

8th Grade Passages

Beginning of Year (BOY) Examiner Packet

Passage 1 *Jane Goodall: A Friend to Chimpanzees*

Passage 2 *Dolley Madison Saves the Day*

Passage 3 *Greta Von Trombone*

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 *Jane Goodall: A Friend to Chimpanzees*

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 *Dolley Madison Saves the Day*

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 *Greta Von Trombone*

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	

Jane Goodall: A Friend to Chimpanzees
TCLD Title: Jane Goodall: A Friend to Chimpanzees
Lexile: 740 – 8th Grade BOY #1
Source: TAAS 2002

19
34
53

When Jane Goodall was a child, her family heard that a baby chimpanzee had been born at a zoo in London. To celebrate this exciting news, Goodall’s parents bought her a stuffed toy chimpanzee. She named it Jubilee after the real baby chimp at the zoo. From that day on, Goodall kept the stuffed animal by her side.

58
76
95

Jane Goodall was born on April 3, 1934, in London, England. As a child she was fascinated with animals. At the age of four, she sat for hours in a henhouse, watching closely. She wanted to find out how chickens lay eggs.

100
117

While walking to school, she often stopped to watch a bird or squirrel. By looking and listening, Goodall learned about animals.

121
140
157

From an early age Goodall loved to read. One of her favorite books was *The Story of Dr. Dolittle*, a tale about a man who could talk to animals. Goodall also enjoyed reading about wild animals. She began to dream about going to Africa to study them.

168
183
201
219
236
253
270

About three years after she finished high school, Goodall unexpectedly received a letter. It was from an old classmate whom Goodall had not heard from in a long time. The friend wrote that her family had moved to a farm in Africa. She invited Goodall for a visit, and Goodall accepted. For several months Goodall worked hard and saved money for the trip. She also read more about Africa. In 1957 Goodall sailed to Africa. After visiting her friend, Goodall began a job in Kenya. There she met a scientist who told her about a group of chimpanzees in nearby Tanzania. He helped arrange for her to study the chimps in the wild.

281
297
315
329
343
359
375
391
412
429

At first Goodall did not see many chimps. They would run away when she approached, but eventually they began to accept her. Within a few months they did not flee when she was near. Goodall watched how the animals lived and behaved. She carefully wrote down her observations. While doing so, she made many important discoveries about chimpanzees. She learned that chimps do not eat only plants, as scientists had thought. Chimps also eat insects and sometimes meat. Another of Goodall’s discoveries was even more amazing. One day she was watching a chimp that she called David Greybeard. David Greybeard poked a blade of grass into an insect mound. When he pulled out the blade of grass, it was covered with insects. Then he ate the insects off the blade of grass. Later Goodall saw the same chimp using a stick to collect insects. This showed Goodall that chimpanzees use tools to get food.

435

Goodall has spent many years studying chimpanzees and has become an expert on their behavior.

450

Now she travels around the world, giving speeches about chimps. She wants people to be

465

concerned about animals, both in zoos and in the wild. Wherever Goodall goes, her stuffed

480

chimpanzee Jubilee is by her side.

486

Dolley Madison Saves the Day
TCLD Title: Dolley Madison Saves the Day
Lexile: 830 – 8th Grade BOY #2
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.

Greta Von Trombone
Lexile: 970 – 8th Grade BOY #3
Source: TPRI

17
35
54
74

Greta Von Trombone has a special musical ability. She doesn't know who she inherited it from, her mom or her dad, but she thinks it's the greatest part of her personality. Greta plays the trombone and, while some think it's too boyish of an instrument for a girl, she thinks it fits her personality just fine. She loves to play in front of an audience. But she also loves to play alone, because a magical thing happens when she plays her trombone alone.

83
100
118
135
153
171

When Greta plays Mozart on her trombone by the pantry door, the pantry becomes a whole new world. She can step inside and become anything she wants to be. For instance, one day she entered the pantry and gave the performance of her life as a member of a professional orchestra. Another time, she was whisked into a world where music did not exist. The people had never heard any type of music before. She thought that they looked sad, and she couldn't imagine living in a world without music.

