

Quizzes—Using Vocabulary Practice Quizzes

Promote and Monitor Vocabulary Learning

Vocabulary Practice Quizzes, which are available for many Renaissance Accelerated Reader® books, offer an innovative, research-based approach for accelerating vocabulary growth and heightening students' interest in words.

The quizzes ask students to choose the correct definition of words that appeared in the book they just read, as well as books read previously.

We select vocabulary words according to a set of criteria. The words must be:

- At the reading level of the book or higher
- Used three or more times in the book
- Significant to the meaning of the book
- Interesting and useful in everyday conversation

Quizzes include four types of words:

First-Try Words

These are all the words on the vocabulary list for the book the student just read. Every book has a list of 5 to 15 words, depending on the difficulty level and length of the book.

Second-Try Words

These are the words the student defined incorrectly the first time on a quiz for another book. The student has one more chance to define the words correctly. If a second-try word is missed, it will not be included on another Vocabulary Practice Quiz, unless it's a vocabulary word for another book.

First-Try Review Words

These are words the student has already defined correctly on a previous quiz. The number of first-try review words per quiz depends on the preference setting. As a default, the software calculates 20 percent of the first-try words on a quiz and includes first-try review words equal to that amount. For example, a quiz with 10 first-try words will have 2 first-try review words.

Second-Try Review Words

These are the first-try review words the student defined incorrectly on the previous quiz. This is the student's last chance to define the words correctly. If a second-try review word is missed, it will not be included on another Vocabulary Practice Quiz, unless it's a vocabulary word for another book.

Student Quizzing Routine

To get the most benefit from Vocabulary Practice Quizzes, have students follow this routine:

1. Select a book within your ZPD and review the vocabulary list for the book. (The vocabulary lists are generated by Accelerated Reader software.)
2. Read the book and review the list again. Try to figure out the meaning of unknown words by reading them in context, or look them up in a dictionary.
3. Take and pass the Reading Practice Quiz.
4. Take the Vocabulary Practice Quiz and check the TOPS Report for words answered correctly and incorrectly.

Monitor and Motivate

Monitor vocabulary development with the Diagnostic Report—Vocabulary Practice and the vocabulary section of the Student Record Report. The Words Learned Report for each student lists all the words the student has learned over a specified time period.

For more information about using Vocabulary Practice Quizzes, see the Resource titled *Vocabulary Practice: Incorporating It in Your Classroom*.