

# 6th Grade Passages

Between MOY and EOY Examiner Packet

- Passage 1      *Mistippee*  
Passage 2      *A Great Comet*  
Passage 3      *Dolley Madison Saves the Day*

## Directions

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### 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 *Mistippee*

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

## Passage 2 *A Great Comet*

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

*Scoring continues on the next page.*

# Record Sheet: Passage Reading Fluency (cont.)

Student Name	
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## Passage 3 *Dolley Madison Saves the Day*

Last word read		Word number	
Ⓐ Time in seconds		Number of errors	
		Ⓑ Number of words read correctly	
		$(60 \times \text{Ⓑ}) \div \text{Ⓐ} = \text{WCPM}$	
		<b>Ⓒ EQUATED SCORE</b>	
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 <b>AVERAGE EQUATED SCORE</b>	

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

**Mistippee**  
**TCLD Title: Mistippee**  
**Lexile: 640 – 6th Grade Between MOY & EOY #1**  
**Source: TAKS 2004**

In November 1825 a group of Creek Indians met with men who worked for President John Quincy Adams. The Creek men needed help because people were taking their land. The following letter is from James, the son of one of the men who went to the meeting.

17

33

47

November 30, 1825

50

Dearest Mama,

52

I went with Papa today to meet with the leaders of the Creek Indians. Papa needed me to help him with the horses. There were many Creek men sitting at the table when we walked into the meeting place. The Creek men sat tall and straight. They were very quiet. Their eyes were kind, and their voices were gentle. Papa told me that the man sitting at the head of the table was a chief.

72

90

108

127

Standing behind him was a boy who looked 12 years old, like me. The first thing I noticed about the boy was his clothes. He wore a white cotton shirt, like mine. However, he also wore boots, a vest, and pants all made from deerskin. These clothes were very different from mine. I was wearing pointed black leather shoes, a button-down coat, and wool pants. The Creek boy had markings on his face. There was a line of blue dots painted on each side of his face and an orange sun painted above his nose. Papa told me later that each mark had a meaning.

146

164

181

197

218

233

Papa and the boy's father told us to go outside while the men talked. The boy spoke perfect English. He said that he could read and write in English, too. He told me his name was Mistippee. He said that his father had educated him. Mistippee wanted to know everything about me and asked a lot of questions. I told him about our small farm where we grow wheat. I also told him that I share a room upstairs with my three brothers. Then he asked about my school. I told him that I go to school in the same room as my brothers even though we are not the same age. I also asked Mistippee many questions. He answered them all very politely. He told me his family has two houses built near each other. One is used in winter and one in summer. The winter house is made of wood and mud. Mistippee said that it is very warm. The summer house is made of wood and grass. It has open sides to let the air in. Mistippee told me his people fish and hunt. They hunt animals such as rabbits and deer for both food and clothing.

251

270

286

306

325

347

363

382

401

422

433

His family grows corn, beans, and pumpkins. Some Creek children help their mothers dig in the fields, plant seeds, and gather crops. His people also gather berries and many other wild plants for food. Mistippee said he must help chop firewood and take care of the horses. I told him that I had

449

466

486

to do those things, too. He laughed when I told him about how I almost got kicked by my horse the first time I tried to put a horseshoe on it. He said he had almost been kicked by a horse once, too.

507

529

Before long, it was time to leave. Mistippee shook my hand and said farewell. On the way back to the inn where we would stay the night, I told Papa all about Mistippee. I hope that I get to see Mistippee again. Papa told me we should be on our way home in a few days. I miss you.

547

569

588

Your son,

590

James

591

**A Great Comet**  
**TCLD Title: A Great Comet**  
**Lexile: 780 – 6th Grade Between MOY & EOY #2**  
**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.

