

Degrees of Reading Power®

Report Interpretation Guide



More detailed information about the DRP program, including technical specifications, can be found in the publication *The DRP Handbook*, available from Educational Vistas, Inc.

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DRP TEST SCORES

DRP test scores are reported on a scale of text complexity. A percent, or level, of comprehension is associated with each DRP test score. As the percent of comprehension increases, the complexity or difficulty of the materials that a student can understand with that level of comprehension must decrease. This is shown in the numbers below under the heading DRP Scores.

	DRP Test Form	Raw Score (No. of correct items)	DRP Scores at various Percents or Levels of Comprehension							
Student				Instructional Independer						
			50%	70%	75%	80%	90%			
Juanita Doe	6A	35	68	60	57	54	46			

All DRP test scores must be related to a specific percent, or level of comprehension. In other words, Juanita can "read" materials as difficult as 68 DRP units, but with only 50% comprehension. However, for materials as easy as 46 DRP units, Juanita can understand 90% of the text. This is often called the "Independent" level of comprehension, because the student is not likely to need instructional support to comprehend such text on her own.

Criterion-referenced DRP scores tell you what your students can read. You can use your DRP test results to:

- Set expectations and goals
- · Monitor student progress in reading
- · Guide classroom instruction

USE DRP SCORES TO SET EXPECTATIONS AND GOALS

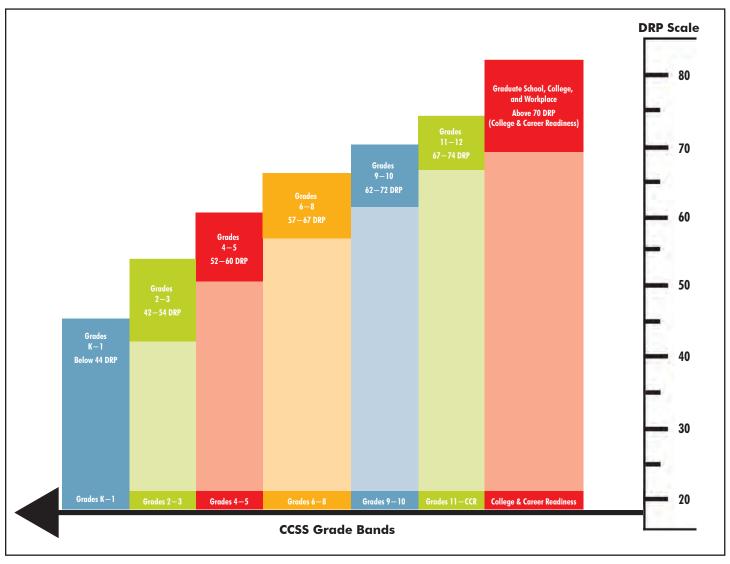
One way to look at setting expectations and goals is to think about what students are expected to read at each educational level. For example, students who plan to drive should be able to read their state's driver's license manual (avg. DRP=64). The Common Core State Standards (CCSS) create a staircase of increasing text complexity so that students are expected to develop their skills and apply them to more and more complex texts.

The College and Career Readiness (CCR) Anchor Standard 10 for Reading states a major college and career readiness goal:

"Read and comprehend complex literary and informational texts independently and proficiently..."

It is similarly worded as Standard 10 in each grade-level set of the CCSS in reading. The standards leading up to Standard 10 emphasize the close, careful, and critical thinking/reading actions that lead to comprehension of complex texts, even though they do not specify the underlying skills and strategies that must be applied in order to achieve the independent comprehension goal. See correspondence of DRP text complexity values and CCSS Grade Bands in the *DRP Staircase of Text Complexity* illustrated on page 2.

DRP Staircase of Text Complexity



DRP reading goals based on CCSS end-of-year text complexity standards have been set at each grade level. With multiple administrations of DRP tests during the school year, you can monitor students' progress toward those goals.

