

# 8th Grade Passages

Between MOY and EOY Examiner Packet

Passage 1      *Laura*

Passage 2      *The Return of the Boomerang*

Passage 3      *My Invisible Summer*

## 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 *Laura*

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 *The Return of the Boomerang*

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 *My Invisible Summer*

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>	

**Laura**  
**Lexile: 600 – 8th Grade Between MOY & EOY #1**  
**Source: TPRI**

17  
35  
52  
67  
85  
102

Laura Ingalls Wilder is a famous author. She wrote children’s books about pioneer life in the late 19th Century. Laura was born in 1867 in a log house in Wisconsin. She was the second daughter of Charles and Caroline Ingalls. Laura had an older sister named Mary. They were very close. The Ingalls family moved frequently. They went wherever their father could find a job. Shortly after Laura’s birth, the family moved to Missouri. A few years later, they moved to Kansas to start their own farm. A third daughter, Carrie, was born there. When Laura was 13, they left Kansas and returned to Wisconsin to be near family.

109  
128  
145  
161  
178  
199  
217  
237  
253  
270

The girls were happy to be there, but their father longed to farm again. So, four years later, in 1874, the family moved to Walnut Grove, Minnesota. They built a house and farmed the land. The three girls had many adventures there. But the family suffered many tragedies as well. During their first year there, Charles had grown a good wheat crop. It was destroyed by grasshoppers. This was repeated the next year as well. The family was blessed by a baby boy in 1875, but he died of an illness at only 9 months. The family suffered yet another tragedy when Mary lost her eyesight as a result of a stroke. That same year, Charles took a job with the railroad. They moved to De Smet in the Dakota Territories. When the railroad job was finished, they acquired some land. He began to farm again. A harsh winter made farming difficult that first year. But they persevered and were able to save enough money to send Mary to a school for the blind.

283  
299  
317  
333  
347  
364  
380

When Laura was 15, she earned her teaching certificate. She began teaching at a small school several miles from her home. It was at this time that she met a farmer named Almanzo Wilder. They married three years later. They had a healthy baby girl named Rose. They had many misfortunes as well, however. Severe storms ruined their crops. This forced them into debt. Almanzo worked hard in the fields, but he got sick and became crippled. During this time, Laura was pregnant with their second child. He died shortly after birth, unnamed. Soon after, their house burned down when something in the kitchen caught fire.

389  
403  
419

The family then moved to Florida, where the warm conditions improved Almanzo’s health. They eventually returned to De Smet. But, in 1894, they relocated to Missouri. Here they would spend the rest of their lives. They bought a farm there and prospered.

431  
448  
464

Laura was a great storyteller. Her daughter Rose convinced her to write her stories so that other children could enjoy them too. Laura did so. In all, she wrote seven children’s books. These comprised her Little House series. They have been widely read and admired. She and Almanzo

479

500

507

spent the rest of their lives at their Missouri farm. Laura died in 1957, at the age of 90. Their farm is now open for people to visit.

**The Return of the Boomerang**  
**TCLD Title: The Return of the Boomerang**  
**Lexile: 1050 – 8th Grade Between MOY & EOY #2**  
**Source: TAAS 2000**

19  
39  
53  
71

Nothing says “Summer is here!” quite like the smack of a baseball as it is caught in a baseball glove. But what if no one is available to play catch? Then maybe it’s time to trade in the baseball and glove for a boomerang. Over the past decade boomeranging has become increasingly popular. All over the world, this activity is capturing the interest of young and old. Even those who have seen a boomerang still marvel that a curved stick can circle back to the person who threw it.

89  
102  
117  
132

Boomerangs have been around for thousands of years. Many peoples, including the ancient Egyptians, the people of southern India, and the Hopi Indians, used throwing sticks that were similar to boomerangs. But it was the natives of Australia, known as Aborigines, who developed the amazing returning version. The Aborigines used boomerangs for hunting and as digging tools.

