A, I, O & U

WORD COUNT: 89

There is no lift like the lift of a drumstick before it hits.	13
From a tap-tap-tap	16
to a thump-thump-thump	19
to fast and frantic raps that shock the set,	28
drums will pull you out of a place	36
and put you in some other.	42
Dip and nod, jump and run, sing and chant.	51
Drums are in rock and rap and pop and jazz	61
because they drift with the song,	67
they conduct the song,	71
and they become the song.	76
There is no lift like the lift of a drumstick before it hits.	89

Time:	Errors:	Self Corrections:	WCPM:	Accuracy:
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FRAN'S FISH SHACK
CLOSED SYLLABLES: A, I, O & U
WORD COUNT: 173

What do you want to eat for lunch? What about some fish done just 14

right? What about clams, crabs, shrimp, and squid? Come down to 25

Fran's Fish Shack, where you know your dish will be fantastic! 36

At Fran's, we catch the fish just before lunch. You can eat it the very 51

instant the ship pulls into the dock. People come from around the 63

world just to eat lunch here. Grab a friend and stop in for a snack. 78

Sit down, put a napkin on your lap, smack your lips, and eat until you 93

are full! Come to Fran's Fish Shack, and you will be glad you did. 107

In fact, you won't want to admit that you have not been here before. 121

Where is Fran's Fish Shack? We are just off the path before it splits at 136

the docks. It is a log building on the right. You can't miss it if you just 153

sniff. With a whiff of the fish on the grill, you will know that you are 169

in the right place. 173

Time:	Errors:	Self Corrections:	WCPM:	Accuracy:
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JUST JUNK?

CLOSED SYLLABLES: A, I, O & U

WORD COUNT: 175

Shannon runs out before the sun is up. She hunts through the bins 13

that people have put out. They might not want rags, glass, plastic, and 26

other things because they think this stuff is junk. Shannon knows that 38

it is not junk. She stocks up on what she can lift and bring back in the 55

van. For Shannon, the things are just right for what she is building. 68

Shannon constructs gifts for public places. She has put up a fish as 81

big as a bus, a frog on stilts, and a big pink muffin with toppings. 96

The fish consists of a blimp with strips of silk fabric and many tin 110

cans. The fish hangs from thick strings. People pull on the strings, 122

and the fish swims! The frog is a box with a brass latch and some golf 138

clubs. The golf clubs are the frog's stilts. They shift when they brush 151

the floor. The pink muffin has buttons, ribbons, and plastic cups. 162

It has a lamp at the top that can be lit at dusk. 175

Time:	Errors:	Self Corrections:	WCPM:	Accuracy:
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WHAT A STINK!

CLOSED SYLLABLES: A, I, O & U

WORD COUNT: 161

We have a dog that we call Muffin. Muffin is just a pup, and pups	15
want to have fun. But fun for Muffin might not be fun for us. If a	31
rabbit sits on the grass, Muffin will dash off to catch it. Muffin is	45
quick, but rabbits are very fast. If a chipmunk zips past, Muffin will	58
run for it. Muffin can jump, but chipmunks can hop up on a branch	72
out of Muffin's grasp.	76
Last month, Muffin ran here and there through the grass. Before we	88
could stop it, Muffin ran to some rocks and logs to track an animal.	102
When Muffin got back to where we were standing, we let out a	115
gasping. What a disgusting stink! There had been a skunk in the rocks	128
and logs, and Muffin was no match for the skunk. A dog should not	142
bother a skunk because the skunk will attack with a shot of musk.	155
But Muffin did not know that.	161

Time:	Errors:	Self Corrections:	WCPM:	Accuracy:
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FISH FACTS
CLOSED SYLLABLES: ALL VOWELS
WORD COUNT: 147