End-of-Year Text Complexity Standards by Grade in DRP Units (based on CCSS Grade Bands)

42-54 DRP		52-60 DRP		57-67 DRP			62-72 DRP		67-74 DRP		College
Gr 2	Gr 3	Gr 4	Gr 5	Gr 6	Gr 7	Gr 8	Gr 9	Gr 10	Gr 11	Gr 12	& Career Readiness - (CCR) = 70 DRP @ P=.90
42-49	48-54	52-57	55-60	57-62	60-64	62-67	62-69	64-72	67-72	67-74	

Minimum Level of Comprehension for the Text Complexity Expectations above to be considered "On Grade" at end of school year: Gr 2 Gr 3 Gr 4 Gr 5 Gr 6 Gr 7 Gr 8 Gr 9 Gr 10 Gr 11 Gr 12 **CCR** P = .70P = .75P = .80P=.90

USE DRP SCORES TO MONITOR STUDENT PROGRESS IN READING

All DRP test scores are reported on the same equal-interval scale. A DRP score increase of 5 points in grade 4 is equal to an increase of 5 points in grade 10. Thus, it is possible to measure individual growth in reading and compare the level of growth among individuals or groups.*

Although there are enormous differences in ability to read and comprehend text among students, classes, and schools, some generalizations can be made:

- Students in grades 2 and 3 typically show rapid growth within a school year as much as 10 DRP units.
- Growth from grades 4 through 8 averages about 4 DRP units per year.
- In high school, growth from fall to spring is smaller about 1-2 DRP units.

Teachers at all grade levels can monitor student progress in reading over time by administering DRP tests as pretests and posttests. And because DRP test scores tell you what a student can read, progress can be measured in those terms as well.

Reports describing student performance by CCSS comprehension clusters include

- Individual Performance Chart
- Alphabetical Roster
- CCSS Diagnostic Summary

USE DRP SCORES TO GUIDE CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION

The DRP scores shown on your score reports reflect the difficulty level of books your students should be able to read and comprehend. This information can be useful both in selecting appropriate materials for your students and in planning your classroom instruction.

DRP test scores can be used in two ways:

- First, the teacher can start with the DRP difficulty or text complexity of assigned instructional
 materials in DRP units, and identify those students who can read the materials with a high level
 of comprehension, as well as those who are able to read the materials with only a low level of
 comprehension.
- 2. Second, the teacher can start with the students' DRP test scores and use DRP→BookLink to find books that match the needed level of comprehension for assignments. The online DRP→Analyzer tool can also be used to determine the text complexity of locally developed texts or brief articles being used for class instruction.

^{*}When measuring growth, it is important to use DRP scores at the same level of comprehension, for example, compare Independent Level (P=.90) pretest and posttest scores.

MANAGE CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION

Using students' DRP scores and published DRP readability information, teachers can

- Determine which books are more appropriate for classroom instruction and which for independent reading
- Determine which students will need assistance with their reading assignments, and which students can be expected to do more challenging work
- Build classroom reading collections that correspond in difficulty to the reading abilities of students in their class
- Use DRP→BookLink software to generate summer reading lists. Books in the school library can also be sorted and/or coded according to their difficulty level, helping students find books that are appropriate in relation to their reading ability

Additionally, the passage sets on the DRP Tests contain a balance of three types of test items that correspond to the three clusters of the CCR Anchor Standards for Reading and the CCSS Reading Standards for Informational Text:

- Key Ideas and Details (CCR Anchor Standards 1–3 for Reading)
- Craft and Structure (CCR Anchor Standards 4–6 for Reading)
- Integration of Knowledge and Ideas (CCR Anchor Standards 7–9 for Reading)

For each of the three clusters, a CCSS diagnostic score (Teach, Practice, or Apply) is provided for each student. These will assist teachers in differentiating instruction and in grouping students with similar needs for intervention, reinforcement, and enrichment purposes.

TEXT COMPLEXITY, READING COMPREHENSION ABILITY, AND EFFECTIVE LEARNING

Students need to be able to comprehend their books and assigned texts if effective learning is to take place. But how much comprehension is desirable, and under what conditions? If materials are too easy, then students may become disengaged; if they are too hard, students often become frustrated. In either case, effective learning is unlikely.

The amount of comprehension necessary for effective learning is influenced by many factors. Student factors such as interest, motivation, study habits, and background knowledge are known to influence effective learning. Similarly, the quality of the textbook, in the sense of being "considerate" for the intended reader, is known to influence effective learning. However, three teacher-controlled factors are often the most important influences. Stated as questions, these factors are:

1. What is the purpose of reading?

If the assigned reading is for the purpose of acquiring or applying content knowledge, then the student must be able to read the material with a higher level of comprehension. If the purpose for reading is to improve the student's reading ability, then the material must provide some challenge for the student. In other words, the teacher would want to use materials that are more complex, relative to the student's reading ability. The students can be taught strategies that "stretch" their reading comprehension abilities.

