

Form for helping to calculate a book's level of reading difficulty

1. Book title:	Publisher:
Book series and number (or Author)	
School:	Rater:

2. Number of pages (including text and pictures relating to the story) in the book. The title-page is only included if the title immediately precedes the story, is printed in sentence-case format and has a picture that is part of the story. If a story finishes on page 30 and starts on page 5 the 'number of pages in the book' is 26 (30-4=26) as four pages are not being counted.	[]
3. Starting from the centre of the counted pages, lightly bracket a passage of 100 words, including 50 words in each direction. Include words in speech-bubbles if they are part of the story sequence but no words printed in CAPITAL letters. If the book contains several stories, select the passage of 100 words from the longest story that is near the centre of the book. If there are < 50 words to the left of the centre, make up the balance of the 100 words to the right. Otherwise, count all the words in the book. Number of words in the book (0 to 100). Write 101 if the number exceeds 100.	[]
Using the sample passage of 100 words, complete the following sections. If the book contains less than 100 words, use all the words that are in the book.	
4a Write down each word with 5 or more letters (e.g. Billy = 5 letters, Billy's = 6 letters and goodbye = 7 letters). Hyphenated words count as two or more words (e.g. goodbye = two words of 4 and 3 letters). Repeated words count only once (e.g. the four words 'Billy, Billy's and Billy-goat', count as just Billy (5-) and Billy's (6-letters).	
Words with 8+ letters	7-letter words
6-letter words	5-letter words
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
4b Totals []	[]
4c Maximum number of lines-of-print on one of the pages containing the passage of 100 words. The line count may extend outside the range of 100 words provided that the page contains some of the words in the sample passage. A column, a sloping-line, or single words (e.g. down/down/down) should be counted as a single line.	[]
4d Number of words in the longest sentence within the passage of 100 words. The sentence should not consist of a list, a series of phrases with conjunctions or extend over more than two pages.	[]
4e Record a '1' in each box if the sample passage of 100 words contains an example of: i) a contraction [] (e.g. it's, I'm, didn't). Possessives e.g. Jo's bike) do not count. ii) a negative word [] (e.g. no, didn't) iii) an auxiliary plus a main verb [] (essentially two or more words, e.g. are going, has seen, do go, can hop, may sing, will fall, shall come, must run, could come, might eat, would swim, should write). States (e.g. was cold, is cross) do not count. iv) a change of verb tense [] e.g. I will go.... They are big / 'It is here!' she said	