The Nonsense Word Test

Preparing the Test

- Type or print the test and make a copy to record the student's responses.

Administering the Test

- Administer the test to one student at a time.
- Explain to the student that she is to read each word. Point out that the words are nonsense, or made-up, words.
- As the student reads the entire list, put a check mark on the answer sheet beside each word she reads correctly. (The word is correct if the student's pronunciation is correct according to common sound-spelling relationships.)

Scoring the Test

- Total the number of words the student read correctly. Analyze the mispronounced words, looking for patterns that might give you information about the student's decoding strengths and weaknesses.
- Focus future instruction on those sound-spelling relationship categories (short vowels, long vowels, etc.) in which the student made three or more errors.
# The Nonsense Word Test

## A. Short Vowels
1. lat  
2. ped  
3. sib  
4. mog  
5. vun  
6. fim  
7. hep  
8. yot  
9. rud  
10. cag

## B. Digraphs, Blends
1. sheg  
2. chab  
3. stot  
4. whid  
5. thuzz  
6. bruck  
7. cliss  
8. smend  
9. thirst  
10. phum

## C. Long Vowels
1. sote  
2. mabe  
3. foap  
4. weam  
5. flay  
6. shain  
7. dright  
8. hupe  
9. heest  
10. sny

## D. Other Vowels
1. doit  
2. spoud  
3. clar  
4. foy  
5. jern  
6. moof  
7. lurst  
8. porth  
9. stook  
10. flirch

## E. Multisyllabic Words
1. rigfap  
2. churbit  
3. napsate  
4. reatloid  
5. foutray  
6. moku  
7. wolide  
8. lofam  
9. pagbo  
10. plizzle