

6th Grade Passages

Between BOY and MOY Examiner Packet

Passage 1 *Caroline Herschel*

Passage 2 *An Unusual Job*

Passage 3 *A Great Comet*

Directions

Passage 1

"I want you to read this passage out loud and do your best reading. If you get stuck or come to a word you cannot read, I will tell you the word so you can keep reading. When I say 'Stop,' I will ask you to tell me about what you read. Do you understand? ... Okay, you will begin as soon as I turn the page."

- Read the title of the passage.
- Start timing when the student says the first word.
- As he or she is reading, mark any words incorrect that are misread (i.e., substitutions, omissions, reversals, skips, or numerals read incorrectly).
- If the student hesitates for more than 3 seconds on a word, mark it as an error. Provide the word and then say, "Go on."
- If the student skips a line, stop and redirect the student to the beginning of the line. Count the first word of the line as an error. Do not stop the timer.
- After 60 seconds, say, "Stop." Circle the last word read.
- If the student finishes all the words before the time is up, note the time required to read all the words.
- COMPREHENSION RETELL: Give the initial retell prompt: "Can you tell me everything you remember reading in the passage?" Each time the student pauses, use the follow-up prompt ("Do you remember anything else?") until the student can recall no other information.

Passages 2 & 3

"Now try this passage: (Title). Ready? ... Begin."

Follow guidelines listed above.

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Record Sheet: Passage Reading Fluency

Student Name		Date		Gender	
Examiner (and Title)		School		Grade	

Passage 1 *Caroline Herschel*

Last word read		Word number	
A Time in seconds		Number of errors	
		B Number of words read correctly	
		$(60 \times \mathbf{B}) \div \mathbf{A} =$ Words correct per minute (WCPM)	
		C EQUATED SCORE	
Comprehension Retell			
X Recalled idea units		Y Maximum possible idea units	
		$\mathbf{X} \div \mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{Z}$ PASSAGE RETELL SCORE	

Passage 2 *An Unusual Job*

Last word read		Word number	
A Time in seconds		Number of errors	
		B Number of words read correctly	
		$(60 \times \mathbf{B}) \div \mathbf{A} =$ WCPM	
		C EQUATED SCORE	
Comprehension Retell			
X Recalled idea units		Y Maximum possible idea units	
		$\mathbf{X} \div \mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{Z}$ PASSAGE RETELL SCORE	

Scoring continues on the next page.

Record Sheet: Passage Reading Fluency (cont.)

Student Name	
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Passage 3 *A Great Comet*

Last word read		Word number	
Ⓐ Time in seconds		Number of errors	
		Ⓑ Number of words read correctly	
		$(60 \times \text{Ⓑ}) \div \text{Ⓐ} = \text{WCPM}$	
		Ⓒ EQUATED SCORE	
Comprehension Retell			
Ⓐ Recalled idea units		Ⓓ Maximum possible idea units	
		$\text{Ⓐ} \div \text{Ⓓ} = \text{Ⓔ}$ PASSAGE RETELL SCORE	

Total equated scores (add all Ⓒ's)	
Divide by 3 for AVERAGE EQUATED SCORE	

Total passage retell scores (add all Ⓔ's)	
Divide by 3 for AVERAGE RETELL SCORE	

Caroline Herschel
Lexile: 500 – 6th Grade Between BOY & MOY #1
Source: Original Work

Did you know that one of the first women astronomers began her career as a maid?

- 16
32
48
Caroline Herschel was one of six children. When Caroline was small, she suffered from a disease called typhus. She recovered, but her growth was permanently stunted. She only grew to be four feet three inches tall. Her father told her that the only thing she could do in life was to be a maid.
- 70
89
107
Her brother, William, felt sorry for her. He took her to England to live with him. She was his housekeeper. William had a job as a chorus director. He was very skilled in music. But he really had an interest in astronomy. He began to make very powerful telescopes.
- 119
135
151
Soon, people realized how well-made his telescopes were. He began making and selling them. He quit his chorus job. William became very respected in the field of astronomy. He even discovered Uranus.
- 152
168
184
Caroline spent years watching her brother. She began to develop an interest in astronomy too. She learned all she could from him. Soon, she was helping him build telescopes. She kept wonderful notes about their observations.
- 188
205
William even gave her her own telescope. He knew she would want to make observations on her own.
- 206
223
Her first big accomplishment came when she discovered a comet. She would go on to discover 7 more.
- 224
240
254
Caroline won several awards for her work in astronomy. She was even honored in other countries, including Germany and Prussia. In 1835, she became an honorary member of the Royal Astronomical Society. She was one of the first women to achieve this goal.
- 267
285
287
Caroline lived to be 98 years old. She had many friends. When she died, everyone who knew her was sad.

