


ONE MINUTE WORD READING TASK

Instructions for Administration and Scoring

About the Test

What is Measured	This test assesses word reading efficiency in a 1-minute reading-aloud format. The words are deliberately selected to be relatively familiar (at least as spoken words), and they are organised in terms of reading difficulty from simple one- and two-letter words up to three syllable words. Even Reception Year children should be able to read a few of the words, and overall accuracy rates are typically very high from Year 1 onward. Designed to cause minimal decoding difficulty, this test estimates children's decoding fluency.	
Age Range	This test is suitable for children in Reception Year to Year 6.	
Scoring (accuracy)	The main score of reading aloud efficiency is obtained by summing the number of correctly read and self-corrected responses produced in one minute. The number of incorrect responses (including skipped and refused items) should be noted for information, although no norms are provided for errors. This test generates very high accuracy; error rates are therefore typically very low.	
Norms	Current English norms are available for children in Reception Year, Years 1 and 2.	
Materials for Administration	Recording device Stopwatch One Minute Word Reading Score Sheet One Minute Word Reading Card	

Test Procedure

1. Test Introduction

Administrator says:

"I will show you some words and I would like you to read them as quickly as you can without making mistakes. Read them in order using your finger to follow along [Administrator demonstrates pointing with finger to words vertically, down each column]. If you make a mistake, correct it and then keep on reading as quickly as you can. If you come to a difficult word, try it anyway, but if it is too hard then just go on to the next word. Are you ready? Don't forget to point to the words as you read them."



**Ensure the child understands to read the words vertically down each column (not horizontally across the rows).
If the child struggles with a word, encourage him or her to keep going.**

2. Conducting the Test

- The Administrator reads aloud the test instructions from the **Instructions for Administration and Scoring** (see Administrator's script in the introduction above).
- The Administrator presents the child with the **One Minute Word Reading Card**.
- The Administrator starts the stopwatch as soon as the child pronounces the first word.
- The Administrator stops the test after 60 seconds.
- If the child struggles with a word, the Administrator encourages them to keep going.
- The Administrator draws a line after the last word the child attempts.

3. Scoring

- The Administrator refers to the **One Minute Word Reading Score Sheet** to score the Items.
- In the 'Response' column for each item the Administrator should:
 - write ✓ or **1** beside each **correctly** decoded word.
 - write **X** or **0** beside **misread** words.
 - write **SC** beside **self-corrected** words, and score the response ✓ or **1**.
 - write / beside **skipped** and **refused** words, and score the response **X** or **0**.
 - write **L1** next to the score if the child's response appears to be a **transfer error** from their other language, and award them a ✖ or **0 points**.
 - leave all cells after the child's final response blank.
- Award **one point** for each correctly read and correctly self-corrected word.