173
190
203
219
236
256
274

Her favorite adventure was the time she was called in as a special investigator to find Morris Dorgen's stolen trombone. Morris Dorgen was the country's most famous trombone player, and his trombone was stolen from his house. The police needed help and called Greta. She analyzed the scene, took notes, looked for fingerprints, and searched for any type of evidence that may have been left behind. She noticed a spill in the kitchen of some kind of red juice. The victim did not drink juice, so they assumed it was the burglar's. The only other thing that Greta found that didn't belong to Mr. Dorgen was a receipt bearing the name of a local dry cleaner.

289
306
322
342
360
379
398
417

Greta and the police spoke with the manager, who couldn't be much help because all of the identifying marks on the receipt were missing. They decided to put the shop under surveillance to see if anyone suspicious came in with a red stain on an article of clothing. The manager was to call them if such a client arrived. Later that evening, as Greta and a policeman sat watching the store, a man with a large black case entered with a single item. Greta and the policeman moved closer to the store and waited. The phone call they were expecting came—a man with a red-stained shirt had just entered the shop. As they approached the man, he threw his hands in the air and begged for forgiveness.

418
435

The man was arrested and sentenced to prison. Greta later found out that he had stolen several other musical instruments as well. Nobody ever discovered his motives.

445

462

481

492

Greta always looks forward to her next adventure, but she knows that she has many real adventures ahead of her as well. When she grows up she would like to be a professional trombone player or possibly a detective. Maybe, she secretly hopes, she can be both.

Grade 8 Passage Reading Fluency Equating Table BOY – Jane Goodall: A Friend to Chimpanzees

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

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
19	A chimpanzee was born at a zoo in London	1
34	She Jane Goodall got a toy chimpanzee a stuffed animal (chimpanzee) Jubilee always kept a toy chimpanzee a stuffed animal (chimpanzee) Jubilee with her by her side or	2
77	She Jane Goodall always liked was fascinated by animals	3
100	She Jane Goodall watched chickens hens to see to find out how they laid eggs	4
111	She Jane Goodall watched studied learned about listened to different animals birds squirrels when she was little	5
140	She Jane Goodall loved to read about animals a man who talked to animals Dr. Dolittle Her favorite books were about	6
168	She Jane Goodall dreamed of studying animals in Africa	7
187	After high school After she graduated she Jane Goodall got a letter from a friend an old classmate someone she hadn't heard from in a long time	8
216	The friend invited her (Goodall) to his/her place his/her farm Africa	9

Table continues on the next page.

Retell Scoring Guide (cont.)

# of Words Read	⊗ Recalled Idea Unit						Ⓜ Maximum Possible Idea Units
231	She Jane Goodall	got ready saved money		to go to Africa for her trip to Africa to visit her friend	or	10	
		went sailed		to Africa in 1957			
253	She Jane Goodall	started working got a job		in Kenya		11	
281	Someone in Kenya A scientist		helped her study		chimpanzees chimps	in the wild in nature in Tanzania	12
293	The chimps	would run away hide		from her (Goodall)		13	
303	They The chimps	started began		to trust to accept		her (Goodall)	14
348	She Jane Goodall	learned discovered		that chimps		don't eat just plants eat more than just plants or also eat insects meat	15
413	She Jane Goodall	learned discovered		that chimps use	tools blades of grass sticks	to get food insects	16
447	She Jane Goodall	became is		an expert on	chimps chimpanzees	or gives speeches on chimps around the world	17
486	She Jane Goodall	still carries		her stuffed chimpanzee Jubilee		18	

Grade 8 Passage Reading Fluency Equating Table BOY – *Dolley Madison Saves the Day*

