

# **STRIVING READERS: WHO? WHY? HOW? WHAT?**

Elfrieda H. Hiebert

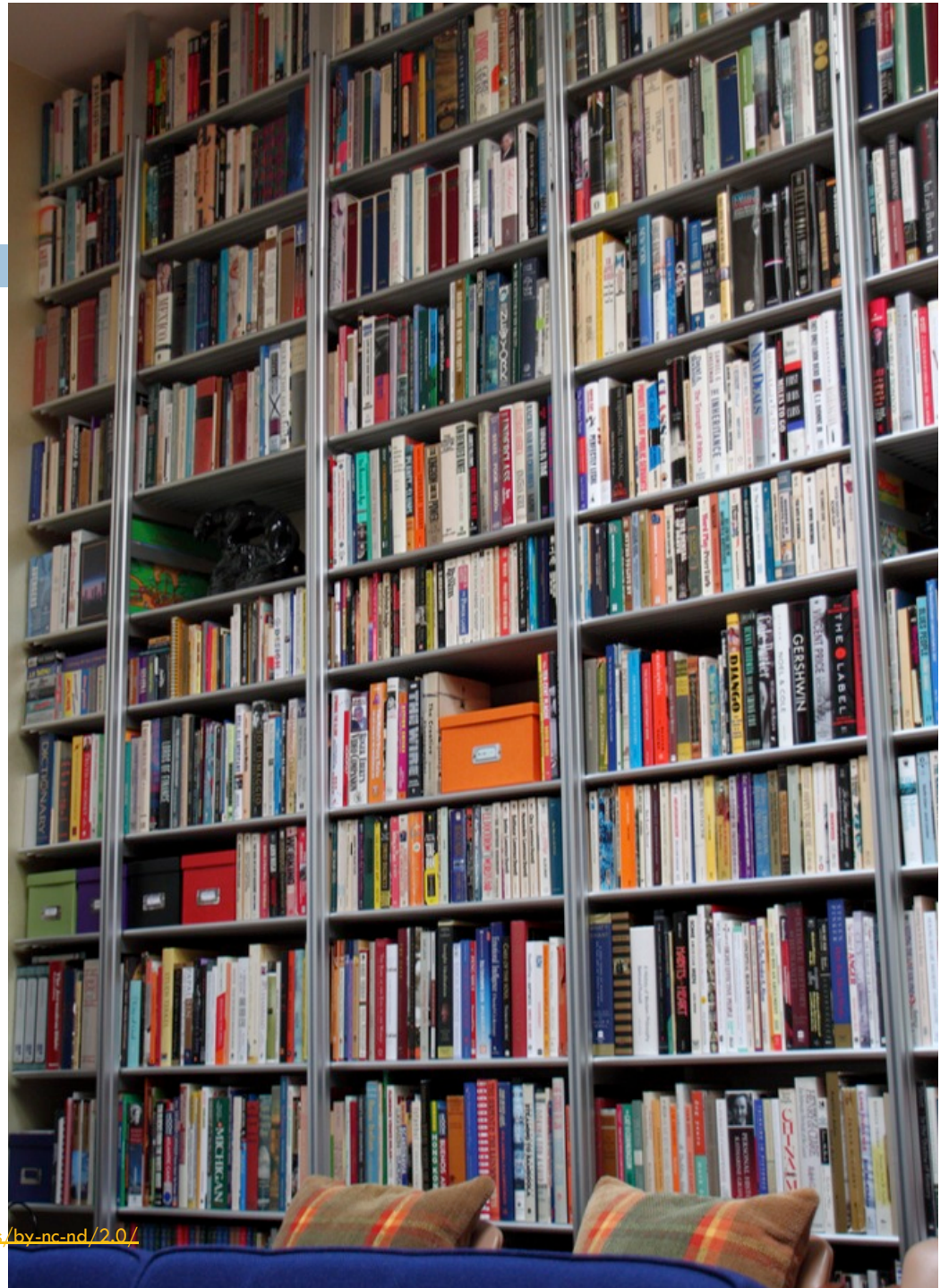
TextProject & University of California, Santa Cruz

# Knowledge



2016

Knowledge is  
“stored” in  
texts and...



texts typically  
have more rare  
words than  
conversations.



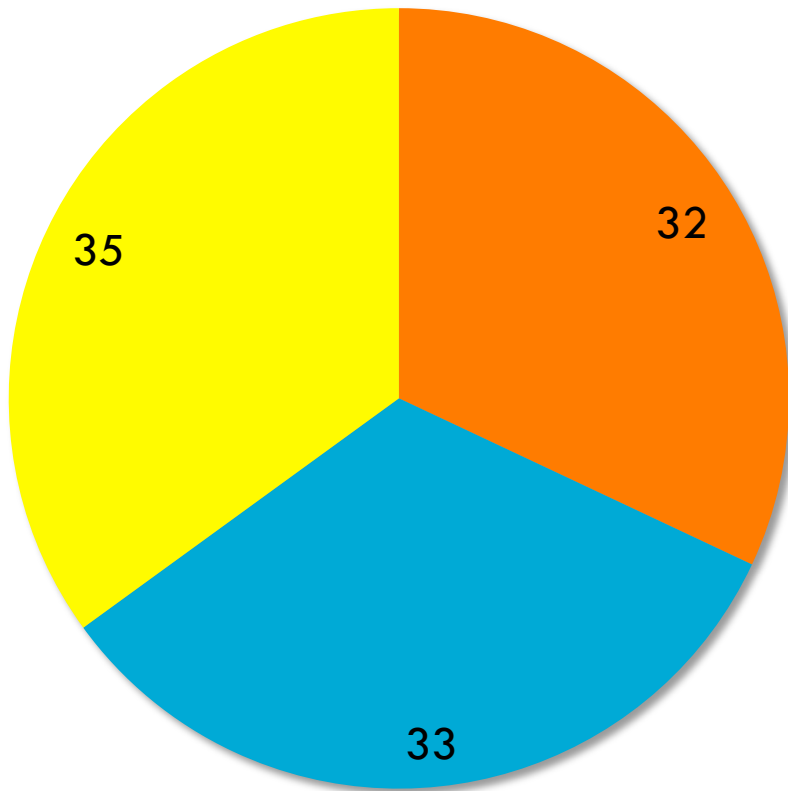
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# WHO?

