

Sample Diagnostic Reading Assessment

Read David's learner profile.

Learner Profile

David went to school until he was 12 years old but had to stop when his dad died. There were 4 kids in the family and David was the oldest so he went to work with his mother to support the family. When he was 17 he moved to the Northwest Territories and got a job working in a mine where he stayed until he retired. Gardening is his favourite past-time but he would also like to have a part-time job to keep him busy because his wife intends to continue working for another few years. His first part-time job, as a car wash attendant, was frustrating for him because he had difficulty reading the instructions for the maintenance and repair of the pay stations which needed regular attention. For someone who led a successful and profitable career as a miner it was demoralizing to have so much difficulty with a job he felt should have been easy.

The chart below demonstrates how to use instructor observations of reading skills and align them to the ARB descriptors. (Refer the ARB At-A-Glance p. 8-9)

Referencing David's Skills to the ARB

<u>Instructor's Observations of Reading Skills:</u>	<u>ARB Reading Task (ARB level)</u>	<u>Performing Level</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good decoding skills but struggles with words with unpredictable spelling 	Can sound out words that follow the most common sound/spelling relationships (1C)	1C
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is able to pull out basic facts from the readings such as things, people, places, times and amounts 	Can find information that uses simple and common words (1C) <i>Information is concrete such as an action, person, thing, group, animal, descriptor, time, location, or amount</i>	1C
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has trouble following an idea if it is explained over more than 1 sentence 	Can relate information to other information further away in the text (2A)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enjoyed reading a short article about container gardening. Is able to decipher most words including some difficult words like <i>zucchini</i> and <i>fertilize</i>. 	Can decode some familiar three-syllable words (1C)	1C
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Had a more difficult time with a short biography on a Canadian Olympic medalist and needed help with words like <i>skiing</i> and <i>physical</i> 	Can decode some longer and more complex words in a familiar context (2A)	

David is able to perform tasks at **ARB level 1C**. He has difficulty with level 2A tasks such as relating information that is not side by side in the text and managing vocabulary with more difficult spelling patterns.