An Unusual Job
TCLD Title: An Unusual Job
Lexile: 690 – 6th Grade Between BOY & MOY #2
Source: TAAS 2002

18
31

Robert Crisman has a big job. He works to keep the faces of four Presidents looking good. He repairs cracks on Abraham Lincoln’s nose. He smoothes the lines on George Washington’s forehead. Of course, Crisman does not work on real Presidents. He works on Mount Rushmore.

46
64
77
94
112
126

What is Mount Rushmore? Mount Rushmore is a mountain in South Dakota. It is made of a very hard rock called granite. The faces of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, and Theodore Roosevelt are carved into the side of this mountain. The carvings begin at the top of the mountain. They are about 60 feet tall. They were made as a monument to honor these great Presidents. The carvings make people think about what these leaders stood for — courage, leadership, freedom, and a love of country.

133
151
169
186
206

Why do the carvings need repair? Over time tiny cracks occur in the hard granite. When they first appear, these small cracks are not a problem. But the weather causes some to get bigger. In the winter, rain and melted snow get inside the cracks. When the water freezes, it makes the cracks longer and deeper. When a small crack becomes a large crack, it needs to be repaired. If it is not fixed, pieces of the carvings may break off.

214
230
250
266
284
302
318
337
355
374

How does Robert Crisman do the repairs? Every September Crisman goes down the side of the mountain to see if anything needs to be repaired. To do this, he first puts on special gear. He uses safety belts like the ones used by people who climb mountains. Then Crisman straps himself into a seat. The seat is fastened to strong ropes. Two people on top of the mountain lower Crisman down. Each year Crisman works on the side of the mountain for four days. Each day he works on a different carving. As Crisman climbs around the huge faces, he carefully checks each one. He inspects the carvings for breaks and chips. If he finds a large crack, he fixes it. Before 1991 Crisman filled in the cracks with a paste that took three years to dry. Then a company made something new for him to use called silicone. The silicone fills up the cracks and dries in just one day.

375
396
414
428
436

When Crisman first started his job, he did not like to look at the ground so far below him. Now he is used to working up high. He likes his job and knows he is doing something important. About two million people visit Mount Rushmore each year. Robert Crisman’s work helps keep the Presidents’ faces looking good for everyone to see.

A Great Comet
TCLD Title: A Great Comet
Lexile: 780 – 6th Grade Between BOY & MOY #3
Source: TAAS 2000

18
40

For six months in 1997, people watched a glowing object in the night sky. Comet Hale-Bopp made a show in the sky that lasted from January to June. Its head shone as brightly as a star. Its tail swept back like a fan. Some people thought it might be the best comet to pass by Earth in 20 years.

60
79
98
117
134
152

Comets begin as dirty chunks of rock in an icy fog. Some of these rocks move toward the sun when its gravity pulls them. Once the rocks get near the sun, they begin to look like comets. Each comet forms a tail and a round head that are characteristic of all comets. The round head and tail make a comet easy to recognize. Comets travel in orbits, or circles, around the sun. These orbits can be big or small. Comets that make small orbits around the sun come near Earth every 200 years or less. They are not very bright, but we see them more often.

166
186

Hale-Bopp is a comet that makes big orbits around the sun. It will not pass near Earth again for about 2,400 years.

189
209
225
245
263
280

In the 1990s about 12 comets a year were discovered. Most of these could not be seen in the sky without special equipment because they did not come very close to Earth. Even though Hale-Bopp was far away from Earth, it could be seen because its head was huge. The heads of most comets are no larger than six miles in diameter. Hale-Bopp's head was about 25 miles across. Because of its size, Hale-Bopp glowed brightly. Most of the famous comets have had long, thin tails that streamed for millions of miles. Hale-Bopp's tail was wider and shorter.