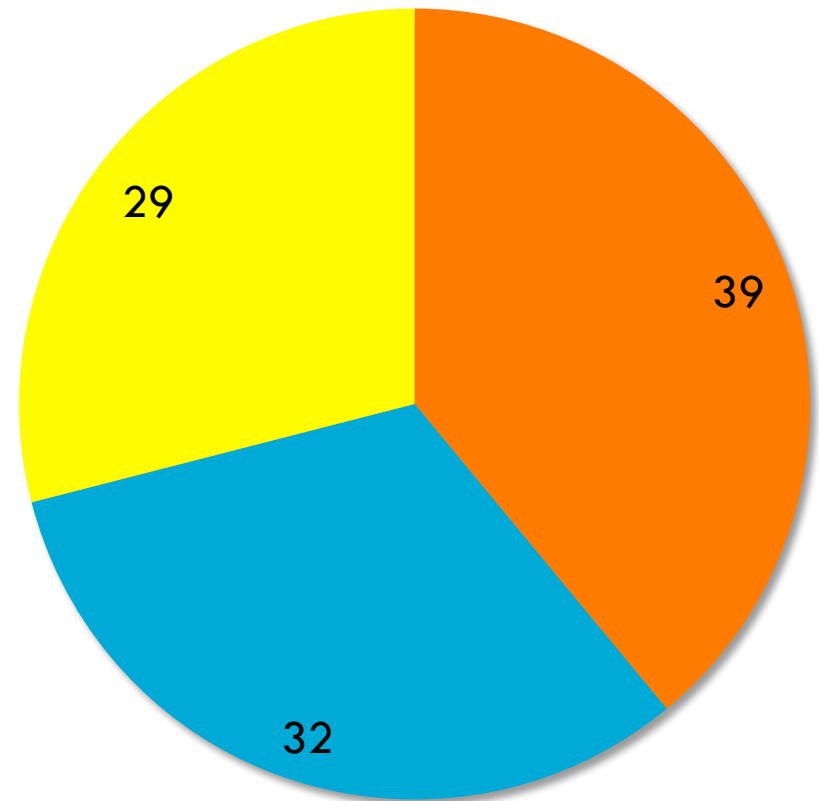


# NAEP 2015 Grade 4 (Reading)

**NATION**



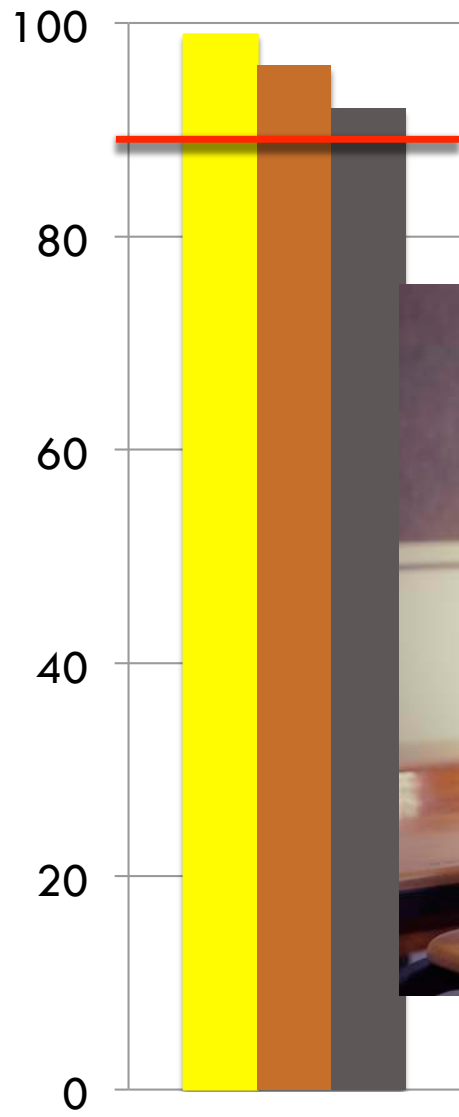
**NEVADA**



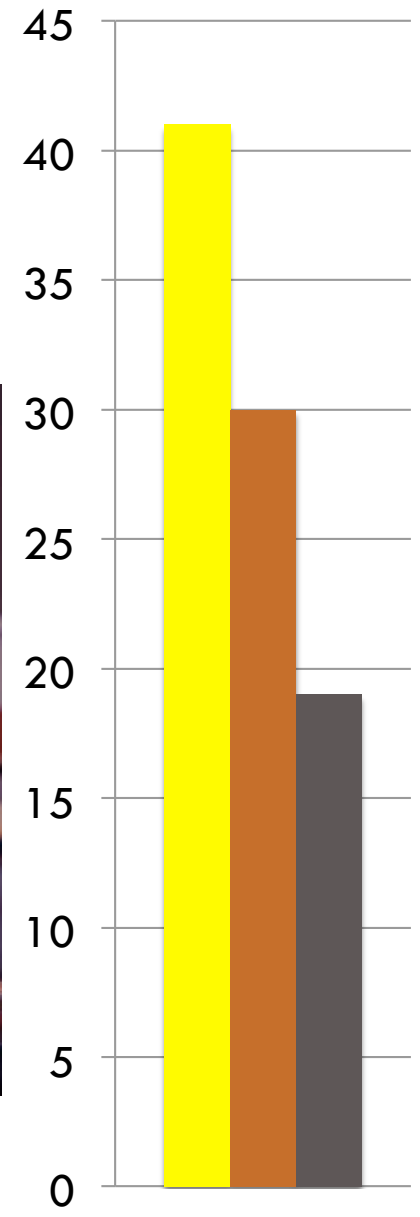
■ Below Basic   ■ Basic   ■ Advanced/Proficient