146  
161  
179  
195  
210

It wasn’t until the mid-1800s that people began to study the scientific principles behind boomerang flight. Perhaps one reason it took so long to understand the science of boomerangs is that not all boomerangs fly in exactly the same way. Because early boomerangs were made by hand, it was virtually impossible to produce two boomerangs with exactly the same wing surface. The ability of all boomerangs to return results essentially from two scientific principles.

220  
238  
257  
274  
293  
310

The first of these principles is that the shape and curve of a boomerang produce lift. Much like airplane wings, a boomerang is flat on one side and curved on the other. As air flows over the slope of the curved surface of the boomerang’s wing, it forces the curved edge upward. At the same time, the air flowing under the wing’s flat surface pushes it up from the bottom. The result of these forces is lift. Thus, the principles of aerodynamics can be applied to the boomerang to help understand its flight.

313  
330  
349  
368  
386  
406  
425  
443  
460

The second factor affecting the boomerang’s ability to return is that it spins like a gyroscope. A good example of a gyroscope is a toy top. Tops are easily set to spinning, but once spinning, they are very hard to move. In fact, if pushed while spinning, a gyroscope will twist at a right angle from the direction in which it was pushed. For instance, a spinning top pushed to the north will actually tilt to the east. When a boomerang is thrown, the force of the lift causes it to turn toward one side rather than straight up. As it spins and moves forward, air flows faster over the top surface of the boomerang and gives it more lift. This extra lift tries to twist the boomerang off course. Since it is spinning very fast, the boomerang begins turning away from the twisting force. As a result, it arcs back to its thrower with relative exactitude.

470

487

505

523

539

545

Just because a well-designed boomerang can return nearly to its point of origin does not mean that it automatically does so. Learning to throw a boomerang so that it will return is a challenge. Catching a boomerang spinning at speeds of up to 60 miles per hour takes even more practice. For anyone who masters the art of throwing and catching a boomerang, playing catch with a baseball may have forever lost its thrill.

**My Invisible Summer**  
**TCLD Title: My Invisible Summer**  
**Lexile: 1050 – 8th Grade Between MOY & EOY #3**  
**Source: TAKS Study Guide 2003 Grade 10**

17  
33  
55

When my application for an internship at the local hard-rock radio station was accepted, I was overjoyed. My friends would be flipping burgers at fast-food restaurants all summer, but I was going to be a disc jockey, a real DJ. I would use my best DJ voice, and I would be admired by millions of fans. In no time I would be on my way to fame and fortune.

71  
92  
107  
124  
143  
159

It didn't take me long to learn that working in radio was not exactly the way I had pictured it. In the movies, radio stations are always situated in gigantic impressive structures in the middle of bustling cities. The radio station where I worked was located in a lonely-looking building on the edge of town. Only the 361-foot antenna made it look at all unusual. The boss explained that the large antenna was necessary for broadcasting at 680,000 megahertz. I tried to look interested as she explained frequency and other electrical terms, but all I really wanted to do was meet the DJs.

176  
195  
215  
234  
252

When I was finally introduced to the DJs I had idolized for years, I was shocked. For some reason I had pictured DJ Kirk Krimson as the kind of person who might star in an action movie, but he didn't look much like a motion-picture star. He told me that when he began in radio, disc jockeys played music on vinyl records, not on compact discs; that really made him seem old. I didn't have much chance to be disappointed in my DJ heroes, though, because I almost never saw him.

268  
288  
305  
320  
342  
357  
371

My job was to run the station from midnight to 6:00 A.M., and all the DJs worked during the day. They recorded their shows, and I just played tapes of their voices and song choices. Between tapes I plugged in recorded commercials. My favorite commercial was one about a new video game. Three times a night I got to talk on the air for five seconds—but only to read the call letters, the four-letter name that the Federal Communications Commission had assigned to the station. I never even got to say my own name! Maybe I'll try flipping burgers next summer.