291
306
324
341
362
368

People enjoyed watching Hale-Bopp for several reasons. It glowed brightly. Hale-Bopp could be seen without a telescope for six months, from an hour after sunset until an hour before sunrise each day. Everyone had sufficient time to see this bright traveler. There were plenty of chances to look at it. There will continue to be many more comets for us to see. Like Hale-Bopp, they will look like glowing balls in the night sky.

Grade 6 Passage Reading Fluency Equating Table Between BOY & MOY – Caroline Herschel

WCPM	Equated Score	WCPM	Equated Score	WCPM	Equated Score	WCPM	Equated Score
<33	51	91	108	148	165	206	222
34	52	92	109	149	166	207	223
35	53	93	110	150	167	208	224
36	54	94	111	151	168	209	225
37	55	95	112	152	169	210	226
38	56	96	113	153	170	>211	227
39	57	97	114	154	171		
40	58	98	115	155	172		
41	59	99	116	156	173		
42	60	100	117	157	174		
43	61	101	118	158	175		
44	62	102	119	159	176		
45	63	103	120	160	177		
46	64	104	121	161	178		
47	65	105	122	162	179		
48	66	106	123	163	180		
49	67	107	124	164	181		
50	68	108	125	165	182		
51	69	109	126	166	183		
52	70	110	127	167	184		
53	71	111	128	168-169	185		
54	72	112	129	170	186		
55	73	113	130	171	187		
56	74	114	131	172	188		
57	75	115	132	173	189		
58	76	116	133	174	190		
59	77	117	134	175	191		
60	78	118	135	176	192		
61	79	119	136	177	193		
62	80	120	137	178	194		
63	81	121	138	179	195		
64	82	122	139	180	196		
65	83	123	140	181	197		
66	84	124	141	182	198		
67	85	125	142	183	199		
68	86	126	143	184	200		
69	87	127	144	185	201		
70	88	128	145	186	202		
71	89	129	146	187	203		
72	90	130	147	188	204		
73	91	131	148	189	205		
74	92	132	149	190	206		
75	93	133	150	191	207		
76	94	134	151	192	208		
77	95	135	152	193	209		
78	96	136	153	194	210		
79	97	137	154	195	211		
80	98	138	155	196	212		
81	99	139	156	197	213		
82	100	140	157	198	214		
83	101	141	158	199	215		
84	102	142	159	200	216		
85	103	143	160	201	217		
86	104	144	161	202	218		
87-88	105	145	162	203	219		
89	106	146	163	204	220		
90	107	147	164	205	221		

Retell Scoring Guide

Caroline Herschel

(page 1 of 2)

Each row of the table represents an idea unit and is worth 1 point.

# of Words Read	⊗ Recalled Idea Unit					Ⓜ Maximum Possible Idea Units
16	The first	woman lady female	astronomer was	was once started as used to be	a maid	1
32	When	she Caroline	was	young small a child a kid a girl	she had typhus had a disease was sick	2
42	She Caroline	was short * didn't grow tall * was only 4 feet 3 inches * <i>or</i> It The disease Typhus				3
	made her (Caroline) short *	<i>or</i> stunted her (Caroline's) growth * height *				
70	Her (Caroline's)	father dad	said told her	she could only be a maid		4
82	Her (Caroline's) brother William	let her (Caroline) live with him took her (Caroline) to England				5
112	He Her brother William	liked had an interest in	astronomy			6
119	He Her brother William	made sold	his own powerful	telescopes		7
152	He Her brother William	discovered	a planet Uranus			8
166	She Caroline	learned about astronomy from her brother (William) became interested in astronomy				9

* "Small" is not specific enough to be an acceptable synonym for Caroline's height.

Table continues on the next page.

Retell Scoring Guide (cont.)

