

Quizzes—Using Literacy Skills Quizzes

Literacy Skills Quizzes, which are available for selected titles, monitor growth in specific skills. They are useful tools for assessing how well students can apply a skill, for targeting instruction or intervention, and for preparing students for high-stakes tests.

The default passing score for Literacy Skills Quizzes is 70 percent. The Literacy Skills Passing Percent preference allows you to change the passing requirement.

Skills Measured

Literacy Skills Quizzes contain 12 or 24 questions. Each quiz includes questions on some, but not all, of the following skills:

Initial Understanding

Describing actions or events. Recognizing how specific actions or events relate to the story line or character development.

Identifying reasons. Recognizing contributory factors that are stated directly or indirectly.

Recognizing details. Recalling significant details that advance the plot, describe the setting, define the characters, or otherwise contribute to the story.

Recognizing feelings. Understanding a character's emotional state and factors that contributed to it.

Understanding dialogue. Deriving meaning from statements characters make.

Understanding sequence. Understanding the significance of the order of events and how they relate to one another.

Literary Analysis

Recognizing plot. Identifying the central problem, events leading to the climax, and the resolution.

Recognizing setting. Understanding when and where the story or scene takes place and its importance.

Understanding literary features. Recognizing such elements as theme, tone, mood, and genre.

Understanding characterization. Understanding character traits, motivations, and behaviors.

Understanding historical/cultural factors. Recognizing the historical and cultural factors that influenced the author or appear in the story.

Understanding the author's craft. Identifying such techniques as point of view, purpose, style, flashback, and foreshadowing.

Inferential Comprehension

Comparing and contrasting. Recognizing differences between characters, events, and ideas.

Drawing conclusions. Extracting a deeper understanding of events, characters, and plot beyond what is explicitly described.

Extending meaning. Using clues implied in the text to take the story beyond what the author has presented.

Making inferences. "Reading between the lines" to infer the author's meaning.

Making predictions. Using evidence in the story to predict an event.

Recognizing cause and effect. Identifying a cause-and-effect relationship between events.

Constructing Meaning

Deriving word or phrase meaning. Using context to understand a figurative word or phrase.

Differentiating fact and opinion. Determining whether an author's or character's statements are fact or opinion.

Identifying reading strategies. Recognizing how text supports the reader's understanding of plot, setting, or characterization.

Identifying persuasive language. Identifying text intended to influence the reader or that is an attempt by one character to influence another.

Responding to literature. Recognizing how a typical reader will respond to a critical event.

Understanding the main idea. Recognizing a summary statement of a book, critical section, or scene.

Literacy Skills Reports

A Literacy Skills Quiz generates a TOPS Report. Quiz data also appears on the AR[™] Student Record Report. In addition, you can view the following:

Literacy Skills Chart. Compares a student to the class average for each of the 24 skills.

Literacy Skills Status Report. Shows how each student in the class is performing on the 24 skills and includes class totals.

Literacy Skills Class Summary. Shows how the class as a whole is performing on each of the 24 skills.