



Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills 8th Edition

Maze Benchmark

Grade 4

Student Materials

Name: _____

Date: _____

Practice Passage

Tom goes to a school far from his house. Every morning, he
takes a school _____ to go to school. In the _____, he also
takes a bus home.



Correct: _____

Incorrect: _____


Adjusted Score: _____

The Hill

It was late afternoon after the big snowstorm. Samantha was covered in snow and _____ at the bottom of Miller's Hill, _____ her mother walk toward her. Miller's Hill _____ the longest, steepest hill in town _____ it was slick with ice. Samantha _____ bruised, wet, cold, very happy, and _____ a great deal of trouble.

Earlier _____ afternoon she'd made a fateful decision. _____ home and coming just over the _____ of the terrifying hill, she'd watched Max Evelyn throw down their backpacks and _____, "Come on, Sam! Your mom won't _____ ! She's like two blocks away!"

Samantha's _____ was a cautious woman. Samantha always

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to wear sunblock, even when she'd _____ inside all day. Samantha always had

_____ call the instant she got anywhere, _____ if it was just to Max's

next door. She had to wear _____ only a helmet but also kneepads

elbow guards when she biked. Samantha's _____ had expressly

forbidden Samantha from ever _____ down Miller's Hill in any way

all. She was not allowed to _____, skate, or sled down Miller's Hill.

_____ was just too dangerous.

Samantha sometimes _____ why her mom was so worried

so cautious. She felt that something _____ must have happened to her mom

_____ she was a little girl. Maybe _____ had crashed her bicycle. Maybe

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she _____ gone sledding one day and crashed _____ a fence or a tree.

Maybe _____ had gone skating and fallen through _____ ice of a frozen
lake.


One _____ she asked her grandmother if she _____ anything about
her mother getting into _____ accident as a little girl. Her _____ tilted
her head back to think. _____, she smiled and said, “Yes. There

one time when your mother went _____ on a trail in the country

some other girls. The horse was _____ and took off across a field _____.

Your mother hung onto the horse _____ both hands for dear life.”

Samantha _____ that couldn’t be it. The story _____ nearly dramatic

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enough to have made _____ mother such a worrier.

On the _____ of the big snowstorm, as her _____ begged her to do

it, Samantha _____ made a split-second decision and thrown _____ down

on the hard-packed ice and _____. She'd gone hurtling down the hill

Max and Evelyn. They were all _____ and laughing.


But about a third _____ the way from the bottom, she'd _____ over

to see a shocking sight _____ the front window of Mrs. Forsyth's _____.

There was her mother, at that _____ instant sipping from a cup of

and looking straight out the window _____ Samantha.

Now, as her mom approached, Samantha _____ her smile, but inside her

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head phrase “It was totally worth it” ringing. She was having
a hard time not giggling when her mom stopped in front of her, held out a black
plastic bag, and said, “Use this. You’ll go even faster.”