Fish inhabit all the waters of the world. Clams, crabs, and shrimp 12

have the name shellfish, but they are not fish. Shellfish do not have 25

backbones, and fish are animals with backbones. It is common for 36

fish to have fins, which help them swim. There are some fish that 49

have fins like wings. The fish jump up from the ocean, jet through 62

the wind, and splash down. Some fish swim very fast, and some live 75

hidden in the sand. There are fish that are less than an inch long, and 90

fish that become as long as a bus. Fish come in many colors. 103

Some can change colors to blend in with ocean cliffs, shells, sand, 115

and plants. Fish eat plants and animals. They can also become a 127

snack for other fish. Fish do not have lungs; they suck water in and 141

then push it out through gills. 147

Time:	Errors:	Self Corrections:	WCPM:	Accuracy:
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GET IT DONE!
CLOSED SYLLABLES: ALL VOWELS
WORD COUNT: 162

People do this when they are packing for a trip. They do this when	14
they are building something and planning a wedding. People also	24
do this when they expect a very busy day. What is it that people do?	39
They make checklists!	42
Checklists can be a big help to you and your friends. Let's say that	56
you have a test in six days. You can make a checklist with tasks	70
for every day before the test day. A listed task might be a set of	85
problems like the ones on the test. Every day, you can do one task	99
and then check it off the list. After the last day, you will do well on	115
the test!	117
Before you can make a checklist, you must establish a plan.	128

Think about the tasks to do, step by step. Then you list what to do to	144
kick off your plan, next, after that, and last. A checklist will help you get	159
the job done.	162

Time:	Errors:	Self Corrections:	WCPM:	Accuracy:
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IN THE DEN
CLOSED SYLLABLES: ALL VOWELS
WORD COUNT: 179

One time last spring, I was helping my dad trim some shrubs on a 14
small hill. All of a sudden, Dad held up his hand to signal stop. “An 29
animal lives here,” he said. When I bent down, I could see a den that 44
had been dug into the hill. “We should not bother it”, Dad said. “We 58
can stand back and watch what happens.” 65

We left and found a hidden spot where we could watch the den. 78

Not long after that, an animal trotted past us. It was a red fox, and it 94
was heading right for the den. It had been hunting and held a dead 108
rabbit in its mouth. When the fox got to the den, little heads began 122
to pop up. I had not expected that! Six cubs were about to be fed 137
by the mother fox. And we were there to see it! The red fox family 152
began to change. 155

The small cubs began to come out of the den. They went hunting 168

together. But they could never catch a rabbit, just some insects. 179

Time:	Errors:	Self Corrections:	WCPM:	Accuracy:
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THE ATTIC HUNT
CLOSED SYLLABLES: ALL VOWELS
WORD COUNT: 169

“Come with me up to the attic,” my friend Devlin said to me. 13

“My dad wants a box of dishes that he left up there.” 25

We went up to the attic, but there was a problem. There must 38

have been a hundred boxes on the attic floor! We did not know 51

which box held the dishes. 56

We began to brush off cobwebs and pull stuff out of the boxes. 69

Devlin found a ribbon from a contest he was in when he was six. 83

Then he held up a velvet vest and said, “I wore this at a wedding 98

when I was about ten.” In the next box, Devlin found a plastic 111

helmet. He put the helmet on his head and said, “This still fits!” 124

He also found a hand puppet and a basket from his crafts class at 138

camp. I found a trumpet and let out a big blast. 149

Devlin and I found lots of fun things from his past. But we never 163

found the missing box of dishes. 169

Time:	Errors:	Self Corrections:	WCPM:	Accuracy:
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THE TRIP
CONSONANT BLENDS
WORD COUNT: 136

I have a plan for a trip. The trip will be a blast. Will I have to grab 18

a map for the trip? I won't. Will I have to fill a big bag for the 35

trip? I won't. Will I have to camp in a tent for the trip? I won't. 51

In fact, there won't be a list for the trip. I won't have to cram a 67

bag. I won't have to clasp a map because it is a trip to the past. 83

It is a trip with film. Come with me! 92

The print right there is of dad as an infant. Do I have a print of gran 109

with her cat, Skip? I do! And last, I have a print of me. I was six! 126

Do you want to plan a trip to the past? 136

Time:	Errors:	Self Corrections:	WCPM:	Accuracy:
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A LONG TRIP
CONSONANT DIGRAPHS
WORD COUNT: 123

