

STANDARD
TEST LESSONS
IN READING

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BOOK TWO

[PRACTICE LESSONS FOR GRADES 2, 3 or 4]

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TEST LESSON 1

Each year the little girls of Japan have a holiday which makes them very happy. It is called the feast of dolls, and is held during the early part of March. The feast lasts three days and during that time the little girls are allowed to play with all their dolls. These dolls are not only their own but those that belonged to their mother, their grandmother, and also their great-grandmother. So most of the Japanese girls have many dolls and are very careful of them. During the feast, the dolls are dressed in their best clothes and placed on stands so that people may admire them but not break them. When the three days are over, the dolls are put carefully away until the next year.

1. This holiday is called the feast of (a) kites; (b) flags; (c) dolls; (d) fishes.
2. The holiday is celebrated in (a) China; (b) Japan; (c) United States; (d) Germany.
3. Is the feast held in (a) May; (b) December; (c) June; (d) March?
4. At this time the girls play with their (a) dolls; (b) brothers; (c) pets; (d) toys.
5. How many dolls have the little girls? (a) few; (b) none; (c) one; (d) many.
6. How many days does the feast last? (a) one; (b) four; (c) three; (d) two.
7. Little Japanese girls handle their dolls (a) carefully; (b) carelessly; (c) roughly; (d) playfully.
8. At the end of the feast the dolls are (a) given away; (b) kept on stands; (c) put away; (d) played with.

No. right	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
G score	2.1	2.4	2.7	3.0	3.2	3.5	3.7	4.0	4.3

TEST LESSON 2

I live in a pond where the lilies grow. The lily leaf is my chair. When the stem of the leaf breaks, I use the leaf for my boat and sail around the pond on it.

Once I was a tadpole and had a tail but no legs. Now my tail is gone and I have four legs. My hind legs help me to jump far, and my webbed feet help me to swim well. I eat flies, worms, and watercress.

After supper I like to sing but people do not like my voice. You've guessed it; I'm a frog.

1. My chair is a (a) twig; (b) leaf; (c) flower; (d) rock.
2. I live in a (a) river; (b) field; (c) cage; (d) pond.
3. My boat is a (a) leaf; (b) bark; (c) paper; (d) cork.
4. I am a (a) tadpole; (b) fish; (c) frog; (d) rabbit.
5. I jump well because of my (a) webbed feet; (b) tail; (c) gills; (d) hind legs.
6. Once I was a (a) fish; (b) fly; (c) tadpole; (d) worm.
7. Now I have (a) a tail; (b) two legs; (c) two wings; (d) four legs.
8. I eat (a) flies; (b) carrots; (c) bones; (d) nuts.
9. People do not like my (a) color; (b) chair; (c) voice; (d) tail.

No. right	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
G score	2.3	2.5	2.9	3.2	3.5	3.9	4.4	4.8	5.4	6.4	...

TEST LESSON 3

Dandelions blossom very early in the spring. Some of the leaves stay green all winter. When the warm weather comes the flowers peep up from the center of the leaves. The flowers are yellow and look very pretty in the green grass. At night the flowers close up tight and do not open until the sun is up. If the day is cloudy and rainy the flowers do not open at all but stay asleep all day.

The leaves of the dandelion are often cooked and eaten as greens. They are very good. Have you ever eaten any of them?

1. Dandelions come in the (a) spring; (b) summer; (c) autumn; (d) winter.
2. The leaves of the dandelion are often (a) cooked; (b) baked; (c) roasted; (d) poached.
3. At night the flowers (a) open; (b) bloom; (c) die; (d) close.
4. The flowers are (a) blue; (b) green; (c) red; (d) yellow.
5. The dandelion leaves are often eaten as (a) a salad; (b) greens; (c) fruit; (d) carrots.
6. If the day is cloudy the flowers remain (a) open; (b) closed; (c) rainy; (d) green.
7. All winter some of the leaves are (a) blue; (b) green; (c) red; (d) yellow.
8. When the sun is up, the flowers (a) open; (b) close; (c) bloom; (d) wither.
9. In the center of the leaves we find the (a) roots; (b) branches; (c) twigs; (d) flowers.