**Grade 8 Passage Reading Fluency Equating Table Between MOY & EOY – Laura**

WCPM	Equated Score	WCPM	Equated Score	WCPM	Equated Score	WCPM	Equated Score
<58	51	107	108		165	204	222
59	52	108	109	156	166	205	223
60	53		110	157	167	206	224
61	54	109	111	158	168	207	225
62	55	110	112	159	169		226
	56	111	113	160	170	208	227
63	57	112	114		171	209	228
64	58	113	115	161	172	210	229
65	59	114	116	162	173	211	230
66	60		117	163	174	212	231
67	61	115	118	164	175	213	232
68	62	116	119	165	176		233
	63	117	120	166	177	214	234
69	64	118	121		178	215	235
70	65	119	122	167	179	216	236
71	66	120	123	168	180	217	237
72	67		124	169	181	218	238
73	68	121	125	170	182		239
	69	122	126	171	183	219	240
74	70	123	127	172	184	220	241
75	71	124	128		185	221	242
76	72	125	129	173	186	222	243
77	73	126	130	174	187	223	244
78	74		131	175	188	>224	245
79	75	127	132	176	189		
	76	128	133	177	190		
80	77	129	134	178	191		
81	78	130	135		192		
82	79	131	136	179	193		
83	80		137	180	194		
84	81	132	138	181	195		
85	82	133	139	182	196		
	83	134	140	183	197		
86	84	135	141	184	198		
87	85	136	142		199		
88	86	137	143	185	200		
89	87		144	186	201		
90	88	138	145	187	202		
91	89	139	146	188	203		
	90	140	147	189	204		
92	91	141	148		205		
93	92	142	149	190	206		
94	93	143	150	191	207		
95	94		151	192	208		
96	95	144	152	193	209		
97	96	145	153	194	210		
	97	146	154	195	211		
98	98	147	155		212		
99	99	148	156	196	213		
100	100	149	157	197	214		
101	101		158	198	215		
102	102	150	159	199	216		
	103	151	160	200	217		
103	104	152	161	201	218		
104	105	153	162		219		
105	106	154	163	202	220		
106	107	155	164	203	221		

# 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
7	A girl A lady Laura was a writer author or wrote children's books	1
24	She Laura was born in a log house in Wisconsin in 1867	2
37	She Laura was close to her older sister had an older sister named Mary or was the second daughter of Charles Caroline	3
65	They Her family had to move so her wherever their dad father could find get work a job because her dad didn't have	4
72	They Her family moved after Laura was born to Missouri	5
82	They Her family moved to start a farm to Kansas where her sister Carrie was born	6
105	They Her family moved back to Wisconsin to be near family	7
122	They Her family moved in 1874 to Walnut Grove to Minnesota or Her dad/father Charles wanted longed to farm	8
151	The girls The kids Laura and her sisters had many adventures	9
176	Grasshoppers Bugs ate destroyed their crops their wheat crop	10

Table continues on the next page.

# Retell Scoring Guide (cont.)

Laura (2 of 3)

# of Words Read	⊗ Recalled Idea Unit	Ⓜ Maximum Possible Idea Units
197	Their baby boy died	11
215	Mary had a stroke went blind lost her eyesight	12
233	They The family moved to De Smet to the Dakota Territories so the dad (Charles) could work with the railroad	13
255	The dad Charles farmed again They The family acquired got some land <i>or</i>	14
283	They The family saved money to send Mary to a school for the blind	15
295	Laura started teaching when she was 15	16
319	She Laura got married married a farmer (Alonzo Wilder)	17
327	They Laura and Almonzo had a baby had a baby named Rose	18
342	Storms ruined their crops <i>or</i> They went into debt	19
357	Her husband Almonzo got sick became crippled	20
372	Their second baby Her (Laura's) second baby died	21
382	Their house burned down	22

Table continues on the next page.