Caroline Herschel (2 of 2)

# of Words Read	⊗ Recalled Idea Unit			Ⓜ Maximum Possible Idea Units
181	She Caroline	helped with the	telescopes observations notes	10
195	Her brother William	gave her (Caroline) a telescope		11
216	She Caroline	discovered comets		12
233	She Caroline	won awards for astronomy		13
267	She Caroline	was one of the first women to be honored	for astronomy by the Royal Astronomical Society	14
272	She Caroline	lived	for a long time to be 98	15

Grade 6 Passage Reading Fluency Equating Table Between BOY & MOY – An Unusual Job

WCPM	Equated Score	WCPM	Equated Score	WCPM	Equated Score	WCPM	Equated Score
<22	26	76	83	130	140	184	197
23	27	77	84	131	141	185	198
24	28	78	85	132	142	186	199
25	29	79	86	133	143	187	200
26	30	80	87	134	144	188	201
	31	81	88	135	145	189	202
27	32	82	89	136	146	190	203
28	33	83	90	137	147	191	204
29	34	84	91	138	148	192	205
30	35		92	139	149	>193	206
31	36	85	93	140	150		
32	37	86	94	141	151		
33	38	87	95	142	152		
34	39	88	96	143	153		
35	40	89	97		154		
36	41	90	98	144	155		
37	42	91	99	145	156		
38	43	92	100	146	157		
39	44	93	101	147	158		
40	45	94	102	148	159		
41	46	95	103	149	160		
42	47	96	104	150	161		
43	48	97	105	151	162		
44	49	98	106	152	163		
45	50	99	107	153	164		
	51	100	108	154	165		
46	52	101	109	155	166		
47	53	102	110	156	167		
48	54	103	111	157	168		
49	55	104	112	158	169		
50	56		113	159	170		
51	57	105	114	160	171		
52	58	106	115	161	172		
53	59	107	116	162	173		
54	60	108	117		174		
55	61	109	118	163	175		
56	62	110	119	164	176		
57	63	111	120	165	177		
58	64	112	121	166	178		
59	65	113	122	167	179		
60	66	114	123	168	180		
61	67	115	124	169	181		
62	68	116	125	170	182		
63	69	117	126	171	183		
64	70	118	127	172	184		
65	71	119	128	173	185		
	72	120	129	174	186		
66	73	121	130	175	187		
67	74	122	131	176	188		
68	75	123	132	177	189		
69	76		133	178	190		
70	77	124	134	179	191		
71	78	125	135	180	192		
72	79	126	136	181	193		
73	80	127	137	182	194		
74	81	128	138		195		
75	82	129	139	183	196		

Retell Scoring Guide

Each row of the table represents an idea unit and is worth 1 point.

# of Words Read	⊗ Recalled Idea Unit	✓ Maximum Possible Idea Units
17	A man Robert Crisman works on repairs cracks in smoothes lines in Presidents' faces or makes the Presidents' faces look good	1
58	Mount Rushmore is made of granite a hard rock or in South Dakota	2
88	George Washington's * Thomas Jefferson's * Abraham Lincoln's * Theodore Roosevelt's * face is carved into the mountain granite Mount Rushmore	3
103	The faces The carvings are 60 feet tall	4
114	Mount Rushmore The carvings The monument They † It is (are) to honor remember the Presidents or represent(s) make(s) people think about courage leadership freedom love of country	5
167	Weather Rain Ice Melted snow Frozen water makes the cracks in the rock granite mountain carvings bigger longer deeper	6
214	If the cracks aren't fixed, pieces can break off	7

* To earn credit for this idea unit, the student must supply at least one President's last name. The student should not be penalized for mispronouncing the name.

† Using the pronoun "they" is only acceptable if it is clear the student is referring to the carvings.

Table continues on the next page.

Retell Scoring Guide (cont.)

# of Words Read	⊗ Recalled Idea Unit					Ⓜ Maximum Possible Idea Units	
239	Every September Every year	he Crisman	checks the inspects the	mountain faces carvings	or need(s) repair	8	
285	He Crisman	uses	ropes climbing gear safety belts equipment	to be lowered down the	mountain faces carvings	9	
	People lowered	him Crisman	down the	mountain face carvings	or		
298	He Crisman	works on a different	face carving	every day each day	or	10	
	It takes four days to repair the faces						
351	He Crisman	first used used to use	a paste that took 3 years to dry			11	
375	Now,	he Crisman	uses	silicone something new	that dries in	one day a day quickly	12
390	At first,	he Crisman	was scared couldn't look down did not like to look at the ground			or	13
	Now,	he Crisman	is used to working up high is not scared of heights			or	
413	He Crisman	knows it is an important job				or	14
	His Crisman's	work is seen by	millions of several million a lot of many	people	or		