No. right	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
G score	1.8	2.1	2.4	2.6	2.9	3.2	3.5	3.9	4.4	5.4	...

TEST LESSON 4

Miss Black and the pupils in her class went to the woods one spring day to study wild flowers. In all there were thirteen boys and sixteen girls. How many automobiles did they need to carry the people if five could ride in each machine?

1. What season of the year was it? (a) spring; (b) summer; (c) fall; (d) winter.
2. The class wanted to learn about (a) trees; (b) birds; (c) wild flowers; (d) animals.
3. The number of girls who went was (a) 29; (b) 13; (c) 16; (d) 5.
4. The number of boys who went was (a) 29; (b) 13; (c) 16; (d) 5.
5. The class went to the (a) art museum; (b) park; (c) woods; (d) zoo.
6. The teacher's name was (a) Smith; (b) Brown; (c) Jones; (d) Black.
7. They traveled by (a) auto; (b) boat; (c) walking; (d) street car.
8. How many rode together? (a) 29; (b) 13; (c) 16; (d) 5.
9. How many people went? (a) 29; (b) 5; (c) 16; (d) 30.

No. right	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
G score	1.5	1.6	2.1	2.3	2.5	2.7	3.5	3.9	4.4	5.4	...

TEST LESSON 5

“I am working very hard,” said the Robin. “I am looking for straw to build my nest. I shall use some mud, too. Then I shall line it with soft pieces of hair. This will make a nice home for my baby birds.” So she made the nest in the old apple tree.

In a few days there were three little eggs in the nest. They were as blue as the sky. The mother bird sat on the eggs fourteen days. Soon there were three baby robins. They stretched their little necks and cried, “Peep, peep! Feed us!”

1. This story is about (a) blue jay; (b) owl; (c) robin; (d) sparrow.
2. This story is about the building of a (a) house; (b) dam; (c) hut; (d) nest.
3. The outside of the little home was made of (a) hair; (b) straw and mud; (c) mud and hair; (d) hair and straw.
4. The nest was lined with (a) hair; (b) straw; (c) mud; (d) apple leaves.
5. The nest was in a (a) chimney; (b) box; (c) cherry tree; (d) apple tree.
6. The number of eggs was (a) four; (b) three; (c) twelve; (d) fourteen.
7. The eggs were the color of the (a) apple; (b) robin; (c) sky; (d) tree.
8. The mother sat on the eggs (a) ten days; (b) three days; (c) four days; (d) fourteen days.
9. The baby birds were (a) angry; (b) hungry; (c) sad; (d) busy.
10. The baby robins came from (a) cocoons; (b) nests; (c) trees; (d) eggs.

No. right	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
G score	1.4	1.9	2.4	2.8	3.1	3.3	3.6	3.9	4.2	4.5	4.8

TEST LESSON 6

“Who-o, Who-o, Who-o.” Who sings this sad song for hours as if she were in great trouble? It is the old screech owl who usually lives about gardens, farmhouses, and orchards. We hear the song in late winter, and although it sounds sad, it is really a happy song like that of other birds. The owl is thinking of the nest of grass or feathers that will soon be built in the hollow trunk of a tree. It will hold five round, white eggs. By August, the feathers of the five owlets will have changed from yellowish white to deep brown or black. By the next spring, they will be wearing the mottled suit that is the style of all screech owls.

1. The screech owl lives near (a) swamps; (b) gardens; (c) ponds; (d) cities.
2. The owl sings in (a) spring; (b) summer; (c) fall; (d) late winter.
3. The owl's song sounds (a) happy; (b) sweet; (c) sad; (d) merry.
4. The screech owl's nest is built (a) in a chimney; (b) on the roof; (c) on a branch; (d) in a tree trunk.
5. The nest is made of (a) straw and mud; (b) feathers and straw; (c) grass or feathers; (d) straw or leaves.
6. The eggs are (a) yellow; (b) blue; (c) brown; (d) white.
7. The owl is thinking of (a) food; (b) the nest; (c) her dress; (d) other birds.
8. At first the owlets' feathers are (a) brown; (b) black; (c) yellowish white; (d) mottled.
9. The owl's nest holds (a) three eggs; (b) one egg; (c) ten eggs; (d) five eggs.

