



## Reading passage: assessment criteria (bands) for reading fluency and expression

The assessor should choose an overall 'best fit' band for the reading passage based on these criteria

	<b>Expression and Volume</b>	<b>Phrasing and Structure</b>	<b>Smoothness and Accuracy</b>	<b>Reading Pace</b>
	<i>Reading expressively with enthusiasm. Sounds like natural language. Varying the volume to match the text.</i>	<i>Reading with appropriate phrasing, stress, pauses and intonation which follow sentence structure, punctuation and other clues in the text.</i>	<i>Reading with a smooth rhythm with limited pauses, hesitation, repetition or multiple attempts (either correct or incorrect).</i>	<i>Reading at an appropriate conversational pace for the text which is neither too slow or too fast.</i>
<b>Band 1</b>	Reads individual graphemes but struggles to blend them together to form words. The pace is very slow and the focus on decoding limits any opportunity for fluency and expression.			
<b>Band 2</b>	Reads with limited expression or variance in volume.	Reads word-by-word with little sense of phrasing or sentence structure.	Reads with frequent pauses or multiple attempts at words.	Reads at a slow and laborious pace.
<b>Band 3</b>	Reads with some expression and beginning to use the voice to make text sound like natural language.	Reads with frequent mid-sentence pauses and runs over the end of a sentence without recognising punctuation.	Reads with smoothness in parts of the text but makes some pauses or multiple attempts at words.	Reads moderately slowly or too quickly (rushing).
<b>Band 4</b>	Reads with expression and natural language for much of the text. Voice volume is generally appropriate.	Reads with some attention to phrasing, sentence structure and punctuation.	Reads with smoothness for the majority of the text, with few pauses or multiple attempts at words,	Reads at a mostly appropriate rate with some uneven pace.
<b>Band 5</b>	Reads with good expression and natural language for most of the text. Reader varies their enthusiasm and volume to match the text.	Reads with generally good phrasing and follows the sentence structure, punctuation and other clues in the text.	Reads in a smooth, accurate style. Any pauses are quickly resolved or self-corrected.	Reads consistently at an appropriate rate and conversational pace.