# End Gr. 3: Oral Reading

## Word Recognition Accuracy



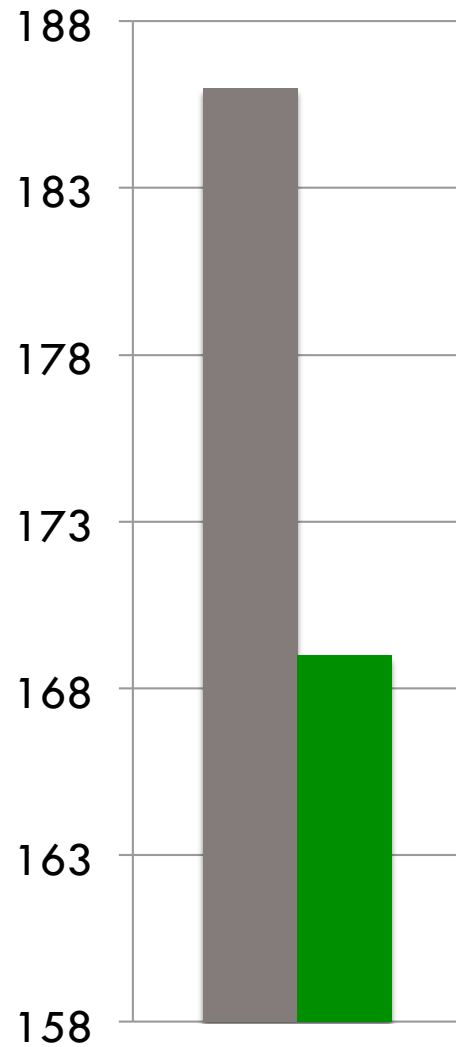
## Comprehension



50 25 10

## Silent Reading (Low to Moderate Comprehenders in Gr. 6)

Words Per Minute



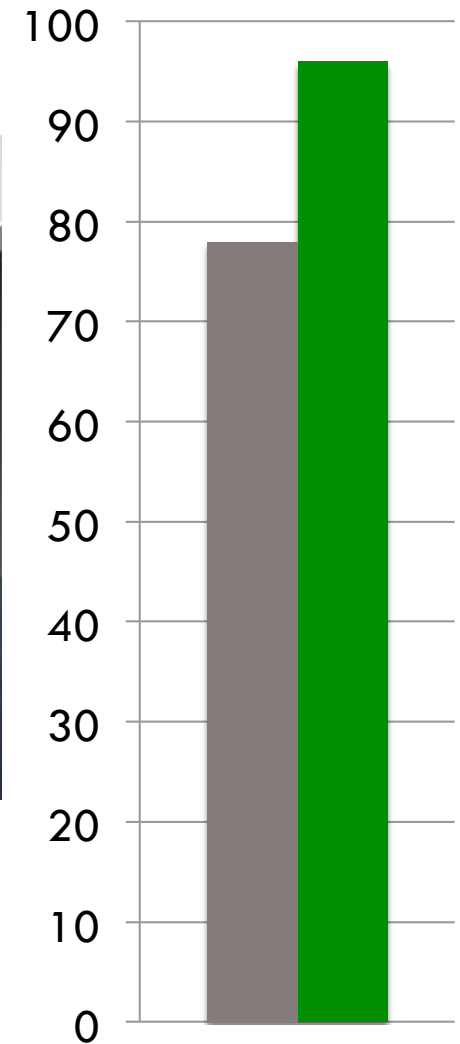
■ Online

■ Paper-and-Pencil

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Comprehension



■ Online

■ Paper-and-Pencil

# WHY?

Alice

Abby