No. right	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
G score	1.6	2.2	2.7	3.0	3.3	3.6	3.9	4.2	4.6	5.0	...

TEST LESSON 7

One summer Ruth, with her father and mother, visited her aunt in Venice. They stayed in her aunt's house near the sea. The next day Ruth's aunt took her guests sight-seeing. Ruth was surprised to see that canals were used instead of streets. The water of the canals flowed in from the sea. There were no horses, carriages or carts. People went about in boats just as we ride in cars. The children of Venice would be surprised to ride in our automobiles and street cars just as Ruth was surprised in having a boat ride.

1. Who took Ruth sight-seeing? Her (a) uncle; (b) cousin; (c) aunt; (d) mother.
2. Ruth saw that the streets were (a) paved roads; (b) canals; (c) wooden blocks; (d) dirt roads.
3. Ruth visited her aunt in (a) Rome; (b) Paris; (c) London; (d) Venice.
4. People of Venice went about in (a) carts; (b) automobiles; (c) street cars; (d) boats.
5. Ruth went to Venice in the (a) fall; (b) summer; (c) spring; (d) winter.
6. Her aunt's house was (a) on the top of a mountain; (b) by the side of a river; (c) near the sea; (d) next to the church.
7. The number of horses, carriages, and carts was (a) many; (b) few; (c) several; (d) none.
8. The water of the canal flowed in from the (a) sea; (b) rivers; (c) lakes; (d) ponds.
9. In having a boat ride Ruth was (a) unhappy; (b) afraid; (c) surprised; (d) nervous.

No. right	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
G score	1.5	1.9	2.3	2.8	3.1	3.5	3.8	4.2	4.6	5.1	...

TEST LESSON 8

How funny it is that the ragman should want our old rags! He gathers all that he can buy and puts them into his wagon. What do you suppose he does with all of them?

He sells them to the paper factory and there they are made into paper. In the paper factory men put the rags into a machine. This machine tears them into strings. Then these torn rags are boiled a long time in water containing acid. The threads come apart and this makes a soft pulp. Then the men spread the pulp on a wire screen or cloth. It is pressed between rollers until the water is all out. When it is dry it is paper.

1. This story tells about the ragman buying (a) bottles; (b) rags; (c) rubber; (d) paper.
2. The boiled rags are called (a) pulp; (b) mash; (c) cardboard; (d) straw.
3. The rags are made into (a) paper; (b) cloth; (c) leather; (d) rubber.
4. What does the machine do? (a) washes; (b) tears; (c) mashes; (d) folds.
5. Before they are changed into pulp the rags must be (a) shaken; (b) pressed; (c) baked; (d) boiled.
6. The pulp is spread on (a) a long, narrow table; (b) sheets of iron; (c) wire screen or cloth; (d) a long board.
7. The pulp is pressed between rollers until (a) it is hot; (b) it is hard; (c) the threads do not show; (d) the water is all out.
8. In the water in which the rags are boiled there is (a) acid; (b) oil; (c) dye; (d) salt.

No. right	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
G score	1.8	2.4	3.0	3.7	4.2	4.4	4.5	4.6	5.1

TEST LESSON 9

A lady who had a tame bird was in the habit of letting it out of its cage every day. She had taught a favorite cat not to touch it. But one morning as the bird was picking up crumbs from the carpet, the cat seized it suddenly and jumped with it on to the table.

At first the lady was afraid that her bird would be killed. But soon she found that she had no need to fear. A strange cat had come into the room through the slightly open door.

When the strange cat had been turned out, her own cat came down from the table and dropped the bird without having hurt it at all.

1. The cat jumped on the (a) chair; (b) door; (c) couch; (d) table.
2. The tame bird belonged to a (a) gentleman; (b) lady; (c) servant; (d) butler.
3. The favorite cat would not touch the (a) bird; (b) lady; (c) carpet; (d) door.
4. The cat probably seized the bird in its (a) claws; (b) mouth; (c) paws; (d) whiskers.
5. The door had been left (a) slightly open; (b) shut; (c) locked; (d) wide open.
6. The bird was (a) killed; (b) hurt; (c) saved; (d) scratched.
7. What strange animal came into the house? (a) a dog; (b) a rat; (c) a cat; (d) a chicken.
8. The cat seized the bird as it was picking up (a) crumbs; (b) meat; (c) bird seed; (d) grain.
9. The lady let the bird out every (a) night; (b) day; (c) afternoon; (d) evening.
10. The lady was alarmed for her bird's (a) return; (b) feathers; (c) safety; (d) beak.