We have big plans for a trip around the world. The trip will last 14

about six months. We will live in a van for a lot of the trip. A ship 31

will pick us up and drop us off at the docks. Before the trip, we 46

must think about what to pack and what not to pack. There 58

will be some things, such as snacks and thick socks, that we 70

must bring with us. There will be other things, such as cats 82

and dogs, that we should not bring. We have a bunch of maps. 95

We can also ask people for a hand if we are lost or stuck. If you 111

could plan a six-month trip, what would be on your packing list? 123

Time:	Errors:	Self Corrections:	WCPM:	Accuracy:
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TIME TO ICE SKATE
HARD & SOFT C
WORD COUNT: 201

When close friends invite me to do something that I have never	12
done before, I like to say yes as often as I can. That was the case	28
when my friend Ace came up with a plan for us to ice skate.	42
I had never been to a skating rink or put on an ice skate before.	57
Because it was new to me, I was a bit scared. We went to a rink	73
where we could rent skates. As I sat in this new place to lace up	88
the rented skates, Ace gave me a piece of advice. He said, “Just	101
take your time.” Then, he sped off.	108
Ace could glide on those thin blades, but I could not stand up	121
on mine. On the ice, my legs felt like they were made of water. I	136
kept slipping. I fell six times! I had to watch out for some people	150
who were racing right next to me. Several other people were	161
spinning like tops. They could twist with such grace.	170

I kept at it. By the time Ace and I left together, I had made it 186

around the entire rink twice. Next time, I just might let go of 199

the side. 201

Time:	Errors:	Self Corrections:	WCPM:	Accuracy:
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A TRAFFIC FAN
SIGHT WORDS 1
WORD COUNT: 134

Are you a fan of traffic? I am! I admit it. I am, in fact, a fan of 18

traffic. Traffic is fantastic. People might ask, “How are you a fan 30

of traffic? Do you want to sit there, in a jam? Come on! Have 44

you been frantic before, as you sat in traffic?” People might 55

add, “There should be a ban—a traffic ban! I won’t be a fan of 70

traffic.” If I had to sit in traffic, I might admit that it could be 85

bad. I might add, “The people are right, there should be a 97

traffic ban.” Still, I am a fan of traffic. I am a fan because I am a 114

rat. It is fantastic for me if people have to sit in traffic. I can run 130

right through the jam! 134

Time:	Errors:	Self Corrections:	WCPM:	Accuracy:
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SUNFISH
SIGHT WORDS 2
WORD COUNT: 120

There are a lot of fish in the world. Some fish eat plants. Many 14

fish, such as sunfish, eat other fish. The sunfish also eats squid 26

and crabs. That is not uncommon, but other things about the 37

sunfish are odd. It is a disc with thick lips, big fins, and skin with 52

bumps. Other animals do not bother it because it is very big. In 65

fact, some sunfish become as big as a van. The sunfish can not 78

swim fast, but it can swim down to hunt at a depth where there 92

is just a glint of the sun. Then, it swims back up to bask in the sun. 109

The sunfish grunts at other fish. It also winks and spits! 120

Time:	Errors:	Self Corrections:	WCPM:	Accuracy:
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WHAT'S IN THE BOX
SIGHT WORDS 3
WORD COUNT: 141

When the bell rang, Tess ran to the door as fast as she could.	14
On the steps, she found the box that she had been expecting.	26
"It's here at last!" Tess said. She bent down to pick up the box.	40
Tess sat on the grass out back to check the list of contents in the	55
box. "Yes, all the pieces are here," she said. After that, she	67
began to connect the pieces, step by step. At last, Tess wore	79
a big grin. Standing back, she held her head high and said,	91
"Fantastic!"	92
Tess had never set up a tent before, but she did the job well.	106
Next month, she will camp with her friends. She will bring	117
the tent and will show them what to do to set it up together.	131
"This will be the best camping trip yet!" Tess said.	141

Time:	Errors:	Self Corrections:	WCPM:	Accuracy:
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WATCHING WHALES
SIGHT WORDS 4
WORD COUNT: 175