**Dolley Madison Saves the Day**  
**TCLD Title: Dolley Madison Saves the Day**  
**Lexile: 830 – 6th Grade Between MOY & EOY #3**  
**Source: SDAA 2004**

15  
30  
44  
61

During the War of 1812 between the United States and Great Britain, British troops marched toward Washington, D.C. They had already defeated a group of U.S. soldiers nearby. Now they were headed for the nation’s capital. They threatened to burn all government buildings, including the White House. The White House was the home of James Madison, the fourth President of the United States, and his wife Dolley.

67  
83  
98  
113  
129  
145

On August 22, 1814, President Madison left the White House to join the U.S. soldiers. While Dolley waited to hear from him, she packed important documents, such as the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. She sent them to Virginia for safekeeping. As the hours ticked by, Dolley began to worry. From her windows in the White House, she nervously watched people fleeing the city. On August 24 a courier delivered important information. He said that the British were approaching and that Dolley should leave immediately.

153  
169  
185  
203  
222  
235  
247  
263  
278  
298  
301

However, Dolley refused to go until one more task was complete. A large painting of George Washington was fastened tightly to the wall, but no tools were available to remove it. Dolley ordered that the frame be broken in order to remove the canvas. After the painting had been rolled up and sent to a safe place, Dolley raced from the White House, leaving behind almost all of her personal belongings. At 8:00 that evening, British troops entered Washington. Although the troops completely burned the White House and other government buildings, both President Madison and Dolley were safe. The precious painting of the first U.S. President and all important papers associated with the United States had been saved. Many would call Dolley’s actions heroic. But Dolley never thought of herself as a hero. She felt what she had done was her duty to the country as First Lady.

**Grade 6 Passage Reading Fluency Equating Table Between MOY & EOY – *Mistippee***

WCPM	Equated Score	WCPM	Equated Score	WCPM	Equated Score	WCPM	Equated Score
<23	31	85	88	148	145	210	202
24	32	86-87	89	149	146	211	203
25	33	88	90	150	147	212-213	204
26	34	89	91	151	148	214	205
27	35	90	92	152	149	215	206
28	36	91	93	153	150	216	207
29-30	37	92	94	154	151	217	208
31	38	93	95	155-156	152	218	209
32	39	94	96	157	153	219	210
33	40	95	97	158	154	220	211
34	41	96	98	159	155	221	212
35	42	97	99	160	156	>222	213
36	43	98-99	100	161	157		
37	44	100	101	162	158		
38	45	101	102	163	159		
39	46	102	103	164	160		
40-41	47	103	104	165	161		
42	48	104	105	166-167	162		
43	49	105	106	168	163		
44	50	106	107	169	164		
45	51	107	108	170	165		
46	52	108	109	171	166		
47	53	109-110	110	172	167		
48	54	111	111	173	168		
49	55	112	112	174	169		
50	56	113	113	175	170		
51	57	114	114	176	171		
52-53	58	115	115	177	172		
54	59	116	116	178-179	173		
55	60	117	117	180	174		
56	61	118	118	181	175		
57	62	119	119	182	176		
58	63	120-121	120	183	177		
59	64	122	121	184	178		
60	65	123	122	185	179		
61	66	124	123	186	180		
62	67	125	124	187	181		
63-64	68	126	125	188	182		
65	69	127	126	189-190	183		
66	70	128	127	191	184		
67	71	129	128	192	185		
68	72	130	129	193	186		
69	73	131	130	194	187		
70	74	132-133	131	195	188		
71	75	134	132	196	189		
72	76	135	133	197	190		
73	77	136	134	198	191		
74	78	137	135	199	192		
75-76	79	138	136	200	193		
77	80	139	137	201-202	194		
78	81	140	138	203	195		
79	82	141	139	204	196		
80	83	142	140	205	197		
81	84	143-144	141	206	198		
82	85	145	142	207	199		
83	86	146	143	208	200		
84	87	147	144	209	201		



