TOOLS TO ASSESS THE READING LEVELS OF BOOKS AND WEB PAGES

Compiled and annotated by Elizabeth Greef, May 2014

Using the following keywords in Google, you will be able to find more sources of assessment tools for reading levels: **tools assess reading levels books web**

The following websites are useful for teacher librarians to build their understanding of reading levels and to use the tools to evaluate suitability of texts.

[Early Reading Assessment: A guiding tool for instruction](#). Reading Rockets
This article is a more academic overview of ways of assessing reading with links to many tools – CBM, CTOPP, DIBELS, DRP, ERDA, GORT4, ITBS, MI, PAT, TOWRE and TPRI. While a number of these tools focus on young children, some may be used up to Grade 12.

[Free Text Readability Consensus Calculator](#)
This site allows direct input of text and has a variety of readability formulas which it automatically uses to generate a score including Flesch Reading Ease, Gunning Fog, Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level, The Coleman-Liau Index, the SMOG Index, Automated Readability Index, Linsear Write Formula. Having seven formulas employed at once gives variation in the results but allows the user to make a good assessment of the level of readability. Other formulas may also be selected.
There are brief overviews of these formulas on the page and explanations of how to interpret the results. There is also a link to a free ebook, *Can you read me now? Learn how to use readability formulas.*

[Lexile Analyzer](#)
This site is free to use for blocks of text up to 1000 words but requires registration. It offers clear steps, a video tutorial and a glossary of terms.

[The Readability Test Tool](#)
This elegant simple tool allows the user to test a website by URL, directly input a piece of text and provides the html code to put a link to Readability on your webpages. Their motto is: "Let's make the unreadable readable".

[Independent Reading Assessment Tools: User's Guide](#).
From Ontario, this 32 page pdf provides strategies for reading conferences with students, oral retelling, reading response journals, written responses and visual organisers, reading logs and portfolios with numerous templates.

[Reading Level Assessment](#)
This homeschooling website has some useful links to other reading assessment tools but also includes two tests in full, a Reading Skills Assessment Tool and the San Diego Quick Assessment of Reading Ability.

[The Schonell Reading Test](#)
A test to identify reading age of a child and to assist in picking up reading issues. Instructions are on the page.

[Solutions for identifying reading problems and strengthening reading skills.](#) Reading Success Lab.
This site has both free components and ones which cost. [The Reading Development Checklist](#) is a useful indicator of reading development milestones to Grade Three. There are many useful pieces of information on aspects of reading and dyslexia.