After lunch, a small ship will set off to watch for whales. Whales 13

spend their lives in the ocean. They have body shapes like fish, 25

but they are not fish. Whales are mammals that have lungs and 37

must breathe like people. When a whale comes up for air, 48

everyone on the ship will have a chance to spot it. 59

It will take the ship 45 minutes to get to the right place for 73

whale-watching. The whales have come to this place before 82

because they can find a lot to eat here. These whales consume 94

lots of krill, which are very small ocean animals. 103

Then we will search for whales. When someone yells, “A whale!” 114

everyone will stop talking and run to that side of the ship. Mist 127

will rise as the whale exhales air from a hole on top of its head. All 143

of a sudden, a big black shape will explode out of the cold water 157

and splash down. Sometimes several humpback whales will show 166

up next to the ship. What a thrilling sight! 175

Time:	Errors:	Self Corrections:	WCPM:	Accuracy:
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HIGH TIDE
SILENT-E SYLLABLES
WORD COUNT: 180

Sam had never been to the ocean before his trip to Mussel Cove. 13

He did not know how to swim, but he felt safe hiking on a wide strip 29

of sand in the water. The sand strip led to a high pile of rocks. The 45

water would rise up to the top of the rocks when the tide came in, 60

but Sam did not know about ocean tides. 68

Sam spent some time sitting on the rocks and watching the gulls. 80

He fed them some nuts from his pocket. Then he squinted at the 93

path he had taken to get to the rocks. 102

The sand strip was less wide than it had been before. The waves were 116

crashing on the sand, and the water kept rising. Sam waded down from 129

the rocks. He felt the water lapping at his legs. He began to jog, then 144

run. Sam raced back to land as fast as he could, splashing and yelling. 158

That was how Sam found out that ocean water rises at high tide. 171

He also made a plan to take swimming lessons. 180

Time:	Errors:	Self Corrections:	WCPM:	Accuracy:
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NINE LIVES
SILENT-E SYLLABLES
WORD COUNT: 153

From big cats that live in grasslands to pets that live in a home, cats	15
are gifted athletes. A cat's body is made for jumping. Its backbone	27
can flex and twist. Cat legs are like springs. These spring-like legs	39
help cats get into high places. A cat can run and jump a long	53
distance, or it can sit still and jump. Its strong back legs thrust	66
its body up. Cats love to climb, as well.	75
Cats are deft but sometimes they drop from high places. When this	87
happens, the cat can twist its body to right itself so it does not land	102
on its head. The cat extends its long legs as it drops. Its legs help	117
lessen the impact when it lands.	123
Cats climb and jump all the time, so it makes sense that they can	137
drop without getting hurt. Because of this skill, many people say the	149
cats have nine lives!	153

AT THE SKI SLOPE
SILENT-E SYLLABLES
WORD COUNT: 208

Drake and Jin were in the parking lot of the ski slope after they	14
finished ice skating together. Drake was very skilled on skates. But	25
he did not know how to ski.	32
Jin began skiing with his family as a child. He had gone skiing	45
many times. Because Drake helped him with ice skating, Jin	55
wanted to help Drake ski.	60
First, they put on new plastic ski boots. Then, they walked	71
through the parking lot to the line at the ski lift. Jin helped Drake	85
click his boots into his skis, and they slid on their skis to the lift.	100
When the ski lift came, they got on it next to each other. In about	115
a minute, the lift would zip to the top of the hill. Jin and Drake	130
rode high through the cold air to the top of the hillside.	142
“This is amazing!” Drake yelled. He had an epic smile on his face.	155

Together, they darted down the slope. Drake tripped and fell	165
several times. Jin advised Drake how to use his skis to move right	178
and left. Drake got better with every trip down the slope. He	190
could not get enough of the slopes!	197
“What a thrill!” Drake smiled. “Thank you, Jin, for the lesson.”	208

Time:	Errors:	Self Corrections:	WCPM:	Accuracy:
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SINKHOLES
SILENT-E SYLLABLES
WORD COUNT: 145

A bus is driving down a lane. In a blink, there is no lane! There is just 17
a big hole. A sinkhole is to blame. A sinkhole takes shape when 30
water dissolves rocks that are embedded in the land. The water 41
makes spaces or tunnels in the rocks. Then, the top slab of land 54
collapses into those spaces. This cave-in can happen very fast. 64
Some sinkholes are small. Other sinkholes are as large as a whole 76
block of buildings. 79

