

## Placement Testing: Level C

Level C is appropriate for any student who meets the placement criteria. A placement test is used to measure the student's ability to:

- Write numerals from dictation.
- Solve simple story problems.
- Write answers to addition and subtraction facts.
- Write answers to column-addition problems that might require renaming to the tens column.

A reproducible copy of the placement test (taken from the Level C *Teacher's Guide*) follows. Administration takes 6–10 minutes.

## Administering the Placement Test

Try to test students on the first day of instruction.

Pass out a test form to each student. Present the wording in the test administration script.

**Note:** What you say is shown in blue type.

Circulate among the students as you present the items.

When observing the students, you should make sure that they are working on the correct part or correct item of the test. Do not prompt them in any way that would let them know the answer to the item

### TEST ADMINISTRATION SCRIPT

- (Direct students to fill out their names on the top of the test form.)
- **Everybody, find Part 1. I'm going to dictate 2-digit numbers. You'll write them on the appropriate lines, starting with line A.**
- **Touch line A. Write 70 on line A. 70.** (Pause 3 seconds.)
- **Line B. Write 17 on line B. 17.** (Pause 3 seconds.)
- (Repeat for remaining numerals: C, 51; D, 42; E, 96; F, 15; G, 20; H, 71)
- **Everybody, find part 2.**  
I'm going to say story problems. You'll write the number problems and the answers.
- Listen to problem A. A boy has 8 marbles. He loses 7 marbles. How many marbles does he end up with?
- I'll say the problem again. You write the number problem. A boy has 8 marbles. (Pause.) He loses 7 marbles. (Pause.) How many marbles does he end up with? (Pause.) Now figure out the answer. (Pause.)

- Listen to problem B. A man has 7 dollars. He gets 5 more dollars. How many dollars does he have now?
- I'll say the problem again. You write the number problem. A man has 7 dollars. (Pause.) He gets 5 more dollars. (Pause.) How many dollars does he have now? (Pause.) Now figure out the answer. (Pause.)
- Listen to problem C. A girl has 10 hats. She gives away 2 hats. How many hats does she have left?
- I'll say the problem again. You write the number problem. A girl has 10 hats. (Pause.) She gives away 2 hats. (Pause.) How many hats does she have left? (Pause.) Now figure out the answer. (Pause.)
- Everybody find Part 3. For Part 3, you'll write answers to the addition problems and subtraction problems. I will time you. You will have two minutes to write all the answers.
- Be careful. Pencils ready. Go.
- (Time students. At the end of two minutes, say:) Everybody, stop and put your pencils down.
- Everybody find Part 4. For Part 4, you'll write answers to the addition problems. I will time you. You will have one minute to write all the answers.
- Be careful. Pencils ready. Go.
- (Time students. At the end of one minute, say:) Everybody, stop and put your pencils down.
- (Collect the test forms.)

## Placement Criteria

The criteria for passing the test are:

	Pass	Fail
Part 1	0 or 1 error	2 or more errors
Part 2	0 or 1 error	2 or more errors
Part 3	0–3 errors	4 or more errors
Part 4	0 or 1 error	2 or more errors
Total Test	0–6 errors	7 or more errors

Students who fail a particular part should receive remedial work on the skill tested by the part (writing numerals, solving simple word problems, working addition and subtraction facts, writing answers to column-addition problems)

Is Level C appropriate for your classroom? A rule of thumb is that three-fourths or more of the students in the class should pass the placement test. If more than one-fourth of the students fail the placement tests, it might be difficult to present Level C to the entire class. A recommendation is to place the lower performers in Level B.

# Placement Test

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Score \_\_\_\_\_

## Part 1

- a. \_\_\_\_\_      b. \_\_\_\_\_      c. \_\_\_\_\_      d. \_\_\_\_\_  
e. \_\_\_\_\_      f. \_\_\_\_\_      g. \_\_\_\_\_      h. \_\_\_\_\_

