

Placement Test

Preparation: You will need a copy of the novel *Bud, Not Buddy*. Students being tested should read from the actual novel not from the Placement Test Scoring Sheet. Underline the difficult words from the Placement Test Scoring Sheet in the copy of the novel 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: $97 \text{ (wrpm)} - 4 \text{ (errors)} = 93$ divided by $97 = .958$ x 100 = 96% accuracy.

Students reading at least 100 wrpm with 90% accuracy can be placed in this novel study. 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 novel for students to see.) **This book is called *Bud, Not Buddy*. Later, each of you will read part of page 2 of this novel aloud to me to help me decide if you are ready to read this book.**

Bud Caldwell, the main character in this story, has no parents. He doesn't like being called Buddy. His name is Bud and he doesn't want anyone to call him Buddy. At this point in the story, he has just found out that he and his friend Jerry have been placed in a foster home.

Hard Word Review

3. (Note: This part of the placement test needs to be administered individually. Give the student a copy of the novel open to page 2.)
4. **Some of the hard words are underlined on this page. We will practice these hard words before you read part of these pages aloud to me.**

(Touch under the name Jerry Clark.)
This name is Jerry Clark. What name? *Jerry Clark*. Jerry Clark is Bud's friend. Who is Jerry Clark? *Bud's friend*.

(Touch under the words temporary-care homes.) **These words are temporary-care homes. What words?** *Temporary-care homes. Temporary-care homes are families where children who cannot be with their families are placed for a short time. What do we call homes where children who cannot be with their families are placed for a short time?* *Temporary-care homes.*

(Touch under the name Amoses.) **This name is Amoses. What name?** *Amoses. (Touch under the name Amos.) This name is Amos. What name?* *Amos. Amos is the last name of the family where Bud is going to stay. What is the last name of the family where Bud is going to stay?* *Amos.*

5. **You will read part of this page 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. I will tell you when to stop reading. Be careful to read exactly what is on the page.** (Start the timer and record student errors as indicated above.)

(Touch under the divided word indeed.) **This word is divided into two parts because there is not enough room on the line. This word is indeed. What word? *Indeed.***

Placement Test Scoring Sheet for *Bud, Not Buddy*

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

I said, "It's Bud, not Buddy, ma'am."	7
She put her hand on my shoulder and took me out of	19
line. Then she pulled Jerry, one of the littler boys, over.	30
"Aren't you <u>Jerry Clark</u> ?" He nodded.	36
"Boys, good news! Now that the school year has	45
ended, you both have been accepted in new <u>temporary-</u>	54
<u>care homes</u> starting this afternoon!"	59
Jerry asked the same thing I was thinking. "Together?"	68
She said, "Why no. Jerry, you'll be in a family with	79
three little girls..."	82
Jerry looked like he'd just found out they were going	92
to dip him in a pot of boiling milk.	101
"...and Bud..." She looked at some papers she was	110
holding. "Oh, yes, the <u>Amoses</u> , you'll be with Mr. and	120
Mrs. <u>Amos</u> and their son, who's twelve years old, that	130
makes him just two years older than you, doesn't it, Bud?"	141

Excerpt from: Curtis, Christopher Paul. Bud, Not Buddy. New York, New York: Scholastic, Inc., 1999.