No. right	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
G score	1.5	2.1	2.7	3.1	3.4	3.6	3.9	4.1	4.4	4.8	5.2

TEST LESSON 10

Mary and Frank live on a dairy farm. Their father has thirty cows. He sends the milk to the city every morning on the five-thirty train. Sometimes Mary and Frank go to the station with him when he takes the milk to the train. They have to get up at half-past four to get the milk down there in time. The men milk the cows at half-past three. The milk is cooled and put into bottles. The bottles are packed in ice to keep the milk sweet. Mary likes to think of the little babies in the city who will drink this milk. She knows that it will help them to grow strong like her little brother Willie.

1. Mary and Frank live (a) in the city; (b) by the station; (c) on a dairy farm; (d) near the river.
2. Their father has (a) thirty cows; (b) fifty cows; (c) thirty milk bottles; (d) thirty horses.
3. They send the milk to the city (a) in a truck; (b) on a boat; (c) on the train; (d) in an automobile.
4. The cows are milked by (a) Mary; (b) Frank; (c) their father; (d) the men.
5. The train goes at (a) half-past three; (b) six o'clock; (c) half-past five; (d) seven o'clock.
6. The bottles are packed in (a) sawdust; (b) ice; (c) sand; (d) cotton.
7. The bottles are packed to keep the milk (a) clean; (b) pure; (c) sweet; (d) warm.
8. Mary and Frank go to the (a) station; (b) farm; (c) city; (d) barn.
9. Mary likes to think of the (a) train; (b) babies; (c) cows; (d) city.
10. The milk helps the babies grow (a) well; (b) fat; (c) tall; (d) strong.

No. right	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
G score	2.9	3.0	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.5	3.7	3.9	4.3	4.8	5.4

TEST LESSON 11

Would you like to know about the Feast of Flags which is held in honor of the boys of Japan? This feast is held on the fifth day of the fifth month. Do you know what day that is? On that day the air seems full of fish, for big, colored paper ones fly like flags from tall bamboo poles. These poles are placed in front of each boy's home. The fish are of all sizes, but are usually carp. The carp is a strong and courageous fish. The Japanese fathers want their sons to be strong and have courage in time of danger. To show this, they hang out the paper carp. Isn't this a pretty custom?

1. This feast is in honor of the (a) men; (b) women; (c) boys; (d) girls.
2. Is the feast called the feast of (a) kites; (b) lanterns; (c) carp; (d) flags?
3. It is held in (a) India; (b) Japan; (c) Mexico; (d) Alaska.
4. On what day of the month is the feast held? (a) first; (b) sixth; (c) fifth; (d) tenth.
5. The fish are placed on (a) poles; (b) doorways; (c) gates; (d) windows.
6. Which homes celebrate this feast? (a) poor; (b) rich; (c) girls'; (d) boys'.
7. What kind of fish is the carp? (a) timid; (b) weak; (c) brave; (d) cowardly.
8. This holiday reminds the boys to be (a) careless; (b) sad; (c) courageous; (d) thoughtful.

No. right	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
G score	2.6	2.8	3.0	3.3	3.6	3.9	4.4	4.8	5.8

TEST LESSON 12

In a small town in the south of France there were once two school boys called Ralph and Frank.

They always held themselves badly while they were writing their lessons. Ralph leaned his head so near his paper that his nose almost touched it. Frank bent his back and spread out his elbows so far that he touched the other pupils.

One day as Ralph and Frank were entering the classroom they suddenly reddened. A roguish boy had drawn a picture of a blind man and a hunchback on the blackboard. Under it he had written, "Ralph and Frank when they grow up."

Afterward these boys sat as straight as the other pupils.

