

The San Diego Quick Assessment

The San Diego Quick Assessment (SDQA) is a very easy reading assessment you can give your student or child to determine his/her reading level.

You simply show your child a list of ten words and ask him/her to read them. You start with a list you know your child can read fluently (or at the beginning if you are unsure). The child reads the words and then moves on to the next list you show him/her. Once your child has missed three words in one list, you stop. The level where your child missed two words is his/her instructional level. That is the level where you want to teach your child.

This assessment was designed by M. LaPray and R. Ross (1969); it is uncopyrighted, and independent research has shown the SDQA to be a reliable test.

I have labeled the lists one through thirteen. I have not put the grade level on the lists you give to your student/child. I do this intentionally so that your child does not know what level s/he is reading. Refer to the record form to see what level you are giving.

List One	List Two	List Three	List Four
see	you	road	our
play	come	live	please
me	not	thank	myself
at	with	when	town
run	jump	bigger	early
go	help	how	send
and	is	always	wide
look	work	night	believe
can	are	spring	quietly
here	this	today	carefully

List Five

city

middle

moment

frightened

exclaimed

several

lonely

drew

since

straight

List Six

decided

served

amazed

silent

wrecked

improved

certainly

entered

realized

interrupted

List Seven

scanty

business

develop

considered

discussed

behaved

splendid

acquainted

escaped

grim

List Eight

bridge

commercial

abolish

trucker

apparatus

elementary

comment

necessity

gallery

relativity

List Nine

amber

dominion

sundry

capillary

impetuous

blight

wrest

enumerate

daunted

condescend

List Ten

capacious

limitation

pretext

intrigue

delusion

immaculate

ascent

acid

binocular

embankment

List Eleven

conscientious

isolation

molecule

ritual

momentous

vulnerable

kinship

conservation

jaunty

inventive

List Twelve

zany

jerkin

nausea

gratuitous

linear

inept

legality

aspen

amnesty

barometer

List Thirteen

galore

rotunda

capitalism

prevaricate

visible

exonerate

superannuate

luxuriate

piebald

crunch

Directions: Print the words and record form. (You can either cut out the word lists or just use a blank piece of paper to cover the words so that only one word list is showing at a time).

Begin by giving the pre-primer list if your child is a beginning reader and give each list in order until your child misses three words in one list. If you think you know your child's reading level, start the test a couple levels below. For example, you think your child is reading at a fifth grade level, start with the third grade level.

Record the results on the record form. Remember, stop once your child misses three words in one list.

Guide:

One word missed = Independent Reading Level
Two words missed = Instructional Reading Level
Three words missed = Frustration Reading Level

Teach to the Instructional Reading Level.

Record Form: San Diego Quick Assessment

Name _____ Grade _____ Date _____

Pre-primer

see _____

play _____

me _____

at _____

run _____

go _____

and _____

look _____

can _____

here _____

Primer

you _____

come _____

not _____

with _____

jump _____

help _____

is _____

work _____

are _____

this _____

First Grade

road _____

live _____

thank _____

when _____

bigger _____

how _____

always _____

night _____

spring _____

today _____

Second Grade

our _____

please _____

myself _____

town _____

early _____

send _____

wide _____

believe _____

quietly _____

carefully _____

Third Grade

city _____

middle _____

moment _____

frightened _____

exclaimed _____

several _____

lonely _____

drew _____

since _____

straight _____

Fourth Grade

decided _____

served _____

amazed _____

silent _____

wrecked _____

improved _____

certainly _____

entered _____

realized _____

interrupted _____

Fifth Grade

scanty _____

business _____

develop _____

considered _____

discussed _____

behaved _____

splendid _____

acquainted _____

escaped _____

grim _____

Six Grade

bridge _____

commercial _____

abolish _____

trucker _____

apparatus _____

elementary _____

comment _____

necessity _____

gallery _____

relativity _____

Record Form: San Diego Quick Assessment

Seventh Grade	Eighth Grade	Ninth Grade	Tenth Grade
amber _____	capacious _____	conscientious _____	zany _____
dominion _____	limitation _____	isolation _____	jerkin _____
sundry _____	pretext _____	molecule _____	nausea _____
capillary _____	intrigue _____	ritual _____	gratuitous _____
impetuous _____	delusion _____	momentous _____	linear _____
blight _____	immaculate _____	vulnerable _____	inept _____
wrest _____	ascent _____	kinship _____	legality _____
enumerate _____	acid _____	conservation _____	aspen _____
daunted _____	binocular _____	jaunty _____	amnesty _____
condescend _____	embankment _____	inventive _____	barometer _____

Eleventh Grade

galore _____
rotunda _____
capitalism _____
prevaricate _____
visible _____
exonerate _____
superannuate _____
luxuriate _____
piebald _____
crunch _____