2. What is the nature of the reading tasks?

If the reading involves "lower order cognition" such as minimally inferential reading for key ideas and details, then the materials could be more complex relative to the student's reading ability. On the other hand, if the assigned task involves "higher order cognition" such as critical or evaluative reading, then the student must be able to read the material with a higher level of comprehension.

3. What is the teacher's role?

If the teacher's primary role is to help the student read the assignment, then the material can and should be more difficult and complex in relation to the student's reading ability. The mid-instructional level of 75% comprehension is often used (and/or 70% comprehension in early grades and/or 80% comprehension for grades 7 and up). However, often teachers expect the students to handle the assigned materials on their own, providing little to no assistance to help the student read the assignment. In such situations, the student must be able to read the materials with a higher level of comprehension, often the independent level at 90% comprehension.

In our example on page 1, if Juanita were a 6th grade student and her social studies textbook had a DRP complexity value of 60 DRP units, Juanita could be expected to experience some difficulty reading the book. Her teacher may look for easier supplemental materials for Juanita. At the same time, the teacher can use specific intervention strategies and scaffolding with Juanita in order to facilitate her understanding of the textbook and to help Juanita internalize effective reading skills in the social studies content area.

However, the situation could be different. Juanita's teacher may want to select a book for Juanita to read and report about to the class. In this case, the teacher could suggest books for Juanita with DRP values in the mid to high 40s — books for which Juanita's level of comprehension is high, allowing her to evaluate the ideas presented and synthesize the book's content into her written and oral report.



INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCE CHART

School: Questar Middle School Examiner: Kim Smith **DRP Core Comprehension Test Scores**

Class: Smith, Kim 7-A

District: Questar School District

3

Student: KENNETH CORA 09/03/2015 Grade: 7 Date of Test:

In September, KENNETH took a Degrees of Reading Power (DRP) Core Comprehension Test. KENNETH's performance on this test is reported and interpreted in the following table and chart.

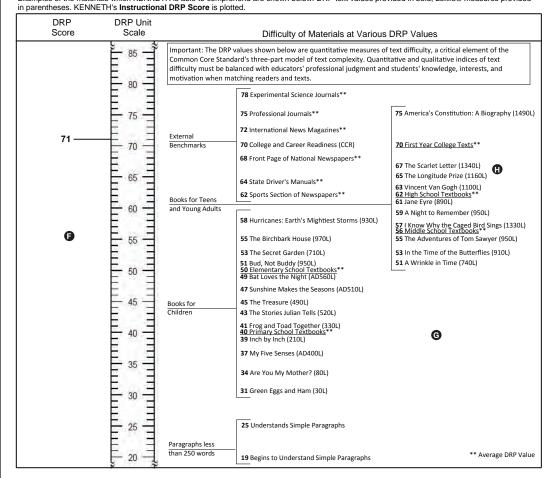
Instructional DRP (P=.80): 71 Test Form: (7A Key Ideas & Details: 21 of 21 Apply Independent DRP (P=.90): 63 12 of 16 52 of 63 Practice Raw Score: Craft & Structure: National %ile*: വ 81 Integration of Knowledge & Ideas: 19 of 26 Practice

The DRP Core Comprehension Test measures a student's ability to read and understand increasingly complex text. Three diagnostic scores indicate the student's comprehension of key ideas and details, knowledge of vocabulary, and analysis of ideas developed within the text. An instructional interpretation is provided to assist teachers in planning appropriate intervention or enrichment: Teach (Introduce), Practice or Apply.

Instructional DRP Scores indicate the most difficult text that a student can read with 80 percent comprehension.

Assistance from teachers or parents will be needed for students to read such materials with higher comprehension or to read more difficult texts. Independent DRP Scores indicate the most difficult text that a student can read with 90 percent or higher comprehension.

Examples of the materials which KENNETH is able to comprehend are shown below. DRP text values provided in bold, Lexile® measures provided



Date report generated: 10/02/2015

* Normative data based on 2000 National Norms reported for September.

Date report gene
Lexile® book measures are provided only as an additional resource. Their actual relationship to DRP book or student measures has yet to be determined.

