

Passage Reading Fluency Pretest/Posttest

One of the goals of *REWARDS Intermediate* is to increase students' reading rates when reading passages. When students are able to read at an appropriate rate, they are able to redirect all of their cognitive energy to reading comprehension, the ultimate goal of all reading. Before and after implementation of this program, administer a one-minute fluency assessment using one or more grade level reading passages. If your school routinely collects fluency data, you may use that assessment. If your school reading program does not include periodic fluency measures, then administer the passage provided in this appendix as a pretest and a posttest. Be sure to carefully follow the procedures outlined below and on the next page.

Fluency Assessment Procedure

1. Administer the following fluency measure to each student before they begin *REWARDS Intermediate* and again after they complete the program.
2. Make copies of the passage on the next two pages (one copy per student for recording data and one copy for students to read). Secure a stopwatch or timer.
3. Tell each student the title of the passage: "George Schuster and the Great Auto Race." (*Note:* Schuster is pronounced "shooster," rhymes with "rooster.") Have the student repeat the title. George's name is also included in the passage, so have the student repeat George's first and last name one more time.
4. Ask the student to read the passage as quickly and as carefully as possible. Point to the bottom of the first page and tell the student to go on to the second page if finished. Show the student the second page.
5. Have the student read for one minute. Start the stopwatch or timer.
6. Record data as the student reads.
 - Underline all mispronunciations.
 - If the student corrects a mispronunciation within one second, give credit for the word.
 - If the student reverses the order of words, both words are errors.
 - Cross out words that are omitted. They will not be counted.
 - Write in all additions. However, these will not be counted.
7. When the minute is complete, ask the student to stop.
8. The title does not count. Determine the total number of words read by counting on from the number at the beginning of the last line read. Subtract any reversals or mispronunciations (unless the error was immediately corrected). Determine the number of words read correctly in one minute.
9. Keep a record of the pretest and posttest fluency scores on the Pretest/Posttest Summary Chart found near the end of this Appendix.

George Schuster and the Great Auto Race

9 In 1908, an American, George Schuster, won the New
21 York to Paris Race. It was the longest auto race ever run.
30 Six cars from four countries competed against each other.
40 The cars traveled west from New York to San Francisco
50 and then north to Seattle. There they boarded ships for
59 Japan. From Japan, they continued across the Asian and
68 European continents, and then crossed the finish line in
Paris.

69 At first, the United States wasn't going to participate.
78 But, with Italy, Germany, and France in the race, President
88 Roosevelt wanted America to be there, too. He convinced
97 an American company to enter a car in the race. It was
109 called the Thomas Flyer. At first, George Schuster was
118 the car's mechanic. Partway through the race, though, he
127 became the Thomas Flyer's driver.

132 At the time of the 1908 race, very few people owned an
144 automobile. There were few roads and no gas stations.
153 Many people had never even seen an automobile. Because
162 of that, many thousands of people stood outside all across
172 America to watch the cars go by. Children were even let
183 out of school. The cars didn't have windows or doors and
194 there were no snowplows. People thought the drivers
202 were crazy to start the race in the middle of winter. A lot
215 of people said that making it all the way to Paris was going
228 to be impossible!

231 The drivers encountered many problems along the
238 way. One time, the American car got stuck in quick sand
249 and broke a gear. Mr. Schuster had to lie in the quick
261 sand under the car to fix it. Another time, the American
272 car stopped to pull the German car out of a mud bog in
285 the middle of Siberia. A famous photograph still exists
294 showing the rescue.

297 Three of the six cars made it to Paris. It took the
309 Thomas Flyer 169 days to go more than 22,000 miles.
319 After hearing that three cars had finished the race, many
329 people decided they were ready to own an automobile
338 themselves. Highways were built, and gas stations became
346 commonplace. Cars became a part of everyday life.
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