

During Testing of Printed Materials

Word List

The Word List is designed to help assess the reading level of examinees whose reading abilities are weak or unknown and to aid in the planning of further assessment. Before administering the Word List, be sure to read the complete directions for administration. The Word List that will be administered to the examinee is printed on a reusable, laminated card. A copy of the Word List can be found in the Examinee Record Book. There is no fixed time limit to administer the Word List; however, testing usually takes about 15 minutes.

Check to be sure that all examinee-identifying information has been filled in on the front cover of the Examinee Record Book. Open the Examinee Record Book to Page 5. There are directions and recommendations for the Word List administration, as well as a copy of the list of words. Fill in the date before the session begins. Give the separate Word List card to the examinee.

SAY: Here are some words that you may or may not be able to read. Please read aloud as many words as you can, in order, reading down the columns like this.

Demonstrate by pointing down each column.

SAY: When you have finished reading, put the card down and wait for further instruction. Are there any questions?

When you are sure that the examinee understands the directions, continue.

SAY: You may begin.

As the examinee reads the words on the list, put a check in the box next to any word read incorrectly. If the examinee becomes frustrated, stop the testing session.

When the examinee has finished reading,

SAY: This is the end of the exercise. Thank you for working so hard.

This is the end of the testing session. Collect the Word List card.

Scoring the Word List and Interpreting the Results

The guidelines for scoring and interpreting results for the Word List are found on Page 5 of the Examinee Record Book.

1. If the examinee incorrectly reads or skips three (3) words in a row, the examiner should ask the examinee to stop. Then the examiner should administer Level L.
2. If the examinee incorrectly reads or skips five (5) or more words on the entire list, the examiner should administer Level L.
3. If the examinee incorrectly reads or skips no more than four (4) words on the entire list, the examiner should administer the TABE 11 & 12 Locator Test.

Instructions in italics should be read by the test administrator. If necessary, complete tasks presented in italics.

The test administrator should read aloud the text in bold, while completing the tasks in italics.

The guidelines for scoring and interpreting the results of the word list are also found in the Module 3 PDF.

Figure 1. Page 17 from the TABE Test Directions booklet describes the instructions for administering the Word List exactly as they should be carried out. Annotations provided by the Center for Educational Assessment at UMass. The layout of the test directions (i.e., italicized and bold font) is similar for all sections of the test.