Brief Contents

Section 1  Introduction to Basic Concepts of Reading Assessment 1
Section 2  Research Guiding the Development of the Qualitative Reading Inventory 9
Administration and Scoring of the QRI-7
Section 3  Purposes and Basic Steps for Administering the Qualitative Reading Inventory-7 25
Section 4  Determining Reading Levels 32
Section 5  Using the Word Lists 39
Section 6  Assessing Word Identification in Context, Automaticity, and Prosody 49
Section 7  Assessing Comprehension: Questions and Retellings 59
Section 8  Assessing Strategic Reading: Think-Alouds 70
Section 9  Recording, Analyzing, and Using Results of the QRI-7 79
Word Lists and Elementary Grades: Level-Diagnostic Passages
Middle School and High School: Level-Diagnostic Passages
Section 10  QRI-7 Test Materials: Word Lists and Level-Diagnostic Passages 91
Administering and Scoring the Inference-Diagnostic Passages
Section 11  Administering and Scoring the Inference-Diagnostic Passages 379
Inference-Diagnostic Passages: Grades 4–High School
Section 12  Inference-Diagnostic Materials 389
Section 13  Technical Development of the Qualitative Reading Inventory-7 503
Appendix: Videos for Extra Practice (Pearson eText) 522
References 528
Index 533
Contents

Preface ix

Section 1 Introduction to Basic Concepts of Reading Assessment 1
What is reading? 1
Implications for Assessment 3
Introduction to Informal Reading Inventories 3
Measures of Difficulty 4

Section 2 Research Guiding the Development of the Qualitative Reading Inventory 9
How the QRI Is Different from Other IRIs 9
Factors Related to Reading Comprehension 10
Word Recognition and Identification 10
Oral Reading 11
Fluency, Automaticity, and Prosody 14
Content Knowledge 16
Text Structure 16
Methods of Assessment of Reading Comprehension 17
Interactive Strategies to Assess Reading Comprehension 22
Summary 23

Administration and Scoring of the QRI-7 25

Section 3 Purposes and Basic Steps for Administering the Qualitative Reading Inventory-7 25
Purposes for Administering QRI-7 25
Determine a Student’s Instructional Reading Level 25
Assessment of Prior Knowledge 27
Assessment of Word Pronunciation Errors, Fluency, and Prosody 27
Assessment of Comprehension: Retelling and Answering Questions 27
Assessment of Comprehension through Look-Backs and Think-Alouds 28
Assessment of Reading Growth 28
Steps in Administering the QRI-7 28
Gather Materials and Put Students at Ease 28
Administer the Word Identification Lists 29
Administer an Initial Passage 29
Administer Additional Passages 30
Frequently Asked Questions 30

Section 4 Determining Reading Levels 32
How are Reading Levels Determined? 32
The Independent Level 33
The Instructional Level 33
The Frustration Level 33
Factors Affecting Reading Levels 34
Prior Knowledge of the Topic 34
Text Structure: Narrative and Expository 34
Mode of Reading: Oral and Silent 35
Questions: Literal and Inferential 35
Look-Backs 35
Finding an Instructional Reading Level 36
Order of Administration 36
Finding an Instructional Reading Level for Narrative and Expository Text 36
Using Scores to Determine Passage Level 38

Section 5 Using the Word Lists 39
Purposes for Administering the Word Lists 39
Estimating Automatic Word Recognition and Word Identification 39
Estimating the Starting Point for Passage Administration 40
Estimating Automaticity of Word Recognition 40
Analyzing the Differences Between Word Identification in Isolation and in Context 41
Estimating Knowledge of Letter–Sound Matches 41
Examining Knowledge of Vowel Patterns 41
Procedures for Administering the Word Lists 41
Instructions to the Student 42
Choosing a Starting Point 42
Recording Student Responses: Accuracy and Automaticity 42
Using the Word List Scores 43
Estimating the Starting Point for Passage Administration 43
Interpreting Word Identification and Word Recognition Scores 45
When the Word Lists Do Not Predict Reading Level 45
Section 6  Assessing Word Identification in Context, Automaticity, and Prosody 49

