

## Placement Test

Preparation: You will need a copy of the book *Play Ball, Amelia Bedelia*. Students being tested should read from the actual book not from the Placement Test Scoring Sheet. Underline the difficult words from the Placement Test Scoring Sheet in the copy of the book students will read from.

You will need 1 copy of the Placement Test Scoring Sheet for each student you will be testing.

You will need a timer.

### Instructions for Recording Student Responses and Scoring:

As students read the passage use the following procedure to record errors.

**Word read incorrectly:** Write what the student said above the word. Count as 1 error.

**Added word:** Write a caret with the word above it where the word was inserted. Count as 1 error.

**Unknown word:** Give the student 3 seconds to say the word and then tell him or her the word. Write a T above the told word. Count as 1 error.

**Deleted words:** Draw a line through any words that are left out. Do not count deleted words when counting the total words read per minute.

**Repeated words:** Draw a wavy line under the word(s) that were repeated.

**Self-correct:** Put a check mark above the word.

Repeated words and self-corrected words do not count as errors. Students are already penalized for time with these types of errors.

Record words read per minute (wrpm) and errors on the top part of the Placement Test Scoring Sheet. To calculate the accuracy percentage, use the following formula: Subtract the number of errors from the wrpm. Divide this number by the wrpm. Multiply by 100. Example:  $53 \text{ (wrpm)} - 5 \text{ (errors)} = 48$  divided by  $53 = .903$   $\times 100 = 90\%$  accuracy.

**Students reading at least 25 wrpm with 90% accuracy can be placed in this book. Remember, this is the student's instructional level not his or her independent reading level.**

### Instructions for Administering the Placement Test

1. Fill in student information on the top portion of the Placement Test Scoring Sheet.

### Setting the Scene

2. (\*Note: This part of the test can be done individually, with a small group of students, or with a whole class. Hold up a copy of the book for students to see.) **This book is called *Play Ball, Amelia Bedelia*. Later, each of you will read pages 14 and 15 of this book aloud to me to help me decide if you are ready to read this book.**

(Show students the illustration on front cover.) **In this book we will meet a very special woman named Amelia Bedelia. Amelia Bedelia is a housekeeper. That means she works in someone's house cooking meals and keeping the house clean.**

(Point to Amelia Bedelia.) **What is this woman's name? *Amelia Bedelia*. What is Amelia Bedelia's job? *She's a housekeeper*.**

(Point to the boys). **What game do you think these boys are playing? *Baseball*.**

### Hard Word Review

3. (Note: This part of the placement test needs to be administered individually. Give the student a copy of the book open to pages 14 and 15.)
4. **Some of the hard words are underlined on these pages. We will practice these hard words before you read these pages aloud to me.**

(Touch under the word taught.) **This word is taught. What word?** *Taught*. If you showed or explained to someone how to do something, we say you taught them to do that thing. What have you done if you showed or explained to your friend how to play tag? Idea: *I taught (him or her) to play tag.*

(Touch under the name Amelia Bedelia.) **This name is Amelia Bedelia. What name?** *Amelia Bedelia*.

(Touch under the word o'clock.) **This word is o'clock. What word?** *O'clock*. When you tell the time to the hour, with no minutes, you say the number and the word o'clock. If school starts at exactly nine in the morning, we say school starts at....*nine o'clock*.

(Touch under the word attic.) **This word is attic. What word?** *Attic*. The attic is the space in a building just under the roof. What do you call the space in a building just under the roof? *The attic*.

(Touch under the word uniform.) **This word is uniform. What word?** *Uniform*. A uniform is the clothing that each person on the same team wears. What do you call the clothing that each person on the same team wears? *A uniform*.

5. **You will read these pages aloud to me. I would like you to track under the words with your finger as you read aloud. You will read aloud for 1 minute. Be careful to read exactly what is on the page.** (Start the timer and record student errors as indicated above.)

## **Placement Test Scoring Sheet for *Play Ball, Amelia Bedelia***

Name of Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ Tester: \_\_\_\_\_  
Words Read Per Minute (wrpm) \_\_\_\_\_ Errors: \_\_\_\_\_ Accuracy % \_\_\_\_\_  
Placement: \_\_\_\_\_  
Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

The boys <u>taught</u> <u>Amelia Bedelia</u>	5
how to bat.	8
Later she said, "All right, I'm warmed up. In fact, I am hot."	13
"Then be here at <u>two o'clock</u> ,"	27
said Jimmy. "The game starts then."	33
Amelia Bedelia went home.	37
She went right up to the <u>attic</u> .	44
"I know there is a <u>uniform</u> here,"	51
said Amelia Bedelia.	54
And there was one.	58

Excerpt from: Parish, Peggy. Play Ball, Amelia Bedelia. New York: HarperCollins Publishers, Inc. 1972.