Sinkholes happen all around the world. Places with a lot of limestone 91
have a high rate of sinkholes. Water acts fast on limestone to dissolve it. 105
Pipes that channel water into the land or pump water out of the land 119
can bring about a sinkhole. The best plan to stop new sinkholes from 132
happening is to stop building anything on land with a lot of limestone. 145

Time:	Errors:	Self Corrections:	WCPM:	Accuracy:
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WILL ELWIN SING?
SILENT-E SYLLABLES
WORD COUNT: 180

I have a friend who has been singing his whole life. Elwin was	13
singing before he was talking. Well, that’s what his mother has said.	25
He can sing just about every song and make it sound beautiful. He	38
also composes new songs. When Elwin sings, everyone tells him how	49
gifted he is. “Singing lifts me up,” Elwin admits. “There is nothing	61
else I like as much as singing.”	68
Elwin is always humming a tune. He sings in class. He sings on	81
the bus. He sings when he is taking a bath. But Elwin won’t sing if	96
someone is judging him. “I choke if a judge is watching me,” he	109
confesses. “The sight of someone taking notes while I sing makes my	121
insides shake.”	123
A singing contest will be held next month at a club close to Elwin’s	137
home. The prize will be a chance to compete on a TV show. I know	152

that Elwin could win. I wish he would take my advice and sing in that 167

contest. What can I tell him that would convince him to do it? 180

Time:	Errors:	Self Corrections:	WCPM:	Accuracy:
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A NOTE TO FRIENDS OF SUNSHINE LAKE
SYLLABLE DIVISION: VC/CCV
WORD COUNT: 166

There are big problems in the Sunshine Lake district. Glass, cans,	11
plastic bags, and an old mattress are spread out on the sand.	23
Many objects are also in the water. All this pollutes the land and	36
water. It can make fish and other animals ill. Hundreds of plants	48
invade the banks. These plants do not let other plants thrive. How	60
can we address these complex problems?	66
This June will be “Help Sunshine Lake Month.” All month long,	77
we will collect the junk on the sand and in the water. We will	91
inspect the plants and dig up those that are out of place.	103
Do you want Sunshine Lake to be at its best? Then we invite you,	117
your family, and your friends to help out. Small children are also	129
welcome! If we work together and include everyone, we can	139
complete the jobs that will make the lake fresh and beautiful.	150

Help us accomplish something fantastic and bring Sunshine

158

Lake back to the way it should be!

166

Time:	Errors:	Self Corrections:	WCPM:	Accuracy:
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RABBIT TWINS
SYLLABLE DIVISION: VC/CV
WORD COUNT: 94

A tan rabbit and its twin zigzag through the grass. They sprint 12
past a hill. They sprint right past six people. The people sit on 25
fabric in the grass. They have a big plastic bin with a strap and 39
a lid. In the bin are pink napkins, a slab of ham, a tin of jam, and 56
six drinks. 58

The rabbit twins come back. They sniff the grass and squint at the 71
people with the plastic bin. It is a bit of a risk. Is it a trap? Should 88
they scam? No, it's a picnic! 94

Time:	Errors:	Self Corrections:	WCPM:	Accuracy:
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Check for Understanding Questions

A Fantastic Act

1. Where does Hannah the Grand want people to sit? (*Hannah the Grand wants people to sit "right where you are."*)
2. What should people do when Hannah the Grand taps the hat? (*People should clap when Hannah the Grand taps the hat.*)
3. What does Hannah the Grand want to pull out of the hat? (*Hannah the Grand wants to pull a tan rabbit out of the hat.*)

A Long Trip

1. How long will the trip last? (*The trip will last six months.*)
2. What two kinds of travel are mentioned in the text? (*A van and a ship are mentioned in the text.*)
3. Does the author suggest that planning a long trip is quick and easy? How do you know? (*No, the author does not suggest that planning a long trip is quick and easy. The author describes thinking about what to bring and what not to bring.*)

A Note to Friends of Sunshine Lake

1. What are the two big problems at Sunshine Lake? (*The two big problems at Sunshine Lake are pollution and invasive plants.*)
2. What will happen in June? (*For the entire month of June, people will volunteer to clean up Sunshine Lake.*)
3. What is the author's main purpose for writing this text? (*The author's main purpose for writing this text is to persuade people to clean up the lake.*)

