Nonsense Word Test

Testing nonsense word accuracy and fluency will help you figure out if the use of the Syllables Spell Success program followed by nonsense word training is likely to improve your reading speed and accuracy.

An adult or a child age 12 or older should be reading the nonsense words at least 100 Words Per Minute (WPM) with 100% accuracy.

An 11 year old should be reading the nonsense words at least 95 WPM with 100% accuracy.

A 10 year old should be reading nonsense words at least 90 WPM with 100% accuracy.

A 9 year old should be reading the nonsense words at least 80 WPM with 95% accuracy.

A 8 year old should be reading the nonsense words at least 70 WPM with 90% accuracy.

A 7 year old should read them at least 60 WPM with 90% accuracy.

A 6 year old should read them at least 40 WPM with 85% accuracy.

Anyone who is reading below these recommendations for their age should benefit from the syllables program and nonsense word training.

This test uses a group of 25 words. Time the rate at which the student reads the words and keep track of the number of words missed. The 25 words per passage makes calculating accuracy easy, just multiply the number correct by 4, for example, 20 correct is 80% and 24 correct is 96% accuracy.

Words per Minute (WPM)

= words read X 60/ speed in seconds

Since each nonsense word group is 25 words:

WPM = 1500/ Speed in Seconds

You can also use the following chart to figure out the WPM rate, it uses the formula above and has common times and their associated WPM score, based on 25 words read and the formula for calculating WPM. You must use time in seconds for the formula and the table. For example, 1 one minute 20 seconds = 60 seconds + 20 seconds = 80 seconds.

Time	WPM	Time	WPM	Time	WPM	Time	WPM	Time	WPM
11	136	22	68	33	45	45 - 46	33	67 - 69	22
12	125	23	65	34	44	47	32	70 - 73	21
13	115	24	63	35	43	48 - 49	31	75 - 76	20
14	107	25	60	36	42	50	30	77 - 81	19
15	100	26	58	37	41	51 - 52	29	82 - 85	18
16	94	27	56	38	39	53 - 54	28	86 - 90	17
17	88	28	54	39 - 40	38	55 - 56	27	91 - 96	16
18	83	29	52	41	37	57 - 58	26	97 - 103	15
19	79	30	50	42	36	59 - 61	25	104 - 111	14
20	75	31	48	43	35	62 - 63	24	112 - 120	13
21	71	32	47	44	34	64 - 66	23	121 - 130	12

Words to use for nonsense word testing are on the next page. Use a single group of words for a test. There are 3 versions of the test to use for before and after teaching. For more words for additional testing, use 40L's extra words nonsense document, it has 20 pages of the same type of nonsense words in groups of 25.

Version A

cloat	phred	crigh	dreep	vog
clude	crake	phrike	blettle	ept
yeem	freep	blisk	gleep	yuff
thrune	slen	theel	phroast	crice
geb	jash	brettle	plice	blar

Version B

zupt	thund	vuff	threep	brool
clun	opt	sict	phlype	frist
gresk	therm	stee	glute	swoak
puct	jeft	crell	jat	thrane
teft	yeem	zusk	shrusp	praw

Version C

glail	swoke	froan	therm	clor
pran	stract	bloist	frain	mizzle
druke	sprin	drept	phlape	gleep
zerm	yint	troat	fack	yute
onk	fash	unk	sprid	ruct