## Part 2

- a. \_\_\_\_\_      b. \_\_\_\_\_      c. \_\_\_\_\_

## Part 3

- a.  $\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ +3 \\ \hline \end{array}$       b.  $\begin{array}{r} 4 \\ +2 \\ \hline \end{array}$       c.  $\begin{array}{r} 2 \\ +9 \\ \hline \end{array}$       d.  $\begin{array}{r} 1 \\ +6 \\ \hline \end{array}$       e.  $\begin{array}{r} 2 \\ +3 \\ \hline \end{array}$       f.  $\begin{array}{r} 3 \\ +8 \\ \hline \end{array}$       g.  $\begin{array}{r} 3 \\ +5 \\ \hline \end{array}$
- h.  $\begin{array}{r} 1 \\ +1 \\ \hline \end{array}$       i.  $\begin{array}{r} 5 \\ +2 \\ \hline \end{array}$       j.  $\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ +1 \\ \hline \end{array}$       k.  $\begin{array}{r} 8 \\ +2 \\ \hline \end{array}$       l.  $\begin{array}{r} 5 \\ +0 \\ \hline \end{array}$       m.  $\begin{array}{r} 3 \\ +3 \\ \hline \end{array}$       n.  $\begin{array}{r} 7 \\ +3 \\ \hline \end{array}$
- o.  $\begin{array}{r} 9 \\ -2 \\ \hline \end{array}$       p.  $\begin{array}{r} 4 \\ -0 \\ \hline \end{array}$       q.  $\begin{array}{r} 5 \\ -1 \\ \hline \end{array}$       r.  $\begin{array}{r} 7 \\ -7 \\ \hline \end{array}$       s.  $\begin{array}{r} 7 \\ -2 \\ \hline \end{array}$       t.  $\begin{array}{r} 8 \\ -1 \\ \hline \end{array}$       u.  $\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ -1 \\ \hline \end{array}$
- v.  $\begin{array}{r} 2 \\ -0 \\ \hline \end{array}$       w.  $\begin{array}{r} 2 \\ -1 \\ \hline \end{array}$       x.  $\begin{array}{r} 2 \\ -2 \\ \hline \end{array}$

## Part 4

- a.  $\begin{array}{r} 28 \\ +41 \\ \hline \end{array}$       b.  $\begin{array}{r} 19 \\ +33 \\ \hline \end{array}$       c.  $\begin{array}{r} 37 \\ +47 \\ \hline \end{array}$       d.  $\begin{array}{r} 52 \\ +36 \\ \hline \end{array}$

## Placement Test Answer Key

### Part 1

- a. 70      b. 17      c. 51      d. 42  
 e. 96      f. 15      g. 20      h. 71

### Part 2

- a.  $8-7=1$       b.  $7+5=12$       c.  $10-2=8$

### Part 3

- |   |   |  |  |   |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| a. $\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ +3 \\ \hline 9 \end{array}$ | b. $\begin{array}{r} 4 \\ +2 \\ \hline 6 \end{array}$ | c. $\begin{array}{r} 2 \\ +9 \\ \hline 11 \end{array}$ | d. $\begin{array}{r} 1 \\ +6 \\ \hline 7 \end{array}$  | e. $\begin{array}{r} 2 \\ +3 \\ \hline 5 \end{array}$ | f. $\begin{array}{r} 3 \\ +8 \\ \hline 11 \end{array}$ | g. $\begin{array}{r} 3 \\ +5 \\ \hline 8 \end{array}$  |
| h. $\begin{array}{r} 1 \\ +1 \\ \hline 2 \end{array}$ | i. $\begin{array}{r} 5 \\ +2 \\ \hline 7 \end{array}$ | j. $\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ +1 \\ \hline 7 \end{array}$  | k. $\begin{array}{r} 8 \\ +2 \\ \hline 10 \end{array}$ | l. $\begin{array}{r} 5 \\ +0 \\ \hline 5 \end{array}$ | m. $\begin{array}{r} 3 \\ +3 \\ \hline 6 \end{array}$  | n. $\begin{array}{r} 7 \\ +3 \\ \hline 10 \end{array}$ |
| o. $\begin{array}{r} 9 \\ -2 \\ \hline 7 \end{array}$ | p. $\begin{array}{r} 4 \\ -0 \\ \hline 4 \end{array}$ | q. $\begin{array}{r} 5 \\ -1 \\ \hline 4 \end{array}$  | r. $\begin{array}{r} 7 \\ -7 \\ \hline 0 \end{array}$  | s. $\begin{array}{r} 7 \\ -2 \\ \hline 5 \end{array}$ | t. $\begin{array}{r} 8 \\ -1 \\ \hline 7 \end{array}$  | u. $\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ -1 \\ \hline 9 \end{array}$ |
| v. $\begin{array}{r} 2 \\ -0 \\ \hline 2 \end{array}$ | w. $\begin{array}{r} 2 \\ -1 \\ \hline 1 \end{array}$ | x. $\begin{array}{r} 2 \\ -2 \\ \hline 0 \end{array}$  |  |   |  |  |

### Part 4

- |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
| a. $\begin{array}{r} 28 \\ +41 \\ \hline 69 \end{array}$ | b. $\begin{array}{r} 19 \\ +33 \\ \hline 52 \end{array}$ | c. $\begin{array}{r} 37 \\ +47 \\ \hline 84 \end{array}$ | d. $\begin{array}{r} 52 \\ +36 \\ \hline 88 \end{array}$ |
|--|--|--|--|