1. One of the pupils drew a (a) picture; (b) load; (c) boat; (d) house.
2. One of the boys was called (a) Tom; (b) Harry; (c) Frank; (d) Richard.
3. At first the boys held themselves (a) well; (b) badly; (c) straight; (d) nicely.
4. Ralph held his head close to his (a) clothes; (b) fingers; (c) shoes; (d) paper.
5. Frank bent his (a) back; (b) fingers; (c) toes; (d) pen.
6. A boy had drawn on the blackboard a (a) cat; (b) dog; (c) hunchback; (d) hen.
7. Frank spread out his (a) knees; (b) elbows; (c) hands; (d) legs.
8. When they saw the two drawings the boys (a) darkened; (b) smiled; (c) frowned; (d) reddened.
9. Under the drawing there was (a) writing; (b) nothing; (c) a picture; (d) a dog.
10. Afterward the two boys became (a) red; (b) blind; (c) straight; (d) crippled.

No. right	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
G score	1.2	1.7	2.1	2.6	3.0	3.4	3.7	4.1	4.4	4.9	5.4

TEST LESSON 13

Li-Pai was one of the most famous poets in China. All Chinese children know about him. They like his poetry, but they do not like something he did. Often he drank too much wine. One evening he went into the Emperor's garden. The moon was shining brightly. He wished to write a poem about the moon. He stepped into a little boat and let it float on the lake. While he was writing the poem he kept on drinking wine. He got very drunk. He saw the moon on the water. He leaned over the side of the boat and tried to pick up the moon. The boat turned over and Li-Pai and his unfinished poem fell into the water and never were heard of again.

1. Li-Pai wished to write a poem about the(a) garden;
(b) boat; (c) moon; (d) wine.
2. While Li-Pai was writing the poem he (a) drank wine; (b) sang songs; (c) talked to himself; (d) rowed the boat.
3. Li-Pai was (a) a musician; (b) a poet; (c) an emperor; (d) a general.
4. The boat (a) sailed very fast; (b) stopped; (c) turned over; (d) came to the shore.
5. Li-Pai leaned over the side of the boat to (a) wash his hands; (b) pick up the moon; (c) catch the fish; (d) look at himself in the water.
6. All Chinese children like (a) Li-Pai's looks; (b) something he did; (c) his poetry; (d) his manner.
7. Li-Pai was (a) in a little boat; (b) on a bench; (c) under a tree; (d) in the house.
8. He was very (a) calm; (b) sad; (c) drunk; (d) jolly.
9. He (a) came back late; (b) was drowned; (c) finished his poem; (d) stayed in the boat.
10. He drank too much (a) water; (b) tea; (c) milk; (d) wine.

No. right	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
G score	1.5	2.0	2.4	2.8	3.2	3.5	3.9	4.2	4.6	4.9	5.4

TEST LESSON 14

In the first schools of this country the boys and girls used a book which they called the New England Primer. This book did not have the interesting stories and pretty pictures that our primers or readers have to-day. The alphabet was the most important part of the reader. After each letter of the alphabet was a queer little picture, and besides it a rhyme. The children studied their lesson out loud so that the teacher might know that they were doing it well. When they had learned their lesson, they stood in a row in front of the teacher with their toes on a crack in the floor, and recited. It took most boys and girls several years to learn to read this primer.

1. One of the first books used in the schools was a (a) geography; (b) arithmetic; (c) primer; (d) speller.
2. This book was called the (a) Massachusetts Reader; (b) New England Primer; (c) New York Primer; (d) Children's Reader.
3. Was the most important part of it the (a) pictures; (b) stories; (c) rhymes; (d) alphabet?
4. After each letter of the alphabet was a (a) picture; (b) story; (c) poem; (d) lesson.
5. The children studied (a) softly; (b) carefully; (c) out loud; (d) quietly.
6. When the children knew their lessons they recited them to their (a) neighbor; (b) brother; (c) mother; (d) teacher.
7. This book was read (a) with ease; (b) with speed; (c) with difficulty; (d) with pleasure.
8. It usually took (a) several years; (b) one year; (c) many years; (d) part of a year to read the book.
9. The children studied out loud (a) to please themselves; (b) to annoy their neighbors; (c) so the teacher could hear; (d) to study more quickly.

No. right	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
G score	2.2	2.4	2.7	2.9	3.2	3.5	3.9	4.3	5.0	6.0	...
