

Placement Test

Preparation: You will need a copy of the novel *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*. 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: $76 \text{ (wrpm)} - 5 \text{ (errors)} = 71$ divided by $76 = .934$ x 100 = 93% 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 *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*. Later, each of you will read part of the first chapter of this novel aloud to me to help me decide if you are ready to read this book.**

***The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* is the second book about Narnia, a secret country known only to Peter, Susan, Edmund, and Lucy. This secret world is reached by going through the wardrobe, or cupboard, in a professor's mysterious old house.**

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 8.)
4. **Some of the hard words are underlined on this page. We will practice some of the hard words before you read part of this page aloud to me.**

(Touch under the word enormous.) **This word is enormous. What word? *Enormous*. Enormous means very, very large. What word means very, very large? *Enormous*.**

(Touch under the word wardrobe.) **This word is wardrobe. What word?**
Wardrobe. A wardrobe is a tall piece of furniture used for hanging clothes. What's the name of a tall piece of furniture used for hanging clothes?
Wardrobe.

(Touch under the name Lucy.) **This name is Lucy. What name?** *Lucy.*
Lucy is the first of the children to find her way through the wardrobe into Narnia.

(Touch under the word stooping.) **This word is stooping. What word?**
Stooping. Stooping means bending low. What word means bending low?
Stooping.

(Touch under the word powdery.) **This word is powdery. What word?**
Powdery. Powdery means like powder. What word means like powder? *Powdery. Sometimes snow is described as being powdery, when it is soft and fine like powder.*

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

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 *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*

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

“This must be a simply <u>enormous wardrobe!</u> ”	7
thought <u>Lucy</u> , going still further in and pushing	15
the soft folds of the coats aside to make room for	26
her. Then she noticed that there was something	34
crunching under her feet. “I wonder is that more	43
moth-balls?” she thought, <u>stooping</u> down to feel it	52
with her hand. But instead of feeling the hard,	61
smooth wood of the floor of the wardrobe, she felt	71
something soft and <u>powdery</u> and extremely cold.	78
“This is very queer”, she said, and went on a step	89
or two further.	92
Next moment she found that what was rubbing	100
against her face and hands was no longer soft fur	110
but something hard and rough and even prickly.	118
“Why, it is just like branches of trees!” exclaimed	127
Lucy. And then she saw that there was a light	137
ahead of her; not a few inches away where the back	148
of the wardrobe ought to have been, but a long	158
way off. Something cold and soft was falling on	167
her. A moment later she found that she was <u>stand-</u>	177
<u>ing</u> in the middle of a wood at night-time with	187
snow under her feet and snowflakes falling	194
through the air.	197

Excerpt from: Lewis, C. S. The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe. New York: HarperCollins Publishers, 1950.