Grade 6 Passage Reading Fluency Equating Table Between BOY & MOY – *A Great Comet*

WCPM	Equated Score	WCPM	Equated Score	WCPM	Equated Score	WCPM	Equated Score
<14	16	72	73	130	130	187	187
15	17	73	74	131	131	188	188
16	18	74	75	132	132	189	189
17	19	75	76	133	133	190	190
18	20	76	77	134	134	191	191
19	21	77	78	135	135	192	192
20	22	78	79	136	136	193	193
21	23	79	80	137	137	194	194
22	24	80	81	138	138	195	195
23	25	81	82	139	139	196	196
24	26	82	83	140	140	197	197
25	27	83	84	141	141	198	198
26	28	84	85	142	142	199	199
27	29	85	86	143	143	200	200
28	30	86	87	144	144	201	201
29	31	87	88	145	145	202	202
30	32	88	89	146	146	203	203
31	33	89	90	147	147	>204	204
32	34	90	91	148	148		
33	35	91	92	149	149		
34	36	92	93	150	150		
35	37	93	94	151	151		
36	38	94	95	152	152		
37	39	95	96	153	153		
38-39	40	96	97	154	154		
40	41	97	98	155	155		
41	42	98	99	156	156		
42	43	99	100	157	157		
43	44	100	101	158	158		
44	45	101	102	159	159		
45	46	102	103	160	160		
46	47	103	104	161	161		
47	48	104	105	162	162		
48	49	105	106	163	163		
49	50	106	107	164	164		
50	51	107	108	165	165		
51	52	108	109	166	166		
52	53	109	110	167	167		
53	54	110	111	168	168		
54	55	111	112	169	169		
55	56	112	113	170	170		
56	57	113	114	171	171		
57	58	114	115	172	172		
58	59	115	116	173	173		
59	60	116	117	174	174		
60	61	117	118	175	175		
61	62	118	119	176	176		
62	63	119	120	177	177		
63	64	120	121	178	178		
64	65	121	122	179	179		
65	66	122	123	180	180		
66	67	123	124	181	181		
67	68	124-125	125	182	182		
68	69	126	126	183	183		
69	70	127	127	184	184		
70	71	128	128	185	185		
71	72	129	129	186	186		

Retell Scoring Guide

Each row of the table represents an idea unit and is worth 1 point.

# of Words Read	⊗ Recalled Idea Unit						Ⓜ Maximum Possible Idea Units
17	The comet Hale-Bopp	was in the sky	could be seen	for six months	from January to June		1
34	It The comet Hale-Bopp	had a tail like a fan					2
	The comet's Hale-Bopp's	head	glowed shone shined	brightly as bright as a star	or		
60	People thought	it the comet Hale-Bopp	was the best in	a long time many years 20 years		3	
67	Comets	start begin	as rocks chunks of rock			4	
106	Comets	have are recognized by their	round heads and tails			5	
	The head and tail of the comet	form are made	when it gets	near close to close by	the sun		
132	Comets	move travel orbit circle	around the sun			6	
155	Comets	in that make	small	orbits circles	are	not very bright not as bright seen more often seen more frequently seen sooner seen every 200 years or less	7
175	Hale-Bopp	makes big	orbits circles			8	
		won't be seen for	2,400 years a long time many years	or			

Table continues on the next page.

# of Words Read	⊗ Recalled Idea Unit				Ⓜ Maximum Possible Idea Units
212	Comets discovered	in the 1990s not long ago	did not come close to Earth us	or were hard to see needed special equipment to be seen	9
239	Hale-Bopp could be seen because it		was huge was really large had a huge head had a large head		10
260	Hale-Bopp's head was 25 miles		wide across in diameter		11
289	Hale-Bopp's tail was	wider than shorter than	most other	comets	12
302	People liked enjoyed	Hale-Bopp because it	glowed brightly	or could be seen viewed without a telescope special equipment	13
358	There will be	other more	comets	like Hale-Bopp that look like glowing balls in the sky	14