Alex



**After one  
day of  
school  
(one  
penny=  
500  
words of  
reading**



**After  
one  
week of  
school**



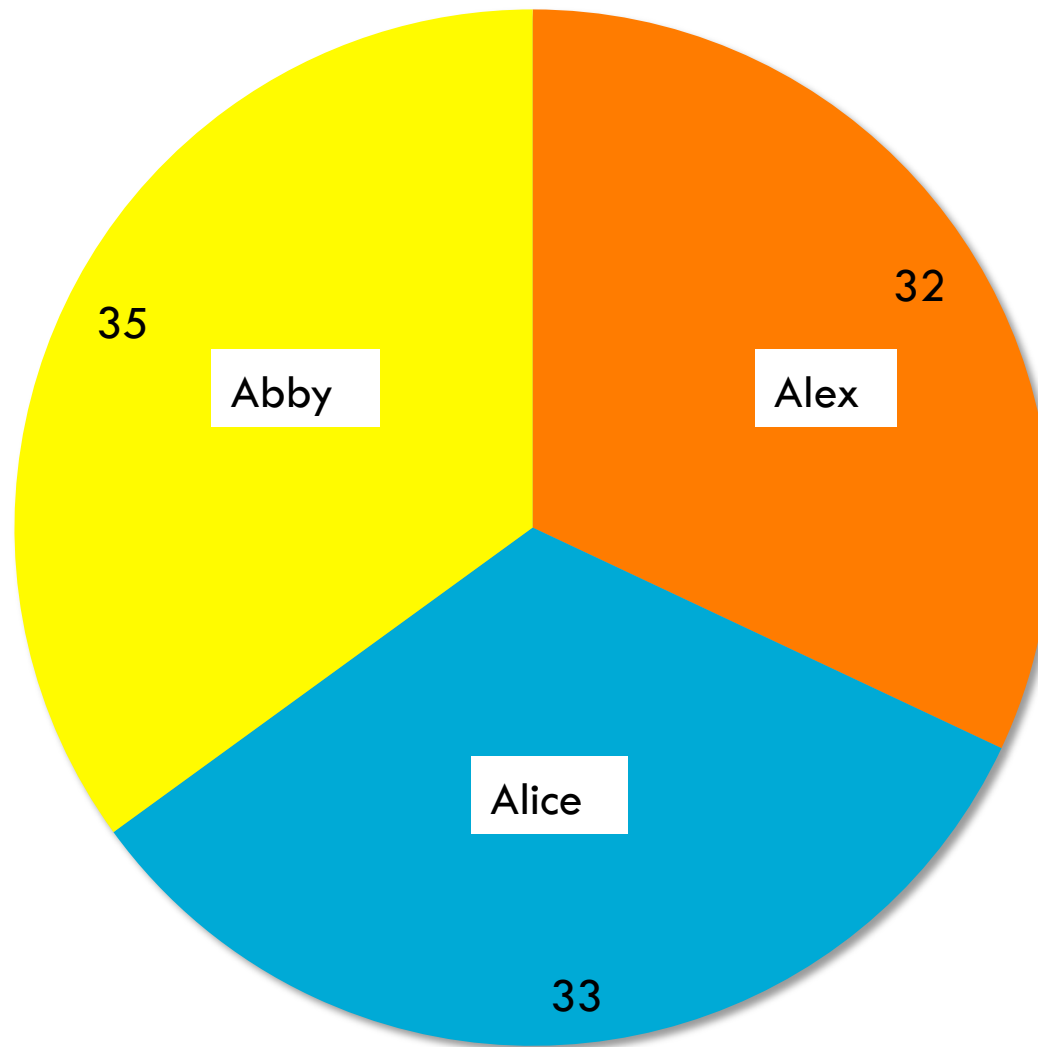
**After  
one  
month of  
school**



**After  
one  
year of  
school**

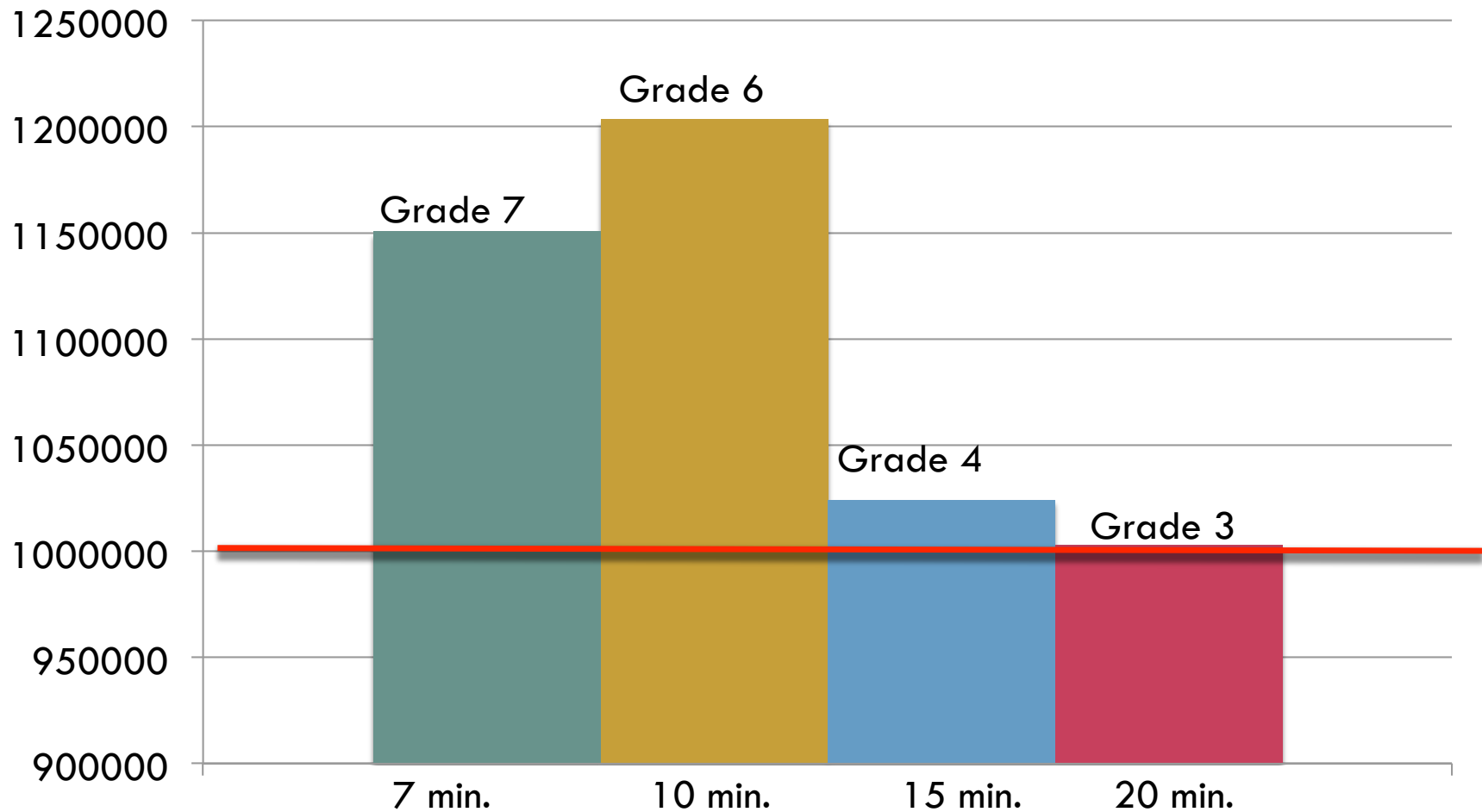


# NAEP 2015 Grade 4 (Reading)



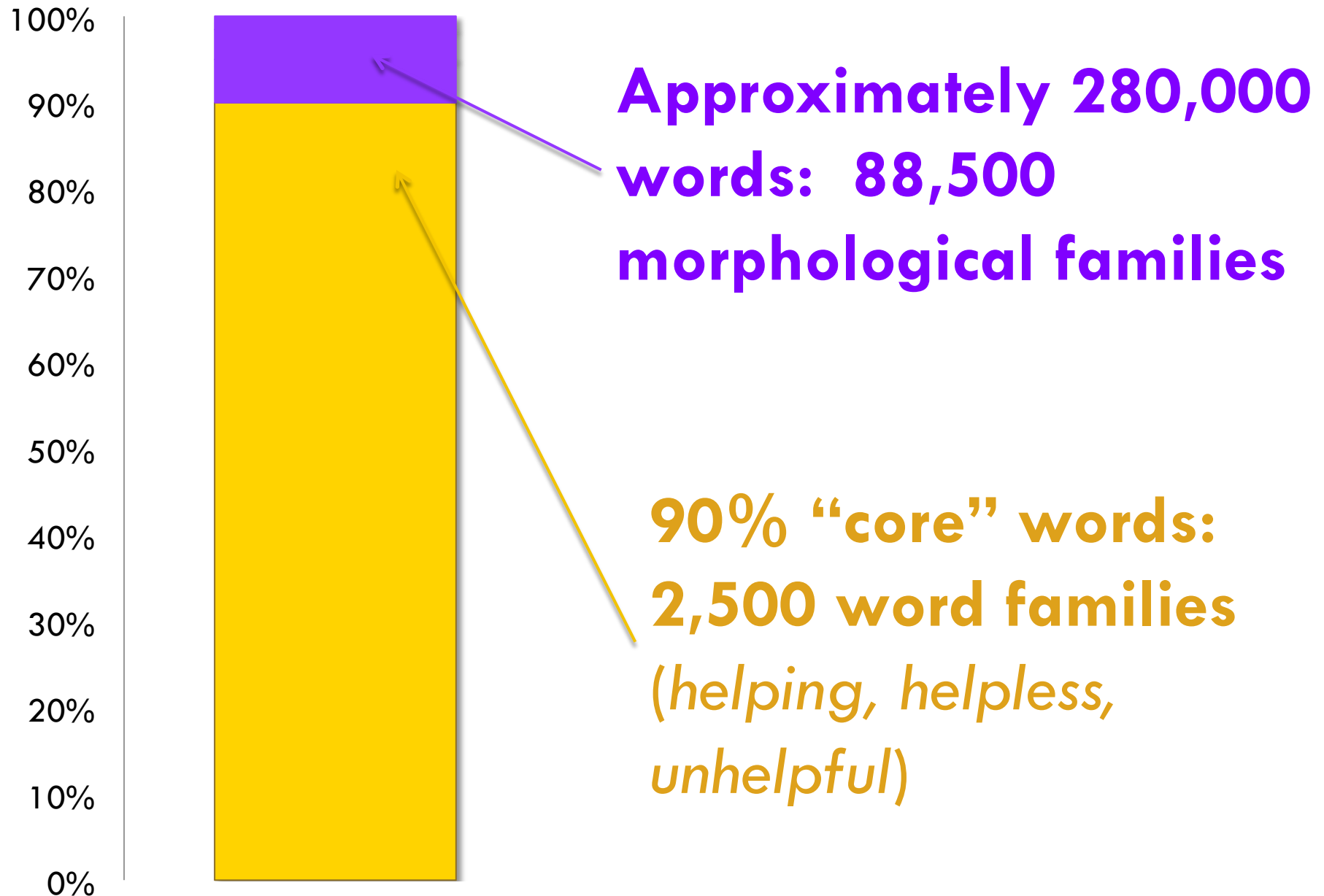
■ Below Basic ■ Basic ■ Advanced/Proficient

