

Teacher Copy

A-I Reading Assessment for Independent Reading Levels

Reader's Name _____ Grade _____ Date _____ Independent Level: Yes No
The Blind Men and the Elephant—Scholastic Books
Level K 221 words

Book Introduction: Show the cover of the book to the student and say this to the reader before her or she begins reading: *“This story is folktale about six blind men from India called The Blind Men and the Elephant. Although they couldn’t see, they want to discover what an elephant was like. Let’s join them to see what they learn about elephants.”*

<p>Check the reading behaviors you notice the child using. <i>These notes may not determine the reader’s independent reading level, but will inform your teaching:</i></p>	<p>Running Record: Record the reader’s miscues (or errors) above the word as he or she reads.</p>	# of Errors	Error MSV	# of SC	SC MSV
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Rereads and self-corrects regularly.</p>	<p>3. Long ago and far away, there lived three blind men.</p>				
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Monitors for all sources of information: checks to make sure what has been read makes sense, sounds right, and looks right.</p>	<p>Although these men could not see, they learned about the world in many ways.</p>				
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Reads with fluency and phrasing.</p>	<p>4. They could hear the music of the flute with their ears.</p>				
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Uses an increasingly more challenging repertoire of graphophonic strategies to problem solve through text.</p>	<p>5. They could feel the softness of the silk with their fingers.</p>				
<p><input type="checkbox"/> Solves unknown words with relative ease.</p>	<p>7. They could smell the scent of food cooking and taste its spicy flavor.</p>				
	<p>8. Together they took care of their home, and they were very happy.</p>				
	<p>9. Then one day, the blind men heard some exciting news.</p>				
	<p>The prince had received a new elephant at his palace.</p>				
	<p>10. The blind men had heard of elephants, but they had never met one.</p>				
	<p>They did not know what an elephant was like.</p>				
	<p>11. “Let us go to the prince’s palace,” said one of the blind men.</p>				

Teacher Copy
A-I Reading Assessment for Independent Reading Levels

Level K

<p><i>Page 11 continued</i></p> <p>“Then we can find out what the elephant is really like.”</p> <p>12. Off they went.</p> <p>It was a long walk to the palace.</p> <p>The blind men grew hot and thirsty.</p> <p>13. But they did not stop.</p> <p>They could not wait to touch the elephant.</p> <p>14. Finally they reached the palace.</p> <p>A guard came to greet them.</p> <p>The blind men told him why they had come.</p> <p>15. “Of course you may touch the elephant,” said the guard.</p> <p>“I am sure the prince will not mind.”</p> <p>16. The guard led the six men to the animal, which stood quietly in the garden.</p> <p><i>Student reads the remainder of the story silently.</i></p>		# of Errors	Error MSV	# of SC	SC MSV
---	--	-------------	-----------	---------	--------

Accuracy Rate: Circle the number of miscues & percentage of words read correctly. Note: Self-corrections do not count as errors.

100%	99%	98%	97%	96%	95%
0 miscues	1-3 miscues	4-5 miscues	6-7 miscues	8-9	10-11
94%	93%	92%	91%	90%	89%
12-14	15-16	17-18	19-20	21-22	23-25

Total Number of Self Corrections:

Literal and Inferential Retelling

Say, “Retell the important parts of what you just read.” Write notes regarding the students retelling in this box and on the back of this page. If the child has trouble getting started, prompt the child to look at the text. Say to the child, “What happened first?” Make a note that you prompted their retelling.

Teacher Copy
A-I Reading Assessment for Independent Reading Levels

Level K

Part 1: Listen to the reader's retelling for the following information and take note of the reader's answers, based on the retelling. If the retelling did not already contain the following information, ask the reader the following questions and take note of the answers.

1. *Literal Question: What could the blind men use that helped them learn about the world?*

2. *Literal Question: What did the blind men discover about the elephant?*

3. *Literal Question: What did the blind men like most of all about elephants?*

4. *Inferential Question: What did the prince mean when he told the blind men, "You are all right, but you are wrong, too?"*

The reader must answer at least three of these questions adequately in order to determine if this is the child's independent reading level. Try the other level I text if the child could not answer at least three of these questions.

Fluency

At this level students should no longer be pointing under words with their finger. This list will also enable you to better evaluate their fluency in reading. Use the following questions to assess phrasing and fluency.

Did the reader track print with eyes instead of finger pointing?	Yes	No
Did the student respond to punctuation by changing his/her voice?	Yes	No
Did the reader use pitch, stress, and intonation when appropriate to approximate telling important or unusual information?	Yes	No
If the reader paused while reading, were the pauses brief?	Yes	No
At a point of difficulty, did the reader stop to problem-solve words on the run?	Yes	No

Final Score

- | | | |
|------------|-----------|--|
| Yes | No | The reader's accuracy rate was at least 96%. |
| Yes | No | The reader answered at least three comprehension questions in Part 1 correctly. |
| Yes | No | Did the retelling express the important parts in the text? |
| Yes | No | The reader reads with some fluency. |

If the answer is "Yes" to all four questions, this is the child's independent reading level.