

Placement Test

Preparation: You will need a copy of the novel *Lupita Mañana*. 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 them 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 their 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 *Lupita Mañana* (Lüpētə Mənyänä). Later each of you will read part of page 9 of this novel aloud to me to help me decide if you are ready to read this book.**

In this part of the novel, a young Mexican girl named Lupita Torres is outside a large hotel. Her mother works at the hotel as a maid, and Lupita has come to see her. The problem is that Lupita is not supposed to visit her mother while she is working.

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 9.)
4. **Some of the hard words are underlined on this page. We will practice these hard words before you read this page aloud to me.**

(Touch under the word *Avenida*. **This word is pronounced ävənēdə. What word? *Avenida*. *Avenida* is the Spanish word for avenue or wide street. What is the Spanish word for avenue or wide street? *Avenida*.**

(Touch under the word *bided*.) **This word is *bided*. What word? *Bided*. *Bided* means waited. *Bided* means... *waited*.**

(Touch under the word yanqui.) **This word is pronounced yankee. Yankee is a Spanish word that is used to refer to a person from the United States. What Spanish word is used to refer to a person from the United States? Yanqui.**

(Touch under the word stucco.) **This word is stucco. What word? Stucco. Stucco is a rough material made of cement and sand that is applied to the outside walls of a building. What is a rough material made of cement and sand that is applied to the outside walls of a building? Stucco.**

(Touch under doorman.) **This word is doorman. What word? Doorman. A doorman is a man who opens the door of a hotel for guests. What do we call a man who opens the door of a hotel for guests? Doorman.**

(Touch under elegant.) **This word is elegant. What word? Elegant. Elegant means beautiful and stylish. What word means beautiful and stylish? Elegant.**

(Touch under glance.) **This word is glance. What word? Glance. Glance**

means look. What is another word for look? Glance.

(Touch under muttering.) **This word is muttering. What word? Muttering. Muttering means speaking in low tones to yourself. What word means speaking in low tones to yourself? Muttering.**

(Touch under deserted.) **This word is deserted. What word? Deserted. In this story deserted means empty because everyone or everything has left. What word means empty because everyone or everything has left? Deserted.**

(Touch under Bueno!) **This word is pronounced Bwānō! It is a Spanish word that means good. What Spanish word means good? Bueno!**

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.)

Placement Test Scoring Sheet for *Lupita Mañana*

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

Pressing herself flat against the rear wall of Senor	9
Aguilar's hotel near the Avenida Ruiz, Lupita Torres	17
bided her time. When she heard the doors of the big	28
green yanqui car shut and the tourist start the engine,	38
she slid forward, scraping her back on the rough white	48
stucco. Sucking in her breath, Lupita nervously	55
fingered the skirt of her faded cotton dress. Would the	65
doorman shout at her not to hang around the elegant	75
hotel?	76
Quickly Lupita stuck her head out and gave the front	86
of the hotel a sweeping glance with her dark eyes. A	97
sudden gust of hot September wind blew a lock of her	108
long, black hair forward. She pulled it back, muttering	117
in Spanish.	119
A second glance told her that the front entrance of the	130
three-story Mexican hotel was deserted. Bueno!	137

Excerpt from: Beatty, Patricia. *Lupita Mañana*. New York, New York: HarperCollins Publishers 1981.