# When readers attain 1,000,000 words\* of *in-school, instructional reading*



\*NOT AR

# Why Reading 1,000,000 words in school by end of Gr. 3 matters





## AUTOMATICITY

Quick recognition of the vocabulary that accounts for 90% of texts.

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# Examples of Core Vocabulary

| 1st 100 words | the, by, no, through, must                         |
|---------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| 101-300       | long, great, put, last, family                     |
| 301-1,000     | power, north, story, strong, answer                |
| 1,001-1,500   | valley, imagine, motion, nearby, importance        |
| 1,501-2,000   | character, responsible, design, presence, trail    |
| 2001-2,500    | mixture, discovery, civilization, attitude, assume |

Nearly every day last summer my nephew Keith and I went crabbing in a creek on the New Jersey coast. We used a wire trap baited with scraps of fish and meat. Each time a crab entered the trap to eat, we pulled the doors closed. We cooked and ate the crabs we caught.

Blue crabs are very strong. Their big claws can make a painful pinch. When cornered, the crabs boldly defend themselves. They wave their outstretched claws and are fast and ready to fight. Keith and I had to be very careful to avoid having our fingers pinched.

Spider was a hungry one, he always wanted to eat. Everybody in Ashanti knew about his appetite. He was greedy, too, and always wanted more than his share of things. So people steered clear of Spider.

But one day a stranger came to Spider's habitation out in the back country. His name was Turtle. Turtle was a long way from his home. He had been walking all day in the hot sun and he was tired and hungry. So Spider had to invite Turtle into his house and offer him something to eat. He hated to do it



## STAMINA

Ability to stay focused while reading *on one's own*  
for at least several minutes

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# KNOWLEDGE

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# **Correlation between Background Knowledge & Comprehension = .94**

**Reading for Understanding Network Study of Comprehension in Grades 7-12**

Slide is from the presentation of David Francis (April 19, 2013). CCSS Assessments and Students with Disabilities and English Language Learners. Plenary session at Institute on Assessment in the Era of the Common Core State Standards, International Reading Association.

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# HOW?

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## 1. ENSURING AUTOMATICITY WITH CORE VOCABULARY



**Architecture  
The Parthenon**

Architecture, like painting, literature, and other forms of art, reflects the ideals of the people who build it. The Parthenon is the best example of ancient Greek architecture. The structure, created between 447 B.C.E. and 432 B.C.E., tells us a lot about the Greek way of thinking.

In Greece, balance and order were important **principles**<sup>1</sup>. The Greeks believed that everything around them happened for a reason. They wanted to find out this reason and discover the order of the world around them. Their buildings were beautiful, but they do not overflow with **frivolity**<sup>2</sup> or emotion. Instead, Greek buildings define order.

Columns are one **hallmark**<sup>3</sup> of classical structure that we associate with Greece and Rome. The Parthenon was built with eight columns on the front and 17 on each side. The building is symmetrical and balanced. Mathematical principles make the design stable. Almost the entire structure is made of marble.

**Architecture  
The Duomo**



The Duomo  
Florence, Italy

One building, more than any other, marks the arrival of the Renaissance Europe. Did you know that “naissance” means “birth” in French and that the Renaissance was the rebirth of classical learning in Italy? Art and architecture took off during the Renaissance. Many new ideas influenced design. The Duomo, with its grand dome, is a perfect example of new ideas and **innovation**.

Work on the Duomo cathedral, in Florence, Italy, actually started before the Renaissance, in 1296. But the building took 140 years to complete. The **struggle**<sup>2</sup> and many wars prevented construction from continuing on the building planned. By 1420, the building was almost finished, but there was one serious problem. The plans for the building called for a huge cupola, or dome—larger than anything built up to that point. No one knew how to build such a dome.

## The Influence of the Arch

By ReadWorks



The lasting influence of ancient Rome is apparent in many areas of our contemporary society. Sophisticated elements of law, engineering, literature, philosophy, architecture, and art can all be traced back to the Roman Empire. But perhaps one of the most lasting contributions from Roman civilization is something we see nearly every day: the Roman arch.

An arch is a curved structure designed to support or strengthen a building. Arches are traditionally made of stone, brick, or concrete; some modern arches are made of steel or laminated wood. The wedge-shaped blocks that form the sides of an arch are called voussoirs, and the top center stone, called the keystone, is the last block to be inserted. During construction, the arch is supported from below before the keystone is put in. The curve of an arch may take different shapes, but it is often a rounded or pointed semicircle.

## The Party's Over

Parties and **stunts** at the Great Wall of China are now against the law. A stunt is a dangerous or an unusual act that is done for attention.



In 2005, Danny Way became the first person to jump over the Great Wall on a skateboard. Over the years, many tourists have climbed the famous wall. Others have jumped over the wall on motorcycles.

Parties and stunts have caused serious damage to the Great Wall, say officials. The Chinese government has now issued new rules to protect the famous landmark.

The Great Wall is the longest structure ever built. It twists and turns for more than 4,000 miles through China. Parts of the wall are more than 2,000 years old.