# Retell Scoring Guide (cont.)

# of Words Read	⊗ Recalled Idea Unit	✓ Maximum Possible Idea Units
395	They Laura and Almonzo moved around a lot to Florida to De Smet	23
424	They Laura and Almonzo bought a farm settled down spent the rest of their lives in Missouri	24
436	Laura could tell stories was a storyteller or Her (Laura's) daughter Rose wanted convinced Laura to write her stories	25
463	She Laura wrote seven books the Little House series books read by many people or books people loved liked admired	26
493	She Laura died in 1957 at the age of 90 or Their farm is open available to visit	27

**Grade 8 Passage Reading Fluency Equating Table Between MOY & EOY – *The Return of the Boomerang***

WCPM	Equated Score	WCPM	Equated Score	WCPM	Equated Score	WCPM	Equated Score
<71	56		113	152	170	192	227
72	57	112	114		171	193	228
73	58	113	115	153	172		229
	59	114	116	154	173	194	230
74	60		117		174	195	231
75	61	115	118	155	175		232
	62	116	119	156	176	196	233
76	63		120	157	177	197	234
77	64	117	121		178	198	235
78	65	118	122	158	179		236
	66		123	159	180	199	237
79	67	119	124		181	200	238
80	68	120	125	160	182		239
	69	121	126	161	183	201	240
81	70		127	162	184	202	241
82	71	122	128		185	203	242
	72	123	129	163	186		243
83	73		130	164	187	204	244
84	74	124	131		188	205	245
85	75	125	132	165	189		246
	76	126	133	166	190	206	247
86	77		134		191	207	248
87	78	127	135	167	192		249
	79	128	136	168	193	208	250
88	80		137	169	194	209	251
89	81	129	138		195	>210	252
90	82	130	139	170	196		
	83		140	171	197		
91	84	131	141		198		
92	85	132	142	172	199		
	86	133	143	173	200		
93	87		144	174	201		
94	88	134	145		202		
	89	135	146	175	203		
95	90		147	176	204		
96	91	136	148		205		
97	92	137	149	177	206		
	93	138	150	178	207		
98	94		151		208		
99	95	139	152	179	209		
	96	140	153	180	210		
100	97		154	181	211		
101	98	141	155		212		
102	99	142	156	182	213		
	100		157	183	214		
103	101	143	158		215		
104	102	144	159	184	216		
	103	145	160	185	217		
105	104		161	186	218		
106	105	146	162		219		
	106	147	163	187	220		
107	107		164	188	221		
108	108	148	165		222		
109	109	149	166	189	223		
	110	150	167	190	224		
110	111		168	191	225		
111	112	151	169		226		

# 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
20	Catching Throwing Playing catch with a baseball says makes it seem like it's summer	1
44	If no one is around available to play catch, you could try play with a boomerang trade the baseball the glove for a boomerang or	2
53	People all over the world of all ages marvel at like are impressed by are interested in the boomerang or	3
	In the past decade 10 years the boomerang has become popular	
97	Boomerangs Sticks like boomerangs have been used around for thousands of years in different countries by Egyptians by Indians	4
136	Natives of Australia Aborigines created developed first made boomerangs throwing sticks that return or a returning version of the boomerang throwing stick	5
142	Natives of Australia Aborigines created developed first made used boomerangs for hunting digging	6
162	For a long time Until the mid-1800s people didn't understand how boomerangs work fly or After a long time In the mid-1800s people began to study the science of boomerang flight how not all boomerangs fly in the same way	7
193	Boomerangs were all different No two boomerangs were alike the same because they were made by hand had different wing surfaces	8

*Table continues on the next page.*

# of Words Read	⊗ Recalled Idea Unit	✓ Maximum Possible Idea Units		
229	One reason One scientific principle	why boomerangs return is their shape curve flat and curved sides	9	
272	Air	forces the curved edge upward or pushes up on the flat surface from the bottom	10	
329	Another A second	reason a boomerang returns is because it spins like a top is like a gyroscope	11	
364	Spinning tops Gyroscopes	twist tilt move at an angle	when pushed	12
408	The force of the lift makes the boomerang turn to the side		13	
454	As the boomerang spins, the force from the air flowing over it (the lift)		twists it turns it away	14
505	It is difficult It is hard It is a challenge	to know to learn how	to throw a boomerang so that it returns arcs back	15
522	Catching a boomerang takes practice		16	
545	Throwing and catching the boomerang may be	better more fun	than playing with a baseball	17