WCPM	Equated Score	WCPM	Equated Score	WCPM	Equated Score	WCPM	Equated Score
<23	24	76	81	129	138	182	195
24	25	77	82	130	139	183	196
25	26	78	83	131	140	184	197
26	27	79	84	132	141	185	198
27	28	80	85	133	142	186	199
28	29	81	86	134	143	187	200
29	30	82	87	135	144	188	201
	31	83	88	136	145	189	202
30	32	84	89	137	146	190	203
31	33		90	138	147	191	204
32	34	85	91		148	192	205
33	35	86	92	139	149		206
34	36	87	93	140	150	193	207
35	37	88	94	141	151	194	208
36	38	89	95	142	152	195	209
37	39	90	96	143	153	196	210
38	40	91	97	144	154	197	211
39	41	92	98	145	155	198	212
40	42	93	99	146	156	199	213
41	43	94	100	147	157	200	214
42	44	95	101	148	158	201	215
43	45	96	102	149	159	202	216
	46	97	103	150	160	203	217
44	47		104	151	161	204	218
45	48	98	105		162	205	219
46	49	99	106	152	163		220
47	50	100	107	153	164	206	221
48	51	101	108	154	165	207	222
49	52	102	109	155	166	208	223
50	53	103	110	156	167	209	224
51	54	104	111	157	168	210	225
52	55	105	112	158	169	211	226
53	56	106	113	159	170	212	227
54	57	107	114	160	171	213	228
55	58	108	115	161	172	214	229
56	59	109	116	162	173	215	230
57	60	110	117	163	174	216	231
	61	111	118	164	175	217	232
58	62		119	165	176	218	233
59	63	112	120		177	219	234
60	64	113	121	166	178		235
61	65	114	122	167	179	220	236
62	66	115	123	168	180	221	237
63	67	116	124	169	181	222	238
64	68	117	125	170	182	223	239
65	69	118	126	171	183	224	240
66	70	119	127	172	184	225	241
67	71	120	128	173	185	226	242
68	72	121	129	174	186	>227	243
69	73	122	130	175	187		
70	74	123	131	176	188		
	75	124	132	177	189		
71	76		133	178	190		
72	77	125	134		191		
73	78	126	135	179	192		
74	79	127	136	180	193		
75	80	128	137	181	194		

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

Grade 8 Passage Reading Fluency Equating Table BOY – Greta Von Trombone

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

Retell Scoring Guide

Greta Von Trombone

(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
8	<p>Greta A girl</p> <p>is good at music has a special musical ability</p> <p>inherited got</p> <p>a musical ability from her</p> <p>mom dad parents</p> <p>or</p> <p>Musical</p> <p>ability gift talent</p> <p>is the</p> <p>greatest best</p> <p>part of</p> <p>her Greta's a girl's</p> <p>personality</p> <p>or</p>	1
35	<p>She Greta The girl</p> <p>plays the trombone</p> <p>or</p> <p>The trombone fits</p> <p>her Greta's the girl's</p> <p>personality</p>	2
77	<p>Magic happens Magical things happen</p> <p>when</p> <p>she Greta</p> <p>plays alone</p>	3
101	<p>When</p> <p>she Greta the girl</p> <p>plays in her pantry, she can be anything she wants to be</p> <p>or</p> <p>Playing trombone by the pantry</p> <p>makes creates opens</p> <p>a whole new world</p>	4
134	<p>She Greta The girl</p> <p>imagined pretended dreamed</p> <p>she was</p> <p>a professional in an orchestra</p>	5
147	<p>She Greta</p> <p>imagined pretended</p> <p>she played for people who</p> <p>had never heard music didn't get to hear music</p> <p>or</p> <p>she was in a</p> <p>place world</p> <p>where music did not exist</p>	6
173	<p>She Greta</p> <p>can't</p> <p>imagine think</p> <p>of a world without music</p>	7
193	<p>She Greta</p> <p>imagined dreamed</p> <p>she investigated was the investigator of</p> <p>a stolen trombone</p>	8

Table continues on the next page.

Retell Scoring Guide (cont.)

Greta Von Trombone (2 of 2)

# of Words Read	⊗ Recalled Idea Unit	✓ Maximum Possible Idea Units
202	<p>The man Morris Dorgen Dorgen was a the most famous trombone player</p> <p>The trombone was stolen from the man's Morris Dorgen's Dorgen's house</p>	9
221	<p>She Greta looked searched for clues fingerprints evidence</p> <p>She Greta analyzed studied inspected the scene the area the house</p>	10
252	<p>She Greta noticed saw discovered spilled juice</p>	11
281	<p>She Greta found located discovered a receipt</p>	12
297	<p>She Greta and the police spoke with the manager dry cleaner</p>	13
332	<p>They Greta and the police waited for someone with a red stain on their clothes laundry</p> <p>They Greta and the police waited for someone to go to the dry cleaners with a red stain</p>	14
367	<p>A man entered with a black case one item</p>	15
414	<p>The man with the red stain on his clothes the case gave up put his hands in the air begged for forgiveness</p>	16
426	<p>The man went to prison was arrested for stealing instruments</p>	17
480	<p>She Greta wants to be a professional trombone player a detective</p>	18