Section 7  Assessing Comprehension: Questions and Retellings 59

Section 8  Assessing Strategic Reading: Think-Alouds 70

Section 9  Recording, Analyzing, and Using Results of the QRI-7 79

Word Lists and Elementary Grades: Level-Diagnostic Passages 91

Section 10  QRI-7 Test Materials: Word Lists and Level-Diagnostic Passages 91
Administering and Scoring the Inference-Diagnostic Passages

Section 11 Administering and Scoring the Inference-Diagnostic Passages

Purpose of the Inference-Diagnostic Passages

Differences Between Level-Diagnostic and Inference-Diagnostic Passages

Choosing an Inference-Diagnostic Passage

Mode of Reading: Oral or Silent?

Mode of Answering Questions

Questions for Inference-Diagnostic Passages

Guidelines for Determining the Acceptability of Answers

Recording Results and Identifying a Focus for Instruction

Evaluating Summaries

Scoring and Analysis of Narrative/Biographies

Summaries

Scoring and Analysis of Expository Summaries

Guidelines for Scoring Summaries

Summary
### Inference-Diagnostic Passages: Grades 4–High School

**Section 12  Inference-Diagnostic Materials**

**Grade 4**
- Cynthia Rylant: The Development of an Author (Biography) 390
- Linking East and West (Social Studies/Picture) 392
- How Do Organisms Compete for Resources? (Science/Picture) 395

**Examiner Copies** 398

**Grade 5**
- Jane Goodall, Goddess of the Apes (Biography) 410
- The Rise of Cattle Drives (Social Studies/Picture) 412
- The Body’s Transportation System (Science/Picture) 415

**Examiner Copies** 418

**Grade 6**
- The Legacy of Jim Thorpe (Biography) 430
- From Dynasty to Dynasty (Social Studies/Picture) 433
- What Causes Weather? (Science/Picture) 436

**Examiner Copies** 439

**Middle School**
- Malcolm X: The Development of a Separatist (Biography) 452
- A Wave of Nativism (Social Studies/Picture) 456
- What Is a Comet? (Science/Picture) 459

**Examiner Copies** 462

**High School**
- The Life of Georgia O’Keeffe: The Artist and the Woman (Biography) 477
- America Adjusts to Peace (Social Studies/Picture) 481
- The Kingdoms of Life (Science/Picture) 484

**Examiner Copies** 487

### Section 13  Technical Development of the Qualitative Reading Inventory-7

- Piloting Materials for the QRI 503
- Piloting the Sixth Edition 504
- Piloting the Fifth Edition 505
- Analysis of the Word List Data 505

**Development and Analysis of the Prior-Knowledge Assessments**
- Identification of Concepts 506
- Analyses of Correlations Between Prior Knowledge and Other Test Components 506

**Development of the Measures of Comprehension: Level-Diagnostic Materials**
- Analyses of the Measures of Comprehension on Level-Diagnostic Passages 507

**Development of the Think-Aloud Procedure** 509

**Development and Analysis of the Measures of Comprehension: Inference-Diagnostic Materials**
- Comparing the Difficulty of the Inference-Diagnostic Materials to the Difficulty of the Level-Diagnostic Materials 510

**The Pillars of Excellence in Educational Assessment**
- Reliability and Validity 511
  - Issues of Validity of an Informal Reading Inventory 511
  - Issues of Reliability of an Informal Reading Inventory 516
  - Cautions in Interpretation 519
  - Test-Retest and Alternate Form Reliability 520

**Appendix: Videos for Extra Practice (Pearson eText)** 522

**References** 528

**Index** 533
Preface

The seventh edition of Qualitative Reading Inventory continues the emphasis on authentic assessment of children’s reading abilities, from the earliest emergent readers (pre-primer/primer) to advanced readers (upper middle school/high school). The QRI-7 contains several unique features. Prior to reading, knowledge of concepts important to an understanding of the passage is assessed. This allows the examiner to label a passage as familiar or unfamiliar to each student. The QRI-7 measures comprehension in several ways: through an analysis of the student’s retelling or summary; through the student’s answers to explicit and implicit comprehension questions; and through the use of look-backs. Look-backs separate what readers remembered after reading from what they comprehended during reading. The QRI-7 provides the use of think-alouds at the sixth-grade level and above to analyze the student’s thoughts during reading.