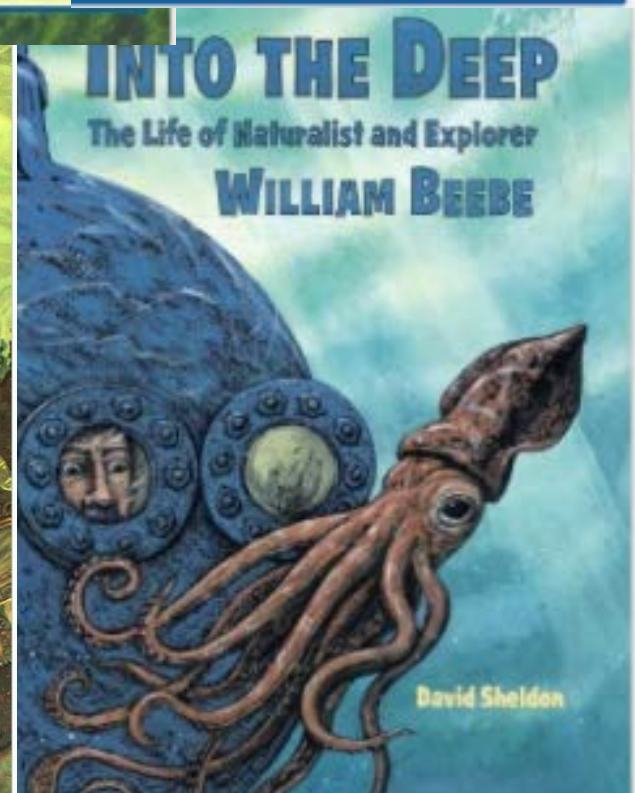
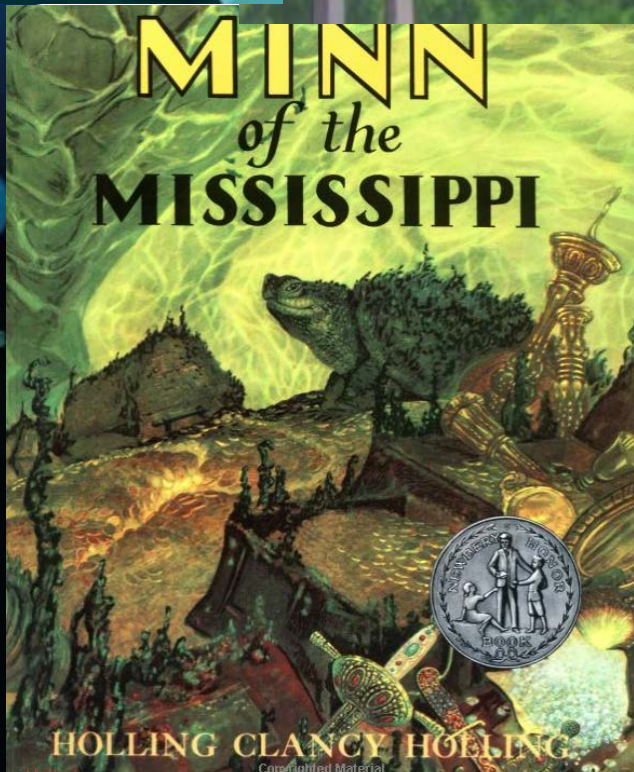
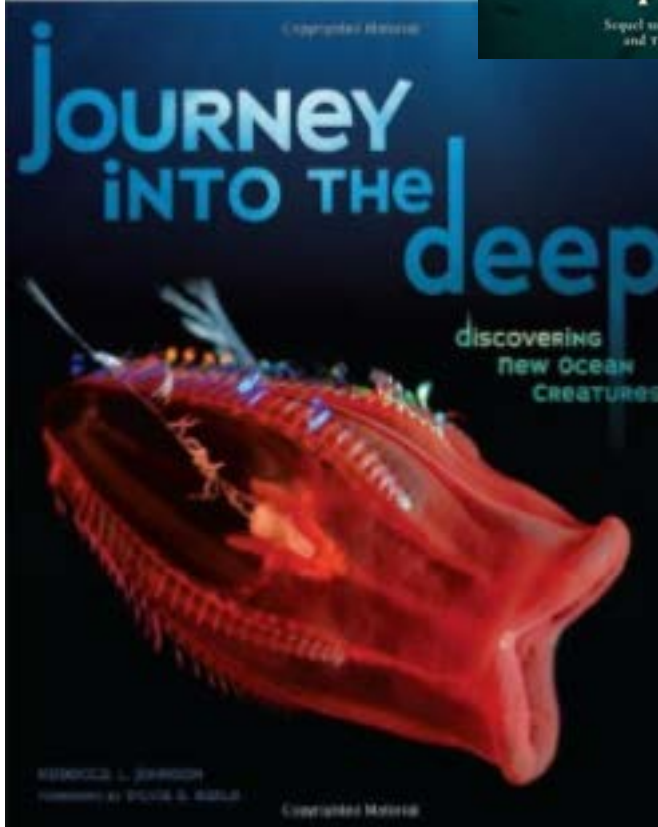
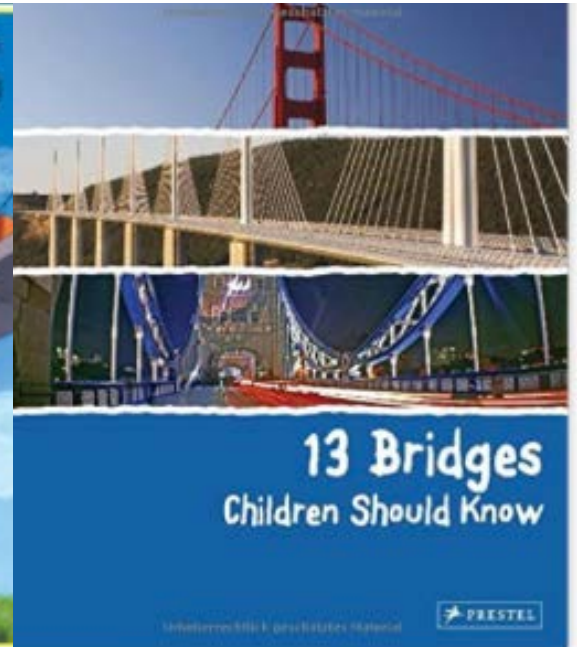
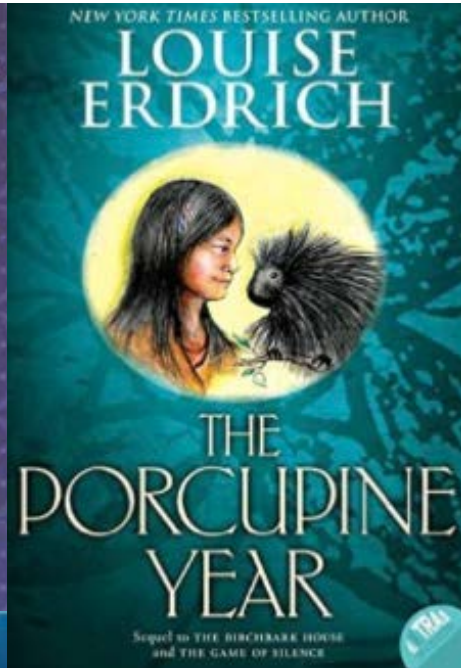
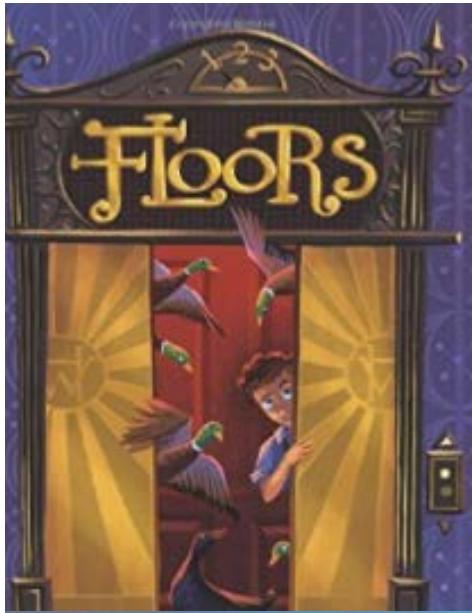
Figure 1

