Guidelines For Assessing Word Recognition Automaticity: "The Flash Instrument"

The word lists are "graded" and range from preprimer (PP) to grade 8. The words are those used in Morris, D. (1999) *The Howard Street Tutoring Manual: Teaching At-Risk Readers in the Primary Grades*. New York: Guilford Press. The original and complete word list is found in Harris, A.& Jacobson, M. (1982). *Basic Reading Vocabularies*. New York: Macmillan.

Criteria: -independent level = 80% on the flash presentation
                  -instructional level = 60% on the flash presentation

For example, a 4th grade student who scores 50% on the 3rd grade flash list and 65% on the 2nd grade flash list has a word recognition instructional level of 2nd grade.

Pacing: the goal is to mimic an eye fixation—250 milliseconds (a quarter of a second). It may be helpful to say to yourself, "Slide—(slight pause)—Close." DO NOT WAIT FOR THE CHILD'S RESPONSE TO CLOSE THE SHUTTER!!!

Coding:
1. Correct answer? Leave blank.
2. Hesitation? Mark 'h' in the flash column. Put a check in the untimed column.
3. Incorrect answer on the flash? Write what the child said in the flash column, open the shutter and say, "Take another look." Depending on what child says, in the untimed column, put a checkmark (indicating self-correct), a zero (no answer), or write in the erroneous substitution.

Scoring:
1. Flash Score – count number of errors in flash column. Multiply by 5. Subtract from 100. The answer is the percentage correct for the flash presentation. Enter this score at the bottom of the flash column.
2. Untimed score – Start with the flash percentage. Add 5 points for every self-correction in the untimed column. Record this score at the bottom of the untimed column.
3. Checking – Add 5 points to the untimed score for each error in the untimed column. If you reach 100, you know you have computed the scores correctly.

Notes:
When a student misses 9 words on the flash list, stop!

Be sure to use the shutter and your arm and hand to hide the list. If you're lax in this regard, and the student gets a look at the words, you've lost the advantage of the flash.

Be sure that the student is looking at the instrument before you start. It is likely you will have to do this several times, as you "take breaks" to score. A good prompt is, "Ready for #17?" which seems to initiate focus.

University of Utah Reading Clinic
FLASH WORD RECOGNTION ASSESSMENT
Examiner Score Sheet

Level: G1-Oct	Flash	Untimed		Level: G1-Mar	Flash	Untimed
1.* and				1. back		
2.* cat				2. eat		
3.* me				3. sun		
4.* is				4. bird		
5. go				5. pat		
6. play				6. saw		
7. where				7. feet		
8. like				8. lake		
9. thing				9. hid		
10. old				10. cut		
11. your				11. about		
12. up				12. one		
13. said				13. rain		
14. big				14. water		
15. for				15. two		
16. by				16. how		
17. dog				17. window		
18. not				18. need		
19. who				19. that's		
20. here				20. mother		

Percent Correct _____ _____   Percent Correct _____ _____

# of Errors	%
0	100%
1	95%
2	90%
3	85%
4	80%
5	75%
6	70%
7	65%
8	60%

# of Errors	%
9	55%
10	50%
11	45%
12	40%
13	35%
14	30%
15	25%
16	20%
17	15%
18	10%
19	5%
20	0%

* If the student cannot read <u>any</u> of the first 4 words in the G1-Oct list automatically, discontinue the test and score 0% Flash | N/A Untimed

*From the ASU Word Recognition Test

University of Utah Reading Clinic
FLASH WORD RECOGNTION ASSESSMENT
Examiner Score Sheet

Level: G1-End	Flash	Untimed		Level: 2	Flash	Untimed
1. leg				1. able		
2. black				2. break		
3. smile				3. pull		
4. hurt				4. week		
5. dark				5. gate		
6. white				6. felt		
7. couldn't				7. north		
8. seen				8. rush		
9. until				9. wrote		
10. because				10. perfect		
11. men				11. change		
12. winter				12. basket		
13. shout				13. shoot		
14. glass				14. hospital		
15. paint				15. spill		
16. children				16. dug		
17. table				17. crayon		
18. stand				18. third		
19. head				19. taken		
20. drove				20. prize		

# of Errors	%
0	100%
1	95%
2	90%
3	85%
4	80%
5	75%
6	70%
7	65%
8	60%

# of Errors	%
9	55%
10	50%
11	45%
12	40%
13	35%
14	30%
15	25%
16	20%
17	15%
18	10%
19	5%
20	0%

Percent Correct _____ _____   Percent Correct _____ _____

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University of Utah Reading Clinic: Revised 11/29/13 MKF