**Grade 8 Passage Reading Fluency Equating Table Between MOY & EOY – *My Invisible Summer***

WCPM	Equated Score	WCPM	Equated Score	WCPM	Equated Score	WCPM	Equated Score	WCPM	Equated Score
<29	30	83	87	138	144	192	201	247	258
30	31	84	88	139	145	193	202	248	259
31	32	85	89	140	146	194	203	249	260
32	33	86	90	141	147	195	204	250	261
33	34	87	91	142	148	196	205		262
34	35	88	92	143	149	197	206	251	263
35	36	89	93	144	150	198	207	252	264
36	37	90	94		151	199	208	253	265
37	38	91	95	145	152	200	209	254	266
38	39	92	96	146	153	201	210	255	267
39	40	93	97	147	154	202	211	>256	268
	41	94	98	148	155	203	212		
40	42	95	99	149	156	204	213		
41	43	96	100	150	157	205	214		
42	44	97	101	151	158	206	215		
43	45	98	102	152	159	207	216		
44	46	99	103	153	160	208	217		
45	47	100	104	154	161		218		
46	48	101	105	155	162	209	219		
47	49	102	106	156	163	210	220		
48	50		107	157	164	211	221		
49	51	103	108	158	165	212	222		
50	52	104	109	159	166	213	223		
51	53	105	110	160	167	214	224		
52	54	106	111	161	168	215	225		
53	55	107	112	162	169	216	226		
54	56	108	113	163	170	217	227		
55	57	109	114	164	171	218	228		
56	58	110	115	165	172	219	229		
57	59	111	116	166	173	220	230		
58	60	112	117		174	221	231		
59	61	113	118	167	175	222	232		
60	62	114	119	168	176	223	233		
	63	115	120	169	177	224	234		
61	64	116	121	170	178	225	235		
62	65	117	122	171	179	226	236		
63	66	118	123	172	180	227	237		
64	67	119	124	173	181	228	238		
65	68	120	125	174	182	229	239		
66	69	121	126	175	183		240		
67	70	122	127	176	184	230	241		
68	71	123	128	177	185	231	242		
69	72		129	178	186	232	243		
70	73	124	130	179	187	233	244		
71	74	125	131	180	188	234	245		
72	75	126	132	181	189	235	246		
73	76	127	133	182	190	236	247		
74	77	128	134	183	191	237	248		
75	78	129	135	184	192	238	249		
76	79	130	136	185	193	239	250		
77	80	131	137	186	194	240	251		
78	81	132	138	187	195	241	252		
79	82	133	139		196	242	253		
80	83	134	140	188	197	243	254		
81	84	135	141	189	198	244	255		
	85	136	142	190	199	245	256		
82	86	137	143	191	200	246	257		



# 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	A guy A girl was going to be a disc jockey (DJ) was going to work (intern) as a disc jockey (DJ) or had a summer job at a radio station	1
54	He She wanted to be famous thought he/she would be admired rich (wealthy)	2
90	The internship The job Working in radio was not what he she expected pictured it to be	3
122	The building The radio station was on the edge of town not in the city lonely-looking	4
138	It The building The radio station had a big large antenna 361-foot tower	5
176	He She The guy The girl was only interested in meeting the DJs wanted to meet wasn't interested in electrical terms tried to look interested in electrical words or	6
223	He She was shocked disappointed at how the DJ looked or The DJ didn't look like a movie star	7
239	The DJ Kirk Krimson didn't have CDs played vinyls when he started played records seemed old outdated or	8
268	The guy The girl didn't see the DJs almost never saw rarely saw worked at night from midnight to 6 AM or	9

Table continues on the next page.

# Retell Scoring Guide (cont.)

# of Words Read	⊗ Recalled Idea Unit			Ⓜ Maximum Possible Idea Units	
300	He She	played tapes of the	DJs commercials songs	10	
331	He She	only got to talk	on the air on the radio	for 5 seconds three times a night to read the call letters	11
364	He She	never got to say his/her name on the radio ----- <i>or</i> ----- might not work in radio might not work at the station might try flipping burgers		next summer	12