



UNIVERSITY OF
OREGON

College of Education

Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills
8th Edition

Maze Benchmark

Grade 2

Administration Directions and Scoring Keys

Examiner script

I am going to give you a worksheet. When you get your worksheet, please write your name at the top and put your pencil down.

(Hand out the Maze student worksheets. Make sure students have written their names down before proceeding.)

You are going to read a passage with some words missing from it. For each missing word you will see a box with three words in it. Your job is to circle the word you think makes the most sense in the context of the passage. Let’s look at the Practice Passage together. Listen as I read.

Tom goes to a school far from his house. Every morning, he takes a school (pause) art, bus, work (pause) to go to school.

Let's stop there. Let's circle the word “bus” because I think “bus” makes the most sense here. Listen to how that sentence sounds now.

Every morning, he takes a school bus to go to school.

Now it’s your turn. Read the next sentence silently to yourself. When you come to a box, read all the words in the box and circle the word that makes the most sense to you. When you are done, put your pencil down.

(Allow up to 30 seconds for students to complete the example and put their pencils down.)

If necessary, after 30 seconds say **Put your pencil down**. As soon as all students have their pencils down, say **Good job**.

Now listen. In the (pause) afternoon, library, morning (pause), he also takes a bus home. You should have circled “afternoon” because “afternoon” makes the most sense. Listen. In the afternoon, he also takes a bus home.

Okay, when I say “Begin,” turn the page and start reading the passage silently. Start on the page with the title. When you come to a box, read all the words in the box and circle the word that makes the most sense in the passage. You will stop when you come to a stop sign or I say Stop. Ready? Begin. Start the timer.

At the end of 3 minutes, stop the timer and say **Stop. Put your pencils down**.

Reminders

Start timer	Start the timer after you say Begin .
Prompts	If a student starts reading the passage out loud, say Please read the passage silently . (Repeat as often as needed.) If a student skips an entire page, say. Please be sure not to skip pages . If a student stops working, say Please keep going until I tell you to stop. Just do your best work . (Repeat as often as needed.)
Discontinue	There is no discontinue rule. Every student should be encouraged to try their best until three minutes have passed.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Practice Passage

Tom goes to a school far from his house. Every morning, he takes a school

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Correct: _____

Incorrect: _____

Adjusted Score: _____

Working Together

Cindy and Anne were practicing for their big game. They both were on the soccer team and liked to practice at home.

They used the field behind Anne's **house**. They set up a net
for **a** goal. When the sun was shining **they** got hot and thirsty.
On those **days** they drank a lot of water.
Soccer is a hard game. You do **plenty** of fast running and
dodging when **you** play it. Kicking the ball takes **strength** and
lots of mental focus. It **helps** to pace yourself so that you
don't get too tired out too soon.
Anne **was** the captain and she scored most **of** the points

Keep going ►

for the team. Cindy **was** the goalie. The girls took turns **kicking** 14

the ball and practicing their moves. **Their** big game was coming 15

on Sunday **and** they wanted to make sure they **were** ready. 17

“We will win the game **if** you score a lot of points **for** 19
us,” said Cindy.

“If we work **together** as a team, we will win **the** game,” 21
said Anne.

Cindy looked at Anne **and** smiled. She said, “I think you 22
are right. Let’s just make sure we **work** together as a team. 24

The team **that** works together best always wins, don’t **they** ?” 26

Keep going 

They went on playing for another **hour**. It was very hot. 27

They stopped **to** drink water. 28

Cindy said, "I think **we** work together well out there." 29

Anne **replied**, "We are good friends and we **know** how 31

to play this game. We **are** on a good team. Everybody on 32

the team is strong and smart. Everybody **knows** how to 34

work together. If we **keep** it up I know we will **win**." 36

The day for the big game **arrived**. The team gathered in 37

their huddle **and** the coach gave them a pep **talk**. Half way 39

through the game, Anne **and** Cindy's team was down by two 40

points. 41

Keep going ►

Anne said, “We can win this **game**, if we all work together. 42

We **can** do it!” 43

The team went back **on** the field and played better than 44

they ever did. They won the game **and** the coach told them 46

he was **proud** of them all. The championship game **was** next 48

week. The girls knew they had to practice even harder.



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The New Kid

Eric was going to be the new kid at school. He had left his old school because his dad got a new job in a new town.

