

INSTRUCTIONAL LEVEL SPELLING INVENTORY

LEVEL 2

1. grin
2. late
3. sleep
4. hide
5. snow
6. mule
7. dark
8. hair
9. down
10. rode
11. know
12. wall
13. page
14. sorry
15. bedtime
16. bushes
17. keys
18. St.
19. moving
20. meet
21. return
22. colder
23. biggest
24. I'll
25. quickly

LEVEL 3

1. pumpkin
2. sprain
3. teacher
4. while
5. throat
6. school
7. morning
8. tire
9. shower
10. witch
11. comb
12. false
13. circus
14. bottom
15. someone
16. children
17. hurried
18. Tues.
19. closing
20. groan
21. discount
22. younger
23. dropped
24. weren't
25. kindness

LEVEL 4

1. animal
2. parade
3. between
4. surprise
5. clothes
6. future
7. circle
8. prepare
9. thousand
10. piece
11. answered
12. cough
13. bridge
14. address
15. earthworm
16. delays
17. emptying
18. cm (or cm.)
19. combining
20. there
21. rebuilding
22. angriest
23. scarred
24. wouldn't
25. totally

INSTRUCTIONAL LEVEL SPELLING INVENTORY

LEVEL 5

1. vinegar
2. neighbor
3. complete
4. dynamite
5. cocoa
6. annual
7. disturbing
8. mixture
9. allowance
10. weather
11. autumn
12. daughter
13. energy
14. success
15. outstanding
16. heroes
17. applying
18. Sr.
19. improving
20. their
21. independent
22. instructor
23. permitted
24. they'll
25. furious

LEVEL 6

1. opposite
2. celebrate
3. immediate
4. sacrifice
5. associate
6. confusion
7. architect
8. fierce
9. adjoining
10. stationary
11. rhythmic
12. Australia
13. religion
14. recommend
15. runner-up
16. studios
17. qualifying
18. asst.
19. separated
20. muscle
21. illegal
22. educator
23. equipped
24. whose
25. typically

LEVEL 7

1. necessary
2. campaign
3. curious
4. disguise
5. postponement
6. genuine
7. survival
8. literature
9. outrageous
10. counsel
11. raspberry
12. alternative
13. license
14. committee
15. self-conscious
16. mosquitoes
17. mysterious
18. oz.
19. cooperating
20. patience
21. innocence
22. traditionally
23. transmitting
24. who're
25. extension

INSTRUCTIONAL LEVEL SPELLING INVENTORY DIRECTIONS FOR ADMINISTRATION

You will administer three different levels of the Instructional Level Spelling Inventory; one below anticipated grade level, one at anticipated grade level, and one above anticipated grade level. Given that Grade 2 is the first level of the Instructional Level Spelling Inventory, students who are anticipated to be spelling at a Grade 2 level would only write the Grade 2 and Grade 3 inventory lists. Students who are anticipated to be spelling at a Grade 1 level would not take the Instructional Level Spelling Inventory as students working at a Grade 1 level are not ready to spell words that include the 25 critical features of the English spelling system.

Inventory lists should be dictated sequentially, over one or two sessions. Each word should be pronounced, used in a sentence and pronounced again. Monitor that the pace is not too fast. Many students need time to work out spellings on paper and should not be rushed. This is an inventory of knowledge, not a speed test. Students need to understand the purpose of the Spelling Inventory and how it relates to spelling instruction. Be sure to differentiate between the type of performance expectations you hold for the Spelling Inventory (non-mastery) as compared to typical spelling tests (mastery). Save the Spelling Inventories to share with parents.

Spelling Inventories should be scored by teachers. Each word is worth 4 points. Percentage equivalents are as follows:

All correct	100%	16 correct	64%	7 correct	28%
24 correct	96%	15 correct	60%	6 correct	24%
23 correct	92%	14 correct	56%	5 correct	20%
22 correct	88%	13 correct	52%	4 correct	16%
21 correct	84%	12 correct	48%	3 correct	12%
20 correct	80%	11 correct	44%	2 correct	8%
19 correct	76%	10 correct	40%	1 correct	4%
18 correct	72%	9 correct	36%	0 correct	0%
17 correct	68%	8 correct	32%		

Scores on the three Spelling Inventories should be recorded. The first level at which a student scores between 50% and 80% is the student's instructional level. This is a guideline that should be adapted according to teacher judgment about a student's spelling skills. When in doubt, always be conservative in your decisions. Students who score below 50% on the Grade 2 Spelling Inventory will likely need two years to develop Grade 2 level spelling skills. Students who score above 80% on the Grade 7 Spelling Inventory no longer need to participate in a structured spelling program.