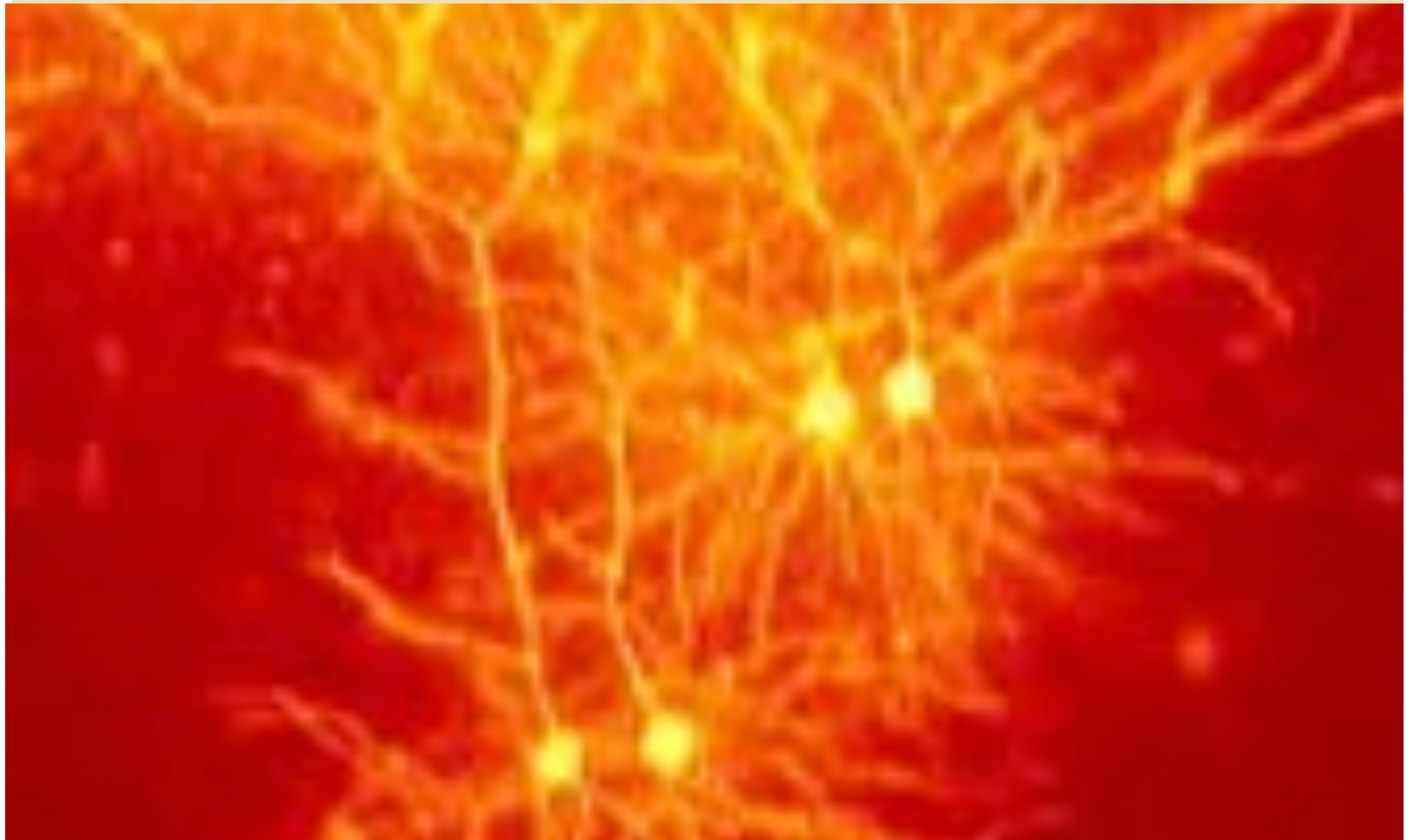
Quarters  
= 500  
new  
words  
gained  
through  
reading