A Rabbit

1. Where is the rabbit? (*The rabbit is in the grass.*)
2. The narrator says, "I stand still." Why? (*The narrator stands still so the rabbit does not become scared and run away.*)
3. Why does the rabbit sit still? (*The rabbit sits still because it is not real; it is made of plastic.*)

A Traffic Fan

1. In this story, who is a fan of traffic? (*The fan of traffic is a rat.*)
2. Why does the fan of traffic think it is fantastic? (*The rat thinks traffic is fantastic because it can sprint right through the traffic.*)
3. Could this be a true story? Why or why not? (*Answers may vary. A sample answer is: No. This story is not true because it is being told by a rat and rats do not talk.*)

Catnap

1. Who is Tim? (*Tim is the owner of the cat.*)
2. List two places the cat sits when Tim wants to nap. (*Answers may vary but should include two of the following: on a mat, in a van, on Tim.*)
3. What reason does Tim give for not putting his cat out so he can have a nap? (*Tim insists that his cat is a pal and a pal is more important than a nap.*)

Chipmunks

1. Where do chipmunks like to run? (*Chipmunks like to run up, down, and around rocks, stumps, and shrubs.*)
2. What does the author state about a chipmunk's size? (*The author states that "chipmunks are not big" and "could fit in your hand."*)
3. What is the author's main purpose for writing this text? (*The author's main purpose for writing this text is to share facts about chipmunks.*)

Drums

1. According to the poem, what can drums do? (*According to the poem, drums can "pull you out of a place/and put you in some other."*)
2. What can people do if a song with drums is on? (*If a song with drums is on, people can dip, nod, jump, run, sing, and chant.*)
3. What sort of songs have drums? (*Drums are in rock, rap, pop, and jazz.*)

Fish Facts

1. Are clams, crabs, and shrimp fish? Why or why not? (*Clams, crabs, and shrimp are shellfish but not fish. Fish have a backbone but shellfish do not.*)
2. How do some fish blend in with shells, sand, and plants? (*Some fish blend in with shells, sand, and plants by changing colors.*)
3. What do fish eat? (*Fish eat plants and animals.*)

Fran's Fish Shack

1. What does Fran's Fish Shack have for lunch? (*Fran's Fish Shack has fish, clams, crabs, shrimp, and squid.*)
2. Where is Fran's Fish Shack? (*Fran's Fish Shack is just off the path before it splits at the docks, in a log building on the right.*)
3. Is the fish at Fran's Fish Shack fresh? How do you know? (*Yes, the fish is fresh because they catch it just before lunch.*)

Get It Done!

1. What can people do when they expect a busy day? *(People can make a checklist when they expect a busy day.)*
2. How can a checklist help you? *(A checklist could help you plan for a big test.)*
3. What should you do before you make a checklist? *(Before you make a checklist, think about the tasks you have to do.)*

Griffin and the Fix-it Jam

1. What does Griffin do if someone at his stand is having a hard time? *(If someone at his stand is having a hard time, Griffin hands the person some jam.)*
2. Does the bandit work quickly? How do you know? *(Yes, the bandit worked quickly. According to the text, the bandit was able to take all the milk and jam “before Griffin could blink.”)*
3. Why do you think people add items to Griffin’s stand after the bandit takes the milk and jam? *(Answers will vary. A sample answer is: Griffin always tried to make people feel better. The people who help Griffin want to do the same for him.)*

High Tide

1. What is the setting of this text? *(The setting is Mussel Cove at high tide.)*
2. What happens to the sand strip as the water keeps rising? *(The sand strip becomes less wide as the water rises and covers it.)*
3. Why might Sam begin to run as the water rises? *(Answers may vary. A sample answer is: I think Sam begins to run because he can’t swim and is scared of the rising water.)*

In the Den

1. What has been dug into the hill? *(A den has been dug into the hill.)*
2. Where has the mother fox been? *(The mother fox has been hunting to get food for the cubs.)*
3. What pops up from the den? *(The little heads of the cubs pop up from the den.)*

Just Junk?