# 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
15	The Some Creek Indians Indians Native Americans met with the President's men wanted to get help talk about people taking their land or	1
35	James The son of someone a man at the meeting wrote a letter	2
66	He James The son The boy had gone went with his dad to meet talk to the Indians or had to help his dad with the horses	3
84	There were a lot of Creek men Indians there at the meeting at the table	4
102	The Creek men The Indians were quiet kind gentle	5
133	There was a another boy behind the chief who was James' age	6
159	James noticed the Creek other boy's shirt was like his James' or boots vest pants boy wore deerskin	7
186	James wore pointed black leather shoes or a button-down coat wool pants	8
202	The Creek The Indian boy had markings paint on his face or The markings The paint on the Creek Indian boy's face meant something	9

Table continues on the next page.

# of Words Read	⊗ Recalled Idea Unit	✓ Maximum Possible Idea Units		
252	The Creek The Indian	boy could speak read write English	10	
278	The Creek boy's The Indian boy's Mistippee's *	father taught educated him	11	
298	James told	the Creek boy the Indian boy Mistippee *	about their farm his room his three brothers	12
337	James	talked about how told Mistippee † that	he goes to is in the same school classroom as his brothers	13
365	Mistippee † had	two houses a summer and a winter house houses for the different seasons		14
385	The winter house was	warm made of wood made of mud		15
401	The summer house was	made of open to let air in	wood grass or	16
433	The Creeks The Indians	hunted for food and clothing		17
440	They The Creeks The Indians	grew corn beans pumpkins vegetables	and gathered berries	18
	The Creek The Indian	children help with farming gathering	food	

\* Students should not be penalized for mispronouncing "Mistippee."

† The pronoun "he" is only acceptable if references to Mistippee can be clearly distinguished from references to James. Students may also continue to use "the Creek/Indian boy" when referring to Mistippee.

Table continues on the next page.

## Retell Scoring Guide (cont.)

*Mistippee* (3 of 3)

# of Words Read	⊗ Recalled Idea Unit	Ⓜ Maximum Possible Idea Units
491	<div style="display: flex; border-right: 1px dashed black; padding-right: 10px;"> <span data-bbox="240 390 594 426">Both James and Mistippee</span> </div> <div style="display: flex; padding-left: 10px;"> <span data-bbox="646 352 1027 464">had to chop wood took care of the horses almost got kicked by a horse</span> </div>	19
571	James wants to see Mistippee again	20

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

WCPM	Equated Score	WCPM	Equated Score	WCPM	Equated Score	WCPM	Equated Score
<24	9	73	66	122	123	171	180
25	10	74	67	123	124	172	181
26	11	75	68	124	125	173	182
27	12	76	69	125	126	174	183
28	13	77	70	126	127	175	184
	14		71		128		185
29	15	78	72	127	129	176	186
30	16	79	73	128	130	177	187
31	17	80	74	129	131	178	188
32	18	81	75	130	132	179	189
33	19	82	76	131	133	180	190
34	20	83	77	132	134	181	191
	21		78		135		192
35	22	84	79	133	136	182	193
36	23	85	80	134	137	183	194
37	24	86	81	135	138	184	195
38	25	87	82	136	139	185	196
39	26	88	83	137	140	186	197
40	27	89	84	138	141	187	198
	28		85		142		199
41	29	90	86	139	143	188	200
42	30	91	87	140	144	>189	201
43	31	92	88	141	145		
44	32	93	89	142	146		
45	33	94	90	143	147		
46	34	95	91	144	148		
47	35		92		149		
	36	96	93	145	150		
48	37	97	94	146	151		
49	38	98	95	147	152		
50	39	99	96	148	153		
51	40	100	97	149	154		
52	41	101	98	150	155		
53	42	102	99		156		
	43		100	151	157		
54	44	103	101	152	158		
55	45	104	102	153	159		
56	46	105	103	154	160		
57	47	106	104	155	161		
58	48	107	105	156	162		
59	49	108	106	157	163		
	50		107		164		
60	51	109	108	158	165		
61	52	110	109	159	166		
62	53	111	110	160	167		
63	54	112	111	161	168		
64	55	113	112	162	169		
65	56	114	113	163	170		
	57		114		171		
66	58	115	115	164	172		
67	59	116	116	165	173		
68	60	117	117	166	174		
69	61	118	118	167	175		
70	62	119	119	168	176		
71	63	120	120	169	177		
	64		121		178		
72	65	121	122	170	179		