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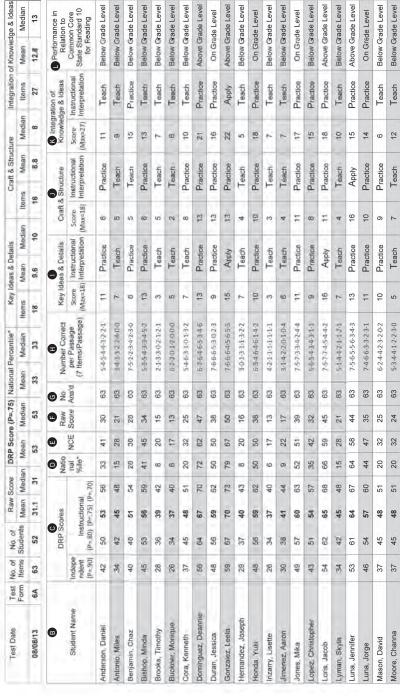
THE INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCE CHART

The Individual Performance Chart can be produced for each student tested. The table, shown in Exhibit 1, shows the student's performance in terms of instructional and independent comprehension levels. In addition, three diagnostic scores reflect the CCSS clusters Key Ideas & Details, Craft & Structure, and Integration of Knowledge & Ideas.

- A Report Type. An Individual Student Report can be generated to show the performance of each student tested in a class, school building, or district.
- B Student Name. The student's name is shown along with grade and date of testing.
- © Test Form, Raw Score, and National Percentile Rank are shown.
- DRP Scores. Student performance on DRP tests can be displayed in relation to various performance benchmarks. In this example, the Instructional Level (P=.75) DRP Score was plotted in relation to the average difficulty of articles in popular periodicals and selections from children's literature. Although both Independent Level and Instructional Level DRP Scores are reported, only one level is plotted on the Individual Performance Chart. The typical practice is to plot the Instructional Level for students in elementary and middle school, and the Independent Level for students in high school and beyond; specifically, DRP Scores at (P=.70) for grades 2-4; DRP (P=.75) for grades 5-6; DRP (P=.80) for grades 7-8; and DRP (P=.90) for grades 9+. This reporting is consistent with the expectation that students in the primary and elementary grades typically receive considerable assistance while they are learning to read and that students in the middle and high school grades are expected to do most, if not all, of their reading without assistance.
- The number of items the student answered correctly at each of the three CCSS Reading Skills Areas, along with the corresponding interpretive suggestions are shown.
- Student's score is plotted on the DRP Unit Scale and graphically illustrates student progress in understanding increasingly difficult textual material.
- Performance Benchmarks show materials that students at various levels will be able to comprehend. In Exhibit 1, multiple performance standards have been selected to provide functional referents for student performance and to reflect the developmental nature and progression of reading comprehension over time and across grades. It is important to note that these performance benchmarks were selected for illustrative purposes. In practice, any material containing continuous text could be used to define reading performance benchmarks for students. For example, school districts or state education departments could profile students' progress toward locally determined reading goals or standards of excellence using the difficulty of employment manuals, driver's license manuals, or environmental, health, or safety pamphlets.
- H Lexile® book measures provided as an additional resource to identify text complexity of selected materials.

District: Questar School District School: Questar Elementary School

© GRADE 6 SCHOOL ALPHABETICAL ROSTER DRP Core Comprehension Test Scores



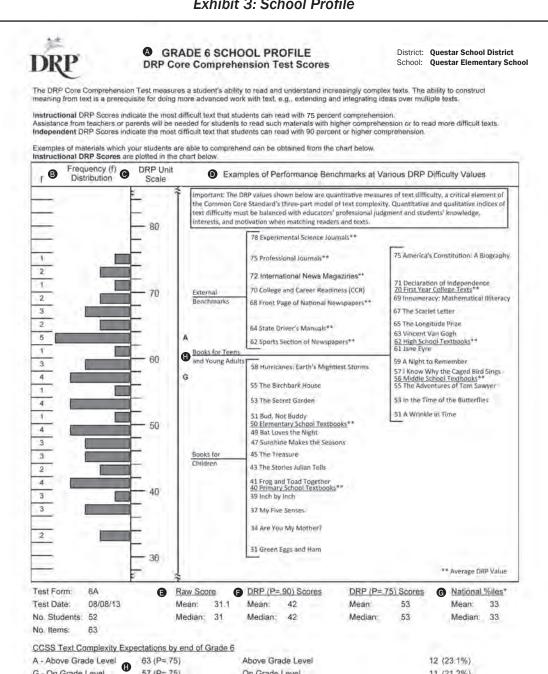
Normative data based on 2000 National Norms reported for Spring
 The group mean, median and percentile statistics will fluctuate prior to all students completing testing.

