



Gates-MacGinitie Reading Tests® Fourth Edition

Recommended Test Levels by Grade

Forms S and T

Grade	Level	Level Summary
Kindergarten	PR (Pre-Reading)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designed for non-readers—answer choices are primarily pictures. Evaluates students' knowledge of concepts upon which beginning reading skills are built.
1	BR (Beginning Reading)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designed for beginning readers—answer choices consist of both pictures and words. Evaluates students' abilities to decode consonants, vowels, and combinations. Evaluates students' abilities to identify high-frequency words that are typically learned without decoding. Appropriate for measuring growth at the beginning and end of first grade.
	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designed for early independent readers—answer choices consist of words. Evaluates students' decoding skills and emerging comprehension strategies.
2	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designed for early independent readers—answer choices consist of words. Evaluates students' decoding skills, emerging reading vocabulary, and developing comprehension strategies.
3 4 5 6	3 4 5 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vocabulary words are appropriate to each grade level and chosen based on their usefulness to students. Reading passages are representative of students' actual reading in and outside of school.
7 8 9	7/9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Passages are all taken from previously published books and periodicals. Passage authors and content fairly represent both genders and the ethnic diversity of the student population.
10 11 12	10/12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Passage content includes fiction and nonfiction, science and social studies, and a wide variety of written styles.
Post-High School	AR (Adult Reading)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Designed for use by community colleges, colleges, adult education programs, GED® programs, other post-high school education programs, and vocational and training schools. Readability of the reading passages range from Grade 4 through high school. Passage content is geared to the interests and life experiences of adults.



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Testing Times

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Test Level	Form(s)	Designed for Grade ^a	Grade Norms Available	Answer Format	Subtest or Test	Number of Questions	Testing Time (in min) ^b
PR (Pre-Reading)	S	K.7–1.4	K.7–1.9 ^e	Booklet	Literacy Concepts	20	about 25 ^c
					Oral Language Concepts (Phonological Awareness)	20	
					Letters and Letter/Sound Correspondences	30	about 25 ^c
					Listening (Story) Comprehension	20	
BR (Beginning Reading)	S	1.0–1.9	K.7–2.9	Booklet	Initial Consonants and Consonant Clusters	15	<i>c, d</i>
					Final Consonants and Consonant Clusters	15	<i>c, d</i>
					Vowels	15	<i>c, d</i>
					Basic Story Words	25	about 25 ^c
1	S	1.5–1.9	1.1–2.9	Booklet	Word Decoding Comprehension	43 39	20 35
2	S, T	2	1.1–3.9	Booklet	Word Decoding Word Knowledge Comprehension	43 43 39	20 20 35
3	S, T ^g	3	2.1–9.9	Booklet, Online	Vocabulary Comprehension	45 48/35 ^g	20 35/25 ^g
4	S, T	4	3.1–12.9	Booklet, Answer Sheet, Online	Vocabulary Comprehension	45 48	20 35
5	S, T	5	3.1–12.9	Booklet, Answer Sheet, Online	Vocabulary Comprehension	45 48	20 35
6	S, T	6	4.1–12.9	Booklet, Answer Sheet, Online	Vocabulary Comprehension	45 48	20 35
7/9	S ^g , T	7, 8, 9	5.1–12.9	Booklet, Answer Sheet, Online	Vocabulary Comprehension	45 48/44 ^g	20 35/32 ^g
10/12	S, T	10, 11, 12	6.1–12.9	Booklet, Answer Sheet, Online	Vocabulary Comprehension	45 48	20 35
AR ^f (Adult Reading)	S, T	Post-High School ^f	Community College ^f	Booklet, Answer Sheet, Online	Vocabulary Comprehension	45 48	20 35

^a A test level designed for a given grade or grade range is usually also suitable for classes at the beginning of the following grade, particularly if the group is average or below average, and for classes at the end of the preceding grade, particularly if the group is above average.

^b Testing times do not include time required for distribution or collection of materials or for working practice questions

^c For Levels PR and BR, there is no time limit. The teacher paces the students through the test at whatever rate is appropriate for the group. Testing times are approximate for an average class; many classes will take a shorter or longer amount of time.

^d The first three subtests of Level BR are administered in two testing sessions, each taking approximately 25 minutes for an average class.

^e Please note that Level PR (Pre-Reading) should be administered only to students exiting Kindergarten or at any time during Grade 1. Norms are available for the end of Kindergarten and for first grade.

^f Level AR (Adult Reading) was normed with entering community college students and does not provide norms for students in high school. In addition, the median difficulty of Level AR is Grade 9 and, thus, is not more difficult than Level 10/12. For more information about the design, purpose, and norming of Level AR, please refer to the Technical Report.

^g A revised form is available online and has a reduced number of items and time.

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