University of Utah Reading Clinic
FLASH WORD RECOGNTION ASSESSMENT
Examiner Score Sheet

Level: 3	Flash	Untimed
1. accept		
2. favor		
3. seal		
4. buffalo		
5. slipper		
6. receive		
7. legend		
8. haircut		
9. dresser		
10. icy		
11. customer		
12. thread		
13. plop		
14. bandage		
15. further		
16. moat		
17. closet		
18. unroll		
19. storyteller		
20. yarn		

Level: 4	Flash	Untimed
1. average		
2. hamster		
3. select		
4. tobacco		
5. brilliant		
6. liberty		
7. prance		
8. solemn		
9. disease		
10. impress		
11. miracle		
12. wrestle		
13. coward		
14. explode		
15. opinion		
16. suffer		
17. vast		
18. relationship		
19. furnace		
20. clan		

# of Errors	%
0	100%
1	95%
2	90%
3	85%
4	80%
5	75%
6	70%
7	65%
8	60%

# of Errors	%
9	55%
10	50%
11	45%
12	40%
13	35%
14	30%
15	25%
16	20%
17	15%
18	10%
19	5%
20	0%

Percent Correct _____ _____

Percent Correct _____ _____

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FLASH WORD RECOGNTION ASSESSMENT
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Level: 5	Flash	Untimed	Level: 6	Flash	Untimed
1. labor			1. elevate		
2. cripple			2. conservation		
3. hasten			3. tenderness		
4. frontier			4. barrier		
5. riverbed			5. adulthood		
6. settlement			6. kennel		
7. absent			7. humiliated		
8. dissolve			8. nonfiction		
9. plea			9. revive		
10. surrender			10. wallet		
11. organization			11. depression		
12. evidence			12. carvings		
13. width			13. similarity		
14. rampaging			14. unanswered		
15. horseshoe			15. fingernail		
16. grammar			16. breed		
17. assorted			17. marrow		
18. soybean			18. starter		
19. troublesome			19. pedestrian		
20. circumstance			20. quantity		

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4	80%
5	75%
6	70%
7	65%
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9	55%
10	50%
11	45%
12	40%
13	35%
14	30%
15	25%
16	20%
17	15%
18	10%
19	5%
20	0%

Percent Correct _____ _____   Percent Correct _____ _____

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University of Utah Reading Clinic
FLASH WORD RECOGNTION ASSESSMENT
Examiner Score Sheet

Level: 7   Flash   Untimed   Level: 8   Flash   Untimed

Level 7			Level 8		
1. civic			1. administration		
2. shirttail			2. federation		
3. nominated			3. militia		
4. gruesome			4. shambles		
5. disadvantage			5. bankrupt		
6. goldenrod			6. architecture		
7. perishable			7. tonic		
8. straightforward			8. toddler		
9. warrant			9. cavernous		
10. unthinkable			10. imperative		
11. ridicule			11. notorious		
12. engulf			12. subconscious		
13. kindhearted			13. corps		
14. maturity			14. laborious		
15. impassable			15. rivet		
16. bolster			16. unimaginable		
17. copyright			17. dizzily		
18. foliage			18. irritability		
19. prune			19. puncture		
20. persecution			20. wholehearted		

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1. and	1. back
2. cat	2. eat
3. me	3. sun
4. is	4. bird
5. go	5. pat
6. play	6. saw
7. where	7. feet
8. like	8. lake
9. thing	9. hid
10. old	10. cut
11. your	11. about
12. up	12. one
13. said	13. rain
14. big	14. water
15. for	15. two
16. by	16. how
17. dog	17. window
18. not	18. need
19. who	19. that's
20. here	20. mother

1.	leg	1.	able
2.	black	2.	break
3.	smile	3.	pull
4.	hurt	4.	week
5.	dark	5.	gate
6.	white	6.	felt
7.	couldn't	7.	north
8.	seen	8.	rush
9.	until	9.	wrote
10.	because	10.	perfect
11.	men	11.	change
12.	winter	12.	basket
13.	shout	13.	shoot
14.	glass	14.	hospital
15.	paint	15.	spill
16.	children	16.	dug
17.	table	17.	crayon
18.	stand	18.	third
19.	head	19.	taken
20.	drove	20.	prize

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