Eric was not sure if the **new** kids would like him. He 1
worried **a** lot about this the night before **his** first day at the 3
new school. **It** was hard to get to sleep, **because** he worried 5
so much.

He would **be** the new kid in the third **grade**. What if 7
nobody wanted to be **his** friend? What if they all laughed **at** 9
him?

Just the thought of being **laughed** at made Eric very sad. 10

Keep going ►

He **saw** himself going off alone to unwrap **and** eat his lunch 12
sadly in a **corner** of the school cafeteria. He shook **his** head 14
hard, as if to shake **out** this thought. But still, he couldn't **help** 16
feeling anxious.

When Eric woke up **on** the first morning that he was 17
supposed to go to his new school, **he** did not feel happy. He 19
wanted **to** say that he was feeling sick, **so** that he could stay 21
home. He **didn't** want to lie, but he didn't **want** to go to the 23
new school, **either** . 24

Then he smelled something wonderful. It **was** the smell of 25
freshly cooked pancakes. **This** made him happy, because 26

Keep going ►

pancakes were **his** favorite breakfast food. He jumped out **of** 28

bed and quickly got dressed for **school**. 29

As he ate the steaming hot **pancakes**, his mother asked 30

him if he **was** excited about starting at the new **school**. Eric 32

shrugged. She ran her hand **through** his hair. “Don’t worry,” she 33

said. “**You’ll** be the most popular kid in **school**. I just know 35

it.”

He shrugged **again**, making a sour face, but he **also** 37

smiled. His mother was always so **good** at cheering him up. 38

Eric’s dad **drove** him to school and parked at **the** curb. 40

He said, “Keep your chin **up** and have a great day at **school**. 42

Keep going ►

I know you'll make lots of **new** friends here.” 43

Eric got out of **the** car and walked to where the **kids** 45

were lining up. He saw his **class** and got in line. The boy 46

standing in front of him turned around, **held** out his hand to 48

shake, and **said**, “Hi, I’m Ted and I’m new **here**. What’s 50

your name?”

Eric shook Ted’s **hand**, smiling widely. He said, “Wow! 51

I’m **new** here, too!” 52

Ted said, “Fantastic! Let’s sit together at lunch.”



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Summer Reading

Jason liked to read books. Some days he started reading a book in the morning and kept reading it all day long. He liked books that took place **in** strange places or ancient times. He **liked** to read about people going on **heroic** quests and wild adventures.

When Jason **read** a book, he saw all that **happened** in the story. He felt what **the** people in the book felt. He **tasted** what they tasted. He smelled what **they** smelled. It was like living a **whole** different life.

One summer day, Jason **started** reading right after breakfast.

Keep going ►

At noon, **he** was still reading. It was a book **about** people in 12

ancient times. There were **big** battles in it. There was a **boy** 14

only a little older than he **was**, going on strange adventures. 15

As Jason **read** the book, he stayed still so **that** he could keep 17

his mind on **the** story. 18

Jason felt he was in the **middle** of a big battle. He was 19

riding a horse. He was shooting arrows. **After** the battle 21

was over, he rode **his** horse down to a river to **drink** water. The 23

horse also drank water. **They** were both covered in dust and 24

they were both thirsty. 25

Jason's mother knocked **on** his door. This made him sit 26

Keep going ►

up . For a few seconds he did **not** know where he was, or 28

who **he** was. 29

“Jason,” she said. “Go outside, **please** . It’s time for you to 30

get **some** fresh air.” 31

So, Jason got up **from** his bed. He was still carrying **his** 33

book with his forefinger in it **to** mark the page he had been 34

reading . He walked down the stairs still **reading** it. He went 36

out into the **yard** and sat underneath an oak tree. **It** was quiet 38

and peaceful there. He **kept** reading. 39

He had many adventures that **afternoon** . At the end of his 40

adventures, **he** was standing in a big church. **He** wore a 42

Keep going ►

shining suit and polished **boots**. Organ music boomed. A woman 43

in **a** long, white dress and a lace **veil** came walking slowly 45

up the aisle. **She** stood facing him as the priest **began** to 47

speak.

Just then his mother **shouted** out, “Jason! Time for dinner!” 48

Jason **sat** up, startled, and looked around. The **sunlight** was 50

almost gone, and he was **sitting** in deep shade. The air was 51

blue. **Crickets** were singing. The whole day had gone by while 52

he was reading his book.

