



## Profile of Ability

### The reader can:

Recognize letters, numbers, a small number of words and very short, simple phrases related to everyday objects and immediate needs.

### When the text is:

- Limited to everyday words and phrases
- Clear, sparse and very easy to read
- Supported by visual clues (e.g., pictures)
- Very short
- In non-demanding contexts

### Demonstrating these strengths and limitations:

- Finds a few key words and simple details
- Has little ability to apply sound-symbol relationships and spelling conventions in English
- Has almost no ability to decode unknown words, read connected discourse or guess the meaning of unknown words
- Relies heavily on graphics and other visual clues when interpreting meaning
- Relies heavily on a bilingual dictionary due to extremely limited vocabulary

## I. Interacting with Others

- Understand short greetings and simple goodwill messages.

[Texts consist of a few simple phrases and are related to routine social interactions.]

- Identifies specific goodwill expressions and their meanings.
- Locates specific words and phrases.
- Locates dates, times, addresses and phone numbers.
- Demonstrates strengths and limitations typical of Reading Benchmark 1, as listed in the Profile of Ability.

### Sample Tasks

Read a greeting card or message for a special occasion or offering wishes for someone to get well soon.

Read an invitation to find out the date of a party.

Read a 1-line thank-you note for a lunch date or dinner party from a friend, co-worker or classmate.

## II. Comprehending Instructions

- Understand very short, simple instructions for common, familiar everyday situations.

[Instructions have only 1 step and may be accompanied by illustrations.]

- Recognizes individual words (simple imperative verbs and common nouns).
- Follows instruction by responding with action.
- Demonstrates strengths and limitations typical of Reading Benchmark 1, as listed in the Profile of Ability.

### Sample Tasks

Read and follow a 1-line instruction in a simple common phrase for an everyday activity. (*Take one pill. Pay server.*)

Read and follow very simple instructions on a worksheet or form. (*Please circle. Please underline. Write here. Please print. Fill the blanks.*)



# Reading – Benchmark 1

## III. Getting Things Done

- Get information from very short, simple, common formatted texts (such as simple sections of forms, maps, diagrams, sales receipts, or common universal traffic signs and civic symbols).
  - Identifies numbers (amounts, dates) and familiar words (names, addresses, city names).
  - Finds total amount and date on receipts.
  - Identifies an address.
  - Identifies where to write personal data on forms.
  - Demonstrates strengths and limitations typical of Reading Benchmark 1, as listed in the Profile of Ability.

### Sample Tasks

Identify where to write personal information in the name and address section of a very simple application form for an English class.

Identify prices, sub-totals, taxes and total on a sales receipt.

Locate familiar words on a simple map to find a street.

Identify dates and amounts on a pay stub.

Check expiration dates on foods and drugs in order to decide whether to keep them or throw them away.

Read a simple common sign to heed a rule or warning. (*Stop. No parking. No smoking.*)

## IV. Comprehending Information

- Recognize names, numbers and some basic details in very simple, short texts related to everyday situations and immediate needs.
  - Identifies numbers, letters, a few key words and short expressions.
  - Demonstrates strengths and limitations typical of Reading Benchmark 1, as listed in the Profile of Ability.

### Sample Tasks

Refer to a picture dictionary to understand a short shopping list of common daily items.

Get the gist of an event by reading captions associated with photographs, such as for a child's birthday party, a wedding or a retirement party.