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ROSTER OF STUDENTS (ALPHABETICAL OR RANK ORDER)

The Alphabetical Roster can be produced for all the students in a class, school building, or district by grade, and provides specific information about each student in the group tested, as well as measures of central tendency (such as mean and median) for Raw Score, DRP Score, National Percentile Ranks, and CCSS Comprehension Clusters (Key Ideas & Details, Craft & Structure, and Integration of Knowledge & Ideas).

- A Report Type. Reports can be generated that aggregate or summarize the performance of students for a class, teacher, school building, or district, by grade.
- **B** Student Name. Each student tested is listed alphabetically along with his/her scores, reported in a variety of formats.
- DRP Scores represent a student's reading ability in terms of the most difficult text that the student can read with a given level of comprehension.
- National Percentile (NPR) indicates how the student's performance compares to the performance of students nationally.
- NCEs or Normal Curve Equivalents, are normalized standard scores that represent the performance of a student relative to students in the norming sample. NCEs look like National Percentile Ranks (NPRs) but are equivalent to NPRs only at the 1st, 50th, and 99th percentiles. The advantage of NCEs over NPRs is that NCEs form an equal-interval scale, and therefore can be added and averaged to determine group performance, or subtracted to measure gains.
- Raw Score is the total number of correct answers.
- 6 Number Answered lists the total number of items attempted by the student.
- Number Correct per Passage. Passages on DRP tests have seven items each. The passages are sequenced in order of difficulty. When the passages are very easy relative to the student's ability, the typical response pattern is to get all of the items correct. As the passages become more difficult, performance drops off. When this pattern of response varies, it could indicate either that the student was guessing throughout, or that an item was accidentally skipped.
- Key Ideas & Details lists the number of items of this type answered correctly by the student and the Instructional Interpretation of that score.
- Craft & Structure lists the number of items of this type answered correctly by the student and the Instructional Interpretation of that score.
- Integration of Knowledge & Ideas lists the number of items of this type answered correctly by the student and the Instructional Interpretation of that score.
- Performance in Relation to the CCSS 10 for Reading shows student performance in relation to CCSS grade level text complexity expectations for the <u>end</u> of the school year (Below Grade Level, On Grade Level, or Above Grade Level).



On Grade Level

Below Grade Level

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11 (21.2%) 29 (55.8%)

Date report generated 08/08/2013

57 (P=.75)

Normative data based on 2000 National Norms reported for Spring.
The group mean, median and percentile statistics will fluctuate prior to all students completing testing.

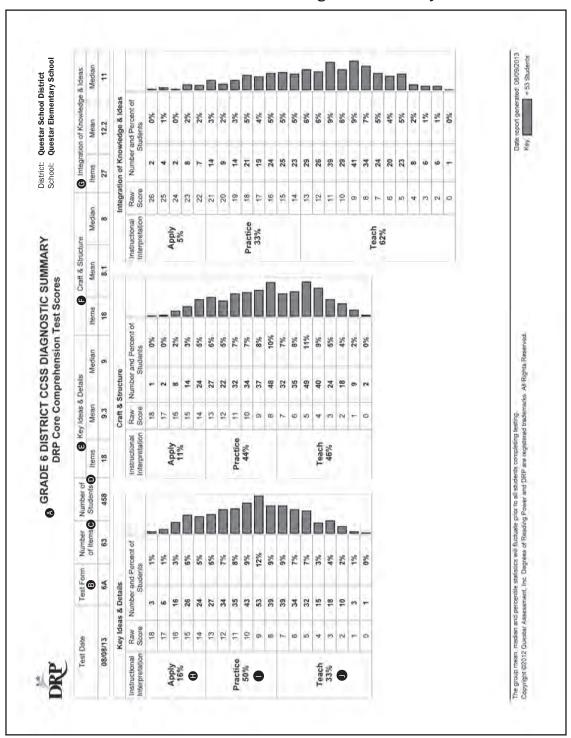
G - On Grade Level

PROFILE REPORT

The Profile Report can be produced for a class, teacher, school building, or district, by grade. It is a descriptive and graphic report designed to provide summary information about the group of students tested, and shows the distribution of student performance and measures of central tendency (such as mean and median) grouped by DRP reading levels.