Like other informal reading inventories, QRI-7 provides graded word lists and passages designed to assess a student’s oral reading accuracy, rate of reading, and comprehension of passages read orally and silently. The QRI-7 contains narrative and expository passages at each level. All are self-contained selections highly representative of the structure and topics of materials found in basal readers and content-area textbooks. For example, passages at the pre-primer through second-grade levels are presented with pictures. Maps and illustrations are part of expository selections at fourth grade through high school levels.

New to this Edition

• Pearson eText—One of the most visible changes in QRI-7, also one of the most significant, is the expansion of the digital learning and assessment resources embedded in the Pearson eText. The following features are designed to: 1) provide you with authentic practice scoring and analyzing QRI-7 results, and 2) make it easier to print materials for QRI-7 administration.

• Video Examples—19 all-new video clips have been included in the new edition. Video clips in Sections 3–8 provide a model for how to introduce, administer, and score different parts of QRI-7. Many of these videos include a split-screen view so you can observe the examiner’s scoring marks in real time. The Appendix includes videos of full sessions with six different students, and allows you to practice scoring word lists and passages. The Appendix also includes links to author-scored versions of these sessions for you to check your work.

• Application Exercises—32 application exercises have been added in eight different sections to provide you with additional practice scoring and analyzing QRI-7 results, and making instructional decisions. Many of these exercises include linked forms and artifacts as the basis for the practice. The questions in these exercises are usually constructed-response. Once learners provide their own answers to
the questions, they receive feedback in the form of model answers written by the authors.

- **Teacher Resources**—The opening outlines of Sections 10 and 12 provide quick links to printable PDF versions of all testing materials in those sections. Additional resources like the Window Card Template (Section 5) and blank Student Summary Form (Section 9) are also linked for easy printing or downloading.

**Key Content Changes**

- *QRI-7* has been rewritten and reorganized for clarity:
  - Section 1 defines reading and challenges simplistic views of reading comprehension. It also explains informal reading inventory (IRI) assessment and discusses the issue of text complexity. Difficulty ratings of passages included in the *QRI-7* are presented in tabular form.
  - Section 2 explains how the *QRI-7* is different from other published IRIs, and explains the research that guided the development of the *QRI-7*.
  - Section 3 clearly describes the different purposes for administering *QRI-7*, and outlines the basic steps for conducting the assessments. Sections 4–8 provide detailed descriptions of how to administer *QRI-7* for its various purposes.
  - Section 9 now focuses on recording, analyzing, and using the results of *QRI-7*. This includes using the Student Summary Form to select materials and instructional strategies for intervention instruction. We have also included information about how to use *QRI-7* to indicate growth and monitor progress.
  - Section 10 includes the testing materials (word lists and Level-Diagnostic passages) that were previously found in Section 12.
  - An all-new Section 11 provides greater detail on how to administer, score, and analyze results for the Inference-Diagnostic passages. Testing materials for Inference-Diagnostic passages are now included in Section 12.
  - Section 13 describes the extensive piloting of testing materials found in *QRI-7*, and includes reliability and validity data for the overall test.
  - Two additional middle school narrative texts (Lois Lowry and Jaime Escalante) have been formatted for use as think-alouds. The *QRI-7* now includes eight think-aloud passages that provide information about students’ thinking process while reading.
  - The high school passages *Where the Ashes Are* Parts 1 and 2 were removed because copyright permission was not extended. This notification came too late for us to substitute a new passage. Users are asked to contact lauren.leslie@marquette.edu if this presents a burden to them so that we may develop a new high school literature text in the future.
  - All sections of the book have been rewritten to make it easier for all teachers to use *QRI-7* to assess students’ reading abilities. Additional figures, tables, and boxes have been included in all sections to allow users to more quickly scan for information.
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