# School Days in 19th Century France

Life in early 19th century France was very different from today. There were no computers, and even the fastest way to travel was by horse or ship. Most towns had only a few schools, and not all children could go. For children who were blind, finding a school was a big problem.

Special schools for the blind did exist, but they did not have many resources. Books were not easy to read or hold, and teachers often used strict rules. Students had to listen carefully and spend many hours learning with only a few tools.

Even with these challenges, some students wanted to become the best learners they could. Their hard work helped to change things for others across the world.



Student Name:

Comprehension: \_\_\_\_\_\_ / 3 correct

Date:

School Days in 19th Century France		Comprehension Questions:
Life in early 19th century France was very	(8)	<b>Literal Question:</b> What was the fastest way to travel
different from today. There were no computers, and	(16)	in early 19th century France?  Answer:
even the fastest way to travel was by horse or	(26)	By horse or ship.
ship. Most towns had only a few schools, and not	(36)	Student Answer:
all children could go. For children who were	(44)	
blind, finding a school was a big problem.	(52)	Correct Incorrect
Special schools for the blind did exist, but they	(61)	
did not have many resources. Books were not easy	(70)	Inferential Question: Why do you think students wanted to work hard in these schools?
to read or hold, and teachers often used strict	(79)	Answer:
rules. Students had to listen carefully and spend	(87)	They hoped for better lives and to help others.
many hours learning with only a few tools.	(95)	Student Answer:
Even with these challenges, some students wanted	(102)	
to become the best learners they could. Their hard	(111)	CorrectIncorrect
work helped to change things for others across the	(120)	Vocabulary Question:
world.	(121)	What does 'resources' mean in this passage?
20' - Or		Answer: Things needed for learning, like books or tools.
Scoring Guide		Student Answer:
Text Level: F&P GRL R Grade Level: 4 Word Count: 121		
Total Words Read:	V	Correct Incorrect
Errors:		Notes:
WCPM: (total words read — errors = WCPM)		
WCPM: Below grade level At grade level Above grade level		
Prosody: 1 2 3 4		

# How to Administer the Fluency Passage Assessment

# **Assess Oral Reading Fluency**

- Give the student a copy of the passage. Set a timer or stopwatch for 1 minute.
- Ask the student to begin reading. As the student reads aloud, assess prosody and mark errors and self-corrections on the evaluation copy using the following guides.
- Stop the student when one minute has passed. Take note of the last word the student read.
- Score the passage on the evaluation copy according to the Scoring Guide. Use the following chart to compare grade level norms for words correctly read per minute.

Marking Conventions	
Attempted Word = Substitution Error	✓ = Accurate Word Reading
∧ = Insertion Error	Attempted Word S/C = Self Correction
— Omission Error	R = Repetition
— = Omission Error	R = Repetition
T = Intervention Error (telling student the word)	

Prosody Rubric		2	3	4	
Expression and Volume	monotone or quiet	some expression	appropriate expression	varied, natural expression	
Phrasing	word-by-word reading	some phrase groupings	generally smooth phrasing	natural, meaningful phrasing	
Smoothness	frequent pauses, starts and stops	occasional breaks	mostly smooth reading	fluent and confident	
Pace	too slow or too fast	uneven pace	generally appropriate pace	consistent, conversational pace	

Grade Level Norms (WCPM) *							
Grade	Fall	Winter	Spring	Grade	Fall	Winter	Spring
First	0 – 10	10 - 50	30 - 90	Fourth	70 - 120	80 - 130	90 - 140
Second	30 - 80	50 - 100	70 - 130	Fifth	80 - 130	90 - 140	100 - 150
Third	50 – 110	70 - 120	80 - 140	Sixth	90 - 140	100 - 150	110 - 160

<sup>\*</sup> Rasinski Words Correct Per Minute Target Rates

# Fluency Builder: School Days in 19th Century France

#### **Passage Details**

Grade Level: 4

Reading Level: F&P GRL R

Word Count: 121

# High-Frequency Words

across, best, listen, horse, problem

## Suggestions for Use

Increase Exposure to High-Frequency Words

- Before reading, introduce the list of high-frequency words in the passage.
- Find the words in the passage. Highlight or underline the words.

## Illustrate and Label Extension Activity

• Have students draw and label items mentioned in the passage.

### Link to Writing or Discussion

• Encourage knowledge transfer and personal connection by asking:

"How would you feel going to school with so few tools?"

"Why is it important to help students who have challenges?"

#### Use for Repeated Readings

Day 1: Teacher reads aloud, then echo read

Day 2: Partner reading

Day 3: One-minute fluency timing and WCPM tracking

Day 4: Performance reading (with expression!)