- A Report Type. Reports can be generated that aggregate or summarize the performance of students for a class, teacher, school building, or district, by grade.
- Frequency Distribution. Indicates how many students scored at each point on the DRP scale, providing a graphic representation of the range of abilities in the group.
- DRP Scale. DRP results are reported on a scale of text complexity. The DRP Scale of Text Complexity ranges, in theory, from 0 to 100 units, with higher values indicating more difficult material.
- Performance Benchmarks. Because DRP scores are reported on the same scale as text difficulty, examples of materials that your students will be able to comprehend at various levels are shown here.
- Raw Score is the total number of correct answers.
- DRP Scores represent a group's average reading ability in terms of the most difficult text that they can read with a given level of comprehension. For example, the first DRP score listed in the Independent (P=.90) column, "42", indicates that, on average, the students can read text with a DRP difficulty value of 42 with about 90% comprehension. The "53" in the Instructional (P=.75) column indicates that average students can read text with a DRP difficulty of 53 with about 75% comprehension.
- National Percentile Rank (NPR) indicates how the group's performance compares to the performance of students nationally. For example, a group whose percentile rank is 33 performed as well as or better than 33% of the students in the national norming sample.
- CCSS Text Complexity Expectation indicates the most difficult text (in DRP Units) that students at the reported grade level should be able to read with the specified level of comprehension (70–90%) to be "on" or "above" grade level by the end of the school year. The letter "A" (for above) and the letter "G" (for on grade level) are marked on the DRP Unit Scale. The percent of reported students performing Above, On, or Below Grade Level is also shown.

Exhibit 4: District CCSS Diagnostic Summary



GRADE/SCHOOL DIAGNOSTIC SUMMARY

The Diagnostic Summary Report can be produced for a class, teacher, school building, or district, by grade. This report shows the distribution of student performance grouped by instructional reading levels according to the three major Common Core State Standards reading skills areas: Key Ideas & Details, Craft & Structure, and Integration of Knowledge & Ideas.

- A Report Type. Reports can be generated that aggregate or summarize the performance of students for a class; teacher; school building; or district, by grade.
- **18** Test Form. It is important to know which form students were initially tested with when making decisions about retesting. You may want to retest with an alternate form.
- O Number of Items. This is the overall number of items on the test. DRP Tests have seven items per passage.
- Number of Students. This is the number of students whose results are included in the summary report.
- Key Ideas & Details. The number of items assessing this reading cluster, along with the mean and median number answered correctly, are shown.
- Craft & Structure. The number of items assessing this reading cluster, along with the mean and median number answered correctly, are shown.
- Integration of Knowledge & Ideas. The number of items assessing this reading cluster, along with the mean and median number answered correctly, are shown.
- Apply. Lists the Raw Scores associated with this instructional reading level, along with the number and percent of students scoring at that level.
- Practice. Lists the Raw Scores associated with this instructional reading level, along with the number and percent of students scoring at that level.
- Teach. Lists the Raw Scores associated with this instructional reading level, along with the number and percent of students scoring at that level.

Cutscores are provided for each of the comprehension clusters that make up the DRP assessments. On the basis of these cutscores, the following interpretive suggestions are provided to assist teachers in making instructional decisions:

Teach means that the student has scored very low on this cluster of items and needs to be introduced or reintroduced to the skills/strategies in these standards. The student has not demonstrated the ability to independently apply these comprehension strategies. Instructors should assume that the student has had minimal prior instruction in these skill areas.

Practice means that the student has showed some understanding of the comprehension skills and strategies in this cluster of items and the standards they reflect, but repeated opportunities for focused practice with teacher coaching is needed until the student is able to apply the skills consistently and independently.

Apply means that the student has demonstrated understanding and effective use of the skills and strategies in this comprehension cluster of items. In order to continue to improve in this area, the student needs multiple opportunities to apply the skills/strategies to a broad set of materials and increasingly complex text.

The numbers of test items that assess the three major CCR Anchor Standards reading clusters vary by test level and form for the DRP tests. Specific cutscores by level and form are based on a percentage of items for each strand; these percents are constant across all DRP levels and forms.