1. Why does Shannon run out before the sun is up? *(Shannon runs out to hunt through bins that people put out.)*
2. What does Shannon do with other people’s “junk”? *(Shannon constructs gifts for public places with other people’s “junk.”)*
3. What did Shannon do to construct the frog on stilts? *(The frog is a box with a brass latch that stands on some golf clubs.)*

Nine Lives

1. What are a cat's legs compared to in the first paragraph? (*A cat's legs are compared to springs.*)
2. How does a cat land on its legs when it drops? (*A cat can twist its body to right itself before it lands.*)
3. What is the author's main purpose for writing this text? (*The author's main purpose is to give information about how cats can jump and drop without getting hurt.*)

Rabbit Twins

1. Who zigzags through the grass? (*A rabbit and its twin zigzag through the grass.*)
2. Why do the rabbits come back? (*The rabbits come back because they are curious about the six people and their picnic.*)
3. Why is sniffing the grass "a bit of a risk" for the rabbits? (*Answers will vary. A sample answer is: The rabbits are scared that the people might try to catch them.*)

At the Ski Slope

1. When did Jin start skiing? (*Jin began skiing with his family as a child.*)
2. Why did Jin give Drake a skiing lesson? (*Because Drake helped Jin learn to ice skate, Jin wanted to teach Drake about something he is good at.*)
3. What is the author's main purpose for writing this text? (*The author's main purpose for writing this text is to entertain readers with a story about skiing.*)

Sinkholes

1. According to the example given in the text, what happens to the lane? (*The lane turns into a sinkhole.*)
2. When does a sinkhole take shape? (*A sinkhole takes shape when water dissolves rocks that are embedded in the land.*)
3. How can new sinkholes be stopped? (*New sinkholes can be stopped by not building anything on land with a lot of limestone.*)

Sunfish

1. How big can a sunfish become? (*The sunfish can become as big as a van.*)
2. What does the sunfish eat? (*The sunfish eats other fish, squid, and crabs.*)
3. What can you infer about how the sunfish got its name? (*Answers may vary. A sample answer is: The sunfish might have got its name when people saw it basking in the sun after it had been hunting in deep water.*)

The Attic Hunt

1. Why does Devlin have to go up to the attic? (*Devlin needs to get a box of dishes for his dad.*)
2. Why do you think Devlin and his friend never find what they were looking for? (*The attic has a hundred boxes and they don't know which one holds the dishes.*)
3. Do you think Devlin enjoys his time in the attic? Why or why not? (*Answers may vary. A sample answer is: I think Devlin enjoys his time in the attic because he finds "a lot of fun things from his past."*)

The Trip

1. What are two things that the narrator does not have to do for this trip? (*Answers may include any two of the following: grab a map, fill a bag, and make a list.*)
2. What does it mean that this is "a trip with film"? (*It means that the author is taking a trip to the past by looking at old pictures.*)
3. Could this story be true? Why or why not? (*Answers will vary. A sample answer is: Yes, this story could be true. It tells about a person looking at pictures that could really exist.*)

The X on the Map

1. Where is the map? (*The map is in a silk bag that is in a bin with a clasp.*)
2. What is in the big pit? (*There is nothing in the big pit.*)
3. What does the X stand for? (*The X stands for where to dig to put in plants.*)

Time to Ice Skate

1. What advice does Ace give the narrator? (*Ace tells the narrator, "Just take your time."*)
2. The narrator says, "My legs felt like they were made of water." What does this mean? (*The narrator means that his/her legs are weak and not steady.*)
3. What can you infer about how the narrator is able to make it around the rink twice? (*The narrator holds onto the side of the rink to avoid falling.*)

Watching Whales

1. What is krill? (*Krill are small ocean animals that whales eat.*)
2. According to the text, how are whales similar to people? (*Both whales and people are mammals that use lungs to breathe air.*)
3. How does the author of this text feel about whale-watching? How do you know? (*Answers may vary. A sample answer is: I think the author enjoys whale-watching because the last sentence describes it as "thrilling."*)

What a Stink!

