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|--------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------|
| PUPIL NAME:  | Tommy Tomato    | CLASS LEVEL: | 5th Class |
| SCHOOL NAME: | ERC Demo School | DATE TESTED: | 14/10/24  |

## What is the New DPRT?

The New Drumcondra Primary Reading Test (DPRT) is a curriculum-based test of reading achievement. There are different tests for pupils in First to Sixth classes in primary school.

## What does it measure?

The test has two main sections:

- Reading Vocabulary (understanding of word meanings).
- Reading Comprehension (understanding of texts).

Reading comprehension can be further divided into:

- Understanding *Literary* texts (such as extracts from novels or short stories).
- Understanding *Informational* Texts (such as fact-based newspaper articles, information leaflets, event brochures, or interviews).

Each test has 40 Vocabulary questions and 40 Comprehension questions. Of the Comprehension questions, 20 are based on Literary texts, and 20 on Informational texts.

## What do the scores mean?

The DPRT is a *standardised* test. This means that it has previously been taken by a large number of pupils in Ireland, so we know, on average, how easy or difficult the questions are. We use this information to create *standard scores* to describe how your child did on the test, relative to pupils in Ireland at the same class level. These scores range from 60 to 140. The average score is 100, and the majority of pupils score between 85 and 115. Using the table below, you can see roughly where your child's scores fit in, relative to other pupils in Ireland at the same class level.

| Standard score | STen score | What does it mean? | Proportion of pupils in this category |
|----------------|------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 115 or higher  | 8-10       | Above average      | 1/6                                   |
| 108-114        | 7          | High average       | 1/6                                   |
| 93-107         | 5-6        | Average            | 1/3                                   |
| 85-92          | 4          | Low average        | 1/6                                   |
| 84 or lower    | 1-3        | Below average      | 1/6                                   |

As with any test, each pupil's result is an *estimate* of their "true" score. Your child might have done slightly better or worse if they had taken the test on a different day, so you should allow some leeway when looking at the results.

Standard scores can also be converted to STen scores, which are broad categories that go from 1 up to 10. The average STen score is 5.5, and most pupils have a STen score in the range of 4 to 7. You should be extra careful when interpreting STen scores. For example, a child who receives a standard score of 93 one year and a standard score of 92 the next (a difference of only one point) will have different STen scores for the two years, although the standard scores have not changed significantly.

## Your child's scores

Your child's **Overall Reading score** is **103**, which is in the **Average** range for overall reading achievement. This converts to a STen score of 6.

|                 | No. of questions attempted | Standard score | STen score | Range   |
|-----------------|----------------------------|----------------|------------|---------|
| Overall Reading | 60/80                      | 103            | 6          | Average |

The table below shows your child's score on each of four aspects of reading, and how many questions your child answered (whether right or wrong). If your child didn't answer many questions, their score will be low, as marks can only be awarded for questions that have been attempted.

| Aspect of reading     | No. of questions attempted | Standard score | STen score |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|----------------|------------|
| Reading Vocabulary    | 30/40                      | 100            | 6          |
| Reading Comprehension | 30/40                      | 104            | 6          |
| Literary              | 14/20                      | 101            | 6          |
| Informational         | 16/20                      | 111            | 7          |

## Scores on the aspects of reading

You might find that your child gets a higher or lower score on one or more of aspects of reading, compared with the others. Most pupils will have gaps of a few points between their scores on the components, such as between Reading Vocabulary and Reading Comprehension, or between understanding Literary texts and Informational texts. It is worth looking at the number of questions attempted on each aspect, as a gap may occur if a child runs out of time before seeing certain questions. However, a large gap (at least 12 points) may also suggest that your child has a genuine strength or weakness on one aspect of reading compared with another. For example, a pupil might have a very strong vocabulary but have less developed comprehension skills, or might have more experience reading stories (Literary texts) than reading factual pieces (Informational texts). If you think that this may be the case, it might help to discuss it with your child's teacher. Pupils with very low scores on a particular aspect might benefit from extra support, using more accessible texts, while those with very high scores might benefit from extra learning opportunities.

## What next?

The New DPRT provides useful information on reading achievement, but it is only one piece in the jigsaw of information about your child. As with any test, these results are just a snapshot of your child's achievement on one day, on one test. When considering your child's progress, it is important to think about other sources of evidence as well, including performance on classroom-based tests and reports from teachers. If your child's test scores are not what you expected, please talk to your child's class teacher, who will be able to put the test results in context.

Also, the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA) has developed online resources for parents about standardised testing ([www.ncca.ie/parents](http://www.ncca.ie/parents)), which you might find helpful.