After 5 years

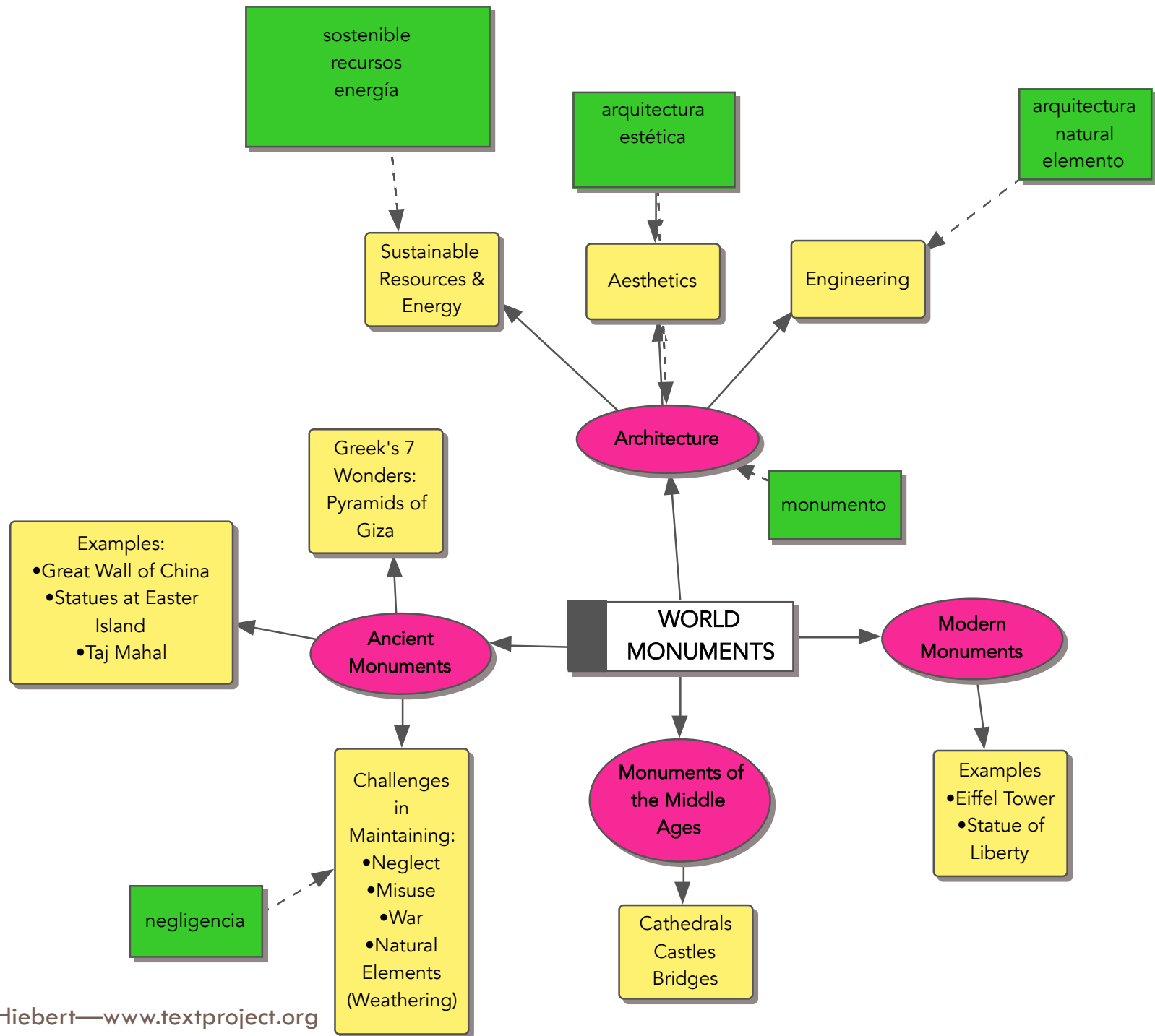


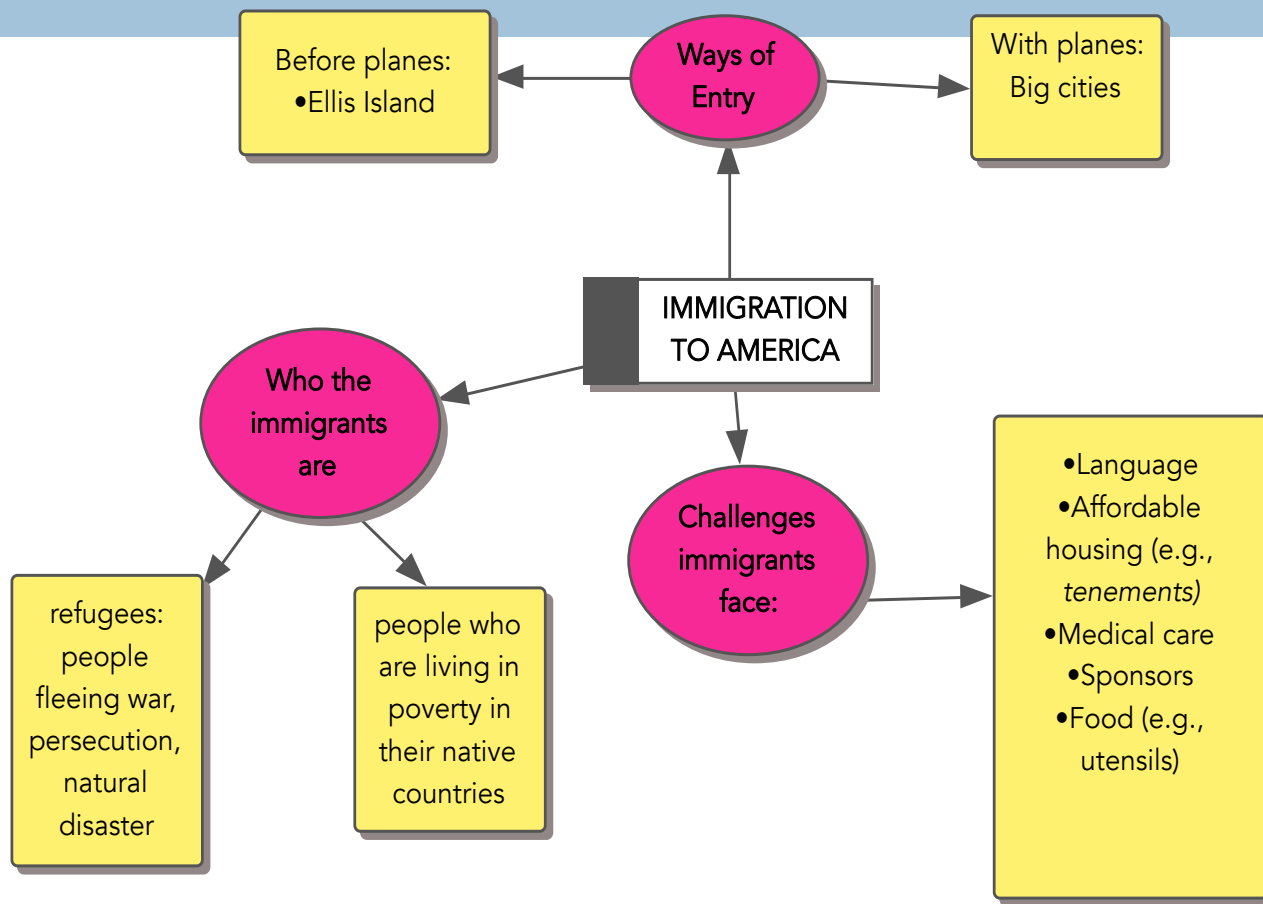




### 3. KEEPING A RECORD OF WHAT'S BEEN LEARNED

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