These criterion referenced instruments are designed to measure growth in three areas: Oral Reading (OR), Silent Reading (SR) and Word Recognition (WR).

Oral reading is measured by asking the student to read the appropriate oral reading passage for each story. Please tell the student to try his/her best and not to be afraid to say “I don’t know.” Record every mistake the student makes and mark the total number of errors in the appropriate space on the answer sheet. A percentage score can be determined by dividing the total number of errors by the total number of words in each oral reading passage.

Follow the same procedures for Silent Reading and Word Recognition.

Progress can be measured by measuring the scores achieved prior to the start of the story and the scores achieved after they have finished all the lessons in that story.

Finally, we would love to see your results. Please send them and any other comments you would like to make concerning The failure free Reading Program to:

JFL Enterprises
140 West Cabarrus Ave
Concord, NC  28025
www.failurefree.com
failure free Word Recognition
Teal: Story 6: The Downtown Complex

enormous  ridiculous  helicopters
construction  splendid  innocent
auditorium  quality  universe
entertainment  superintendent  knowledge
astonished  various  cafeterias
remarkable  vicious  decision
machinery  challenge  scientists
defying  disappointment  autographs
gravity  decided  audience
obedient  character  concrete

Name: __________________ Date: _________ Pretest Score: _____/___30___
Number Correct
Age: _______ Date: _________ Posttest Score: _____/___30___
Number Correct
I am standing in the parking lot of the downtown mall. There is an enormous amount of activity in the atmosphere. I am able to observe the construction of a new coliseum and convention complex. The complex will be home to a new auditorium, a hockey rink, a sports arena and an entertainment center.

I am astonished at the remarkable amount of expensive equipment and people. This amount of machinery and material and muscle is seldom seen in one place. There is an automatic elevator defying gravity by moving upward from one height to another. There are obedient workers listening to the orders of the construction superintendent. I am curious and try to absorb all that I see. I had no idea they would need this much to construct this particular complex.

I can remember reading about the new complex in the newspaper. The story told of how the complex started. It told of how the complex was the result of one citizen’s stubborn determination to convince the city to consider building the complex in the downtown area. Everyone thought the idea was ridiculous. This area was a dreadful disaster with buildings about to crumble and crime threatening to take over.

There was one person living in the neighborhood who had the imagination to see the downtown neighborhood as a splendid opportunity for the complex. She was confused and generally horrified at the thought of what the area could turn into if new construction did not occur. She began a serious campaign to persuade city officials to change their minds and purchase the land in the downtown area for this marvelous new complex. She knew what the presence of the complex would do to the quality and pleasure of life in the downtown neighborhood.

This patient woman knew she could not succeed unless she received help. She had to scramble to get others to pledge to cooperate. She talked to everyone who would listen. She had a conversation with local merchants who helped organize a neighborhood festival. She sent an invitation to the mayor to come and experience the refreshments and the celebration.

The ticket sales for admission to the festival were horrible. No one wanted to set foot in the downtown territory at night. Most citizens imagined they would be welcomed by muggers and various other vicious looking people trying to take something valuable.
The woman felt miserable and bitter. She was steadily losing confidence in her ability to make this challenge work. The disappointment she felt was enormous. Some people started calling her a strange character and she could actually hear laughter when she entered a room. Her friends urged her to stop. She felt desperate underneath the weight of all this pressure. She needed a miracle immediately.

The woman received her miracle by electronic message. The message was from someone who wanted to help. The person was a famous scientist and the inventor of a mysterious liquid needed to operate military vehicles and helicopters. The scientist also invented an emergency microphone that soldiers wear on their garments or in their helmets. This innocent looking device will permit soldiers to quietly contact companions in distress without otherwise having to release an awkward screech or a frantic shriek.

The scientist who is recognized throughout the universe for intelligence and knowledge is in possession of the only license to manufacture these peculiar inventions. The scientist therefore has become fabulously wealthy and has recently purchased an astonishing number of other separate businesses. He owns movie theaters and cafeterias, produces musicals and rock concerts, and manufactures athletic equipment such as aluminum tennis rackets.

The scientist said he knew what it was like to overcome hardship and wanted to encourage the woman not to surrender her excellent idea. He wanted her to proceed with her decision. His education had taught him to recognize that no progress or achievement comes without sacrifice and lots of sincere hard work and preparation.

The scientist then told the woman something that staggered her. He had made arrangements for a major rock star to be in attendance at her festival. The star had volunteered to perform at the entrance and would stay afterward to sign autographs for any customer in the audience. This behavior according to the scientist was the star’s expression of confidence in the position the woman had taken.

The festival was a complete success. The mayor agreed to the woman’s suggestion and made the necessary correction. The city bought the land on one condition. The city decided to put a concrete fountain as a memorial to the earnest effort of this woman who showed that an average citizen can make a difference.
1. I am ___ sleeping ___ in the parking lot of the downtown mall.

2. There is an automatic elevator defying ___ gravity ___ by moving upward from one height to another.

3. The story told of how the ___ convert ___ complex started.

4. She talked to ___ running ___ everyone who would listen.

5. The ticket sales for admission to the ___ festival ___ goldfish ___ were horrible.

6. The ___ disappointment ___ monster ___ people she felt was enormous.

7. The woman received her ___ license ___ miracle by electronic message.

8. He wanted her to ___ success ___ decline with her decision.

9. He had made arrangements for a major rock star to be in ___ condition ___ swamp at her festival.

10. The city bought the land on one ___ upgrade ___.