# 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	or	
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

**Grade 6 Passage Reading Fluency Equating Table Between MOY & EOY – *Dolley Madison Saves the Day***

WCPM	Equated Score	WCPM	Equated Score	WCPM	Equated Score	WCPM	Equated Score
<19	34	77	91	136	148	195	205
20	35	78	92	137	149	196	206
21	36	79	93	138	150	197	207
22	37	80	94	139	151	198	208
23	38	81	95	140	152	199	209
24	39	82-83	96	141	153	>200	210
25	40	84	97	142	154		
26	41	85	98	143	155		
27	42	86	99	144	156		
28	43	87	100	145	157		
29	44	88	101	146	158		
30	45	89	102	147	159		
31	46	90	103	148	160		
32	47	91	104	149	161		
33	48	92	105	150	162		
34	49	93	106	151	163		
35	50	94	107	152-153	164		
36	51	95	108	154	165		
37	52	96	109	155	166		
38	53	97	110	156	167		
39	54	98	111	157	168		
40	55	99	112	158	169		
41	56	100	113	159	170		
42	57	101	114	160	171		
43	58	102	115	161	172		
44	59	103	116	162	173		
45	60	104	117	163	174		
46	61	105	118	164	175		
47-48	62	106	119	165	176		
49	63	107	120	166	177		
50	64	108	121	167	178		
51	65	109	122	168	179		
52	66	110	123	169	180		
53	67	111	124	170	181		
54	68	112	125	171	182		
55	69	113	126	172	183		
56	70	114	127	173	184		
57	71	115	128	174	185		
58	72	116	129	175	186		
59	73	117-118	130	176	187		
60	74	119	131	177	188		
61	75	120	132	178	189		
62	76	121	133	179	190		
63	77	122	134	180	191		
64	78	123	135	181	192		
65	79	124	136	182	193		
66	80	125	137	183	194		
67	81	126	138	184	195		
68	82	127	139	185	196		
69	83	128	140	186	197		
70	84	129	141	187-188	198		
71	85	130	142	189	199		
72	86	131	143	190	200		
73	87	132	144	191	201		
74	88	133	145	192	202		
75	89	134	146	193	203		
76	90	135	147	194	204		

# 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
5	The U.S. and Britain were at war ----- It was the War of 1812	1
43	British soldiers troops were going threatened to burn the White House the U.S. capital the nation's capital government buildings	2
82	The President James Madison * joined was fighting with the soldiers	3
93	The President's wife Dolley * packed up kept safe saved important documents important papers the Constitution the Declaration of Independence	4
132	She Dolley could see saw people leaving fleeing the city ----- or People were leaving the capital fleeing from the British soldiers	5
147	Someone A guy A courier told warned Dolley she needed to leave get out the British were coming approaching ----- or	6
197	She Dolley wouldn't leave without the painting of George Washington * ----- or until they got removed took the painting of George Washington	7
224	She Dolley left her own things personal belongings behind	8
240	The troops The soldiers The British burned the White House government buildings	9

\* Students should not be penalized for mispronouncing the proper nouns in this passage.

*Table continues on the next page.*



## Retell Scoring Guide (cont.)

*Dolley Madison Saves the Day* (2 of 2)

# of Words Read	⊗ Recalled Idea Unit	Ⓜ Maximum Possible Idea Units
277	People called her (Dolley) a hero her (Dolley's) actions heroic	10
301	She Dolley thought it was her duty job responsibility as First Lady as the President's wife	11