Exhibit 5: Individual Performance Chart, Longitudinal



INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCE CHART Longitudinal

District: Questar School District School: Questar Middle School Examiner: Vardine Adjinian Class: Adjinian, Vardine-3



Student: ANNA MUNOZ

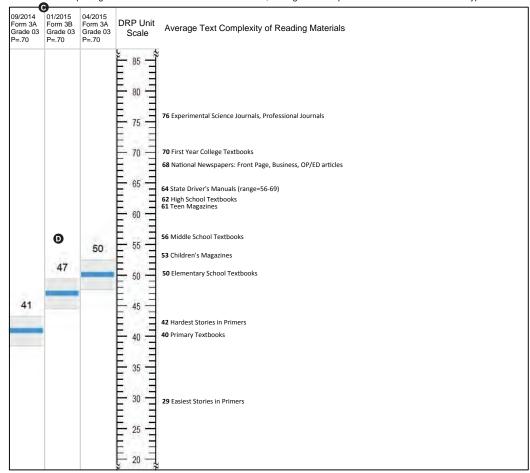
Grade: 03

Date of Last Assessment: 04/13/2015

The DRP Core Comprehension Test measures a student's ability to read and understand increasingly complex text.

The DRP student scores plotted on the chart below indicate the DRP value of the most complex text a student can read at a gradeappropriate level of comprehension. That level of comprehension is expressed as a proportion after "P=" for each DRP score. A student is expected to require assistance to understand such text at a higher level of comprehension, or to comprehend more complex texts at the same level.

As an aid to interpreting DRP student scores and DRP text values, average text complexities are shown for some text types.



A reported DRP score is an estimate of a student's true DRP score. Reported DRP scores can vary due to errors of measurement, which are present in every test. Each time a student is tested, there is a 68% confidence level that the student's true DRP score is within the shaded band shown.

Date report generated: 05/28/2015

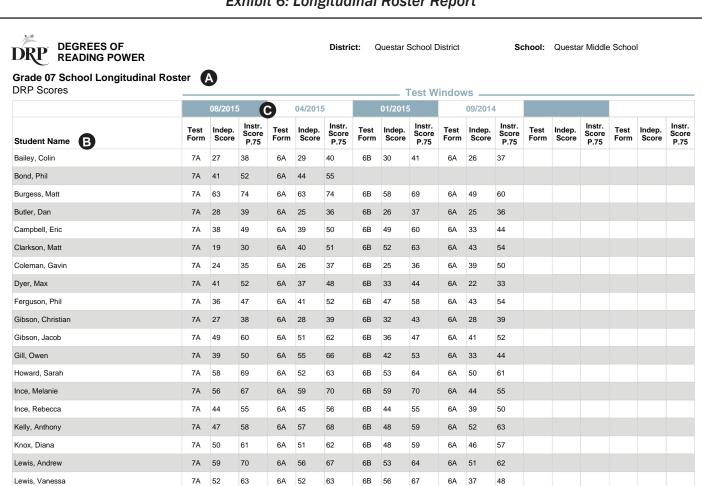
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THE LONGITUDINAL INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCE CHART

The Longitudinal Individual Performance Chart can be produced for each student tested. The chart shows the student's performance, over time, in terms of instructional comprehension levels.

- A Report Type. The Longitudinal Individual Performance Chart can be generated to show the performance of each student tested in a class or school.
- **B** Student Name. The student's name is shown along with the student's current grade and date of last assessment.
- O Date of assessment, test form, and grade when assessment was administered are shown.
- DRP Scores. Student performance on DRP tests are plotted in relation to the average text complexities for some text types. The P-values represented for each administration follow the minimum level of comprehension for the Text Complexity Expectations above to be considered "On Grade" at end of school year, as described on p. 2 of this guide. The bands represent DRP score variation due to errors of measurement, which are present in every test.

Exhibit 6: Longitudinal Roster Report



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61

72

6A 56 67

6B 47 58

6A 42 53

Date report generated: 10/02/2015

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Parr, Penelope

LONGITUDINAL ROSTER REPORT

The Longitudinal Roster Report can be produced for all the students in a class or school. The report provides scores for each student tested, as well as scores for prior test administrations, where available.

- A Report Type. Longitudinal Roster Reports can be generated that aggregate the performance of students, over multiple administrations, for a class, teacher, or school. A downloadable file is available to view all students in a district.
- **B** Student Name. Each student tested is listed alphabetically along with his/her scores over multiple administrations.
- ORP Scores represent a student's reading ability in terms of the most difficult text that the student can read with a given level of comprehension. The most recent administration is displayed first with previous administrations appearing in reverse chronological order. The first DRP score listed in the Independent Score (P=.90) column, indicates the text difficulty the student can read with about 90% comprehension. The Instructional Score (P=.75) column indicates the text difficulty the student can read with about 75% comprehension.



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