1. Muffin can not catch a rabbit. Why? (*Muffin can not catch a rabbit because rabbits run faster than Muffin.*)
2. Where does Muffin run to get the skunk? (*Muffin runs to some rocks and logs to get the skunk.*)
3. With what does the skunk attack Muffin? (*The skunk attacks Muffin with a shot of musk that makes the dog stink.*)

What Is in the Grass?

1. What could it do to a rat? (*It could sniff out a rat and attack it.*)
2. Where will it nap? (*It will sit in your lap to nap.*)
3. What is “as if there is sand”? (*The cat’s tongue feels like sand when it licks.*)

What’s in the Box?

1. What arrived in a box for Tess? (*All of the parts to make a tent arrived in a box for Tess.*)
2. Why was it important for Tess to check the list of contents in the box? (*It was important for Tess to check the contents of the box so that she knew she had all of the pieces to make the tent.*)
3. How did Tess feel when she finally put all of the pieces together? How do you know? (*Answers may vary. A sample answer is: I think Tess felt happy and proud when she put the tent together because she “wore a big grin” and “held her head high.”*)

Will Elwin Sing?

1. What skill does Elwin have? (*Elwin is gifted at singing.*)
2. What scares Elwin? (*Elwin is scared of singing in front of a judge.*)
3. What does the narrator want Elwin to do? (*The narrator wants Elwin to sing in a contest at a club close to Elwin’s home.*)

Dimensions of Fluent Reading

Scores range from 4 to 16. Scores below 8 generally indicate that fluency may be an area of need. Regularly assess these dimensions of fluent reading to determine if scores indicate that the student is making progress.

Are expression and volume natural?

- ☐ Reads in a quiet voice with little or no expression; does not sound like natural language. (1)
- ☐ Reads in a quiet voice with some expression that occasionally sounds like natural language. (2)
- ☐ Reads with expression at an appropriate volume that sounds like natural language with some lapses into flat reading. (3)
- ☐ Reads with expression at an appropriate volume that consistently sounds like natural language. (4)

Are words grouped into meaningful phrases?

- ☐ Reads word-by-word. (1)
- ☐ Reads with frequent two-word or three-word phrasing. Stress and intonation do not match ends of sentences and clauses. (2)
- ☐ Reads with some appropriate phrasing combined with run-ons and erratic pauses. Adequate stress and intonation. (3)
- ☐ Reads with appropriate phrasing and attention to punctuation within and between sentences. (4)

Is reading smooth and effortless?

- ☐ Reads with frequent hesitation, repetitions, and sounding out of words. (1)
- ☐ Reads with some areas of hesitation, repetitions, self-corrections, and sounding out of words. (2)
- ☐ Reads smoothly with occasional breaks to focus on specific words or phrases. (3)
- ☐ Reads smoothly with some breaks at specific words or phrases, but these are self corrected. (4)

Is the pace conversational?

- ☐ Reads slowly with difficulty. (1)
- ☐ Reads moderately slowly. (2)
- ☐ Reads at an uneven pace (slowly in some areas, fast in others). (3)
- ☐ Reads at an appropriately conversational pace. (4)

TOTAL _____

Fluent Reading Student Checklist

Name: _____

Date: _____

Passage Title: _____

- ☐ My expression is natural. I sound like I am talking to a friend.
- ☐ The volume of my voice is loud enough for someone sitting next to me to hear every word.
- ☐ I group words into phrases that show I understand the meaning of what I am reading.
- ☐ I pay attention to punctuation. I pause when I see commas and periods and change my voice when I see question marks and exclamation points.
- ☐ My reading is smooth and accurate. If I make a mistake, I correct it and continue reading.
- ☐ My pace is conversational. I am not reading as quickly as I can, and I am not reading so slowly that the text loses meaning.

What did I do well?

What can I improve?

National Oral Reading Fluency Norms

If these passages are used for timed readings, the following National Oral Reading Fluency Norms (Hasbrouck & Tindal, 2017) can be used as general guidelines for rate and accuracy performance. In general, students who score >10 wcpm below the average may benefit from additional support in developing reading fluency.

Grade	50th Percentiles Words Correct per Minute (wcpm)		
	Fall	Winter	Spring
1	—	29	60
2	50	84	100
3	83	97	112
4	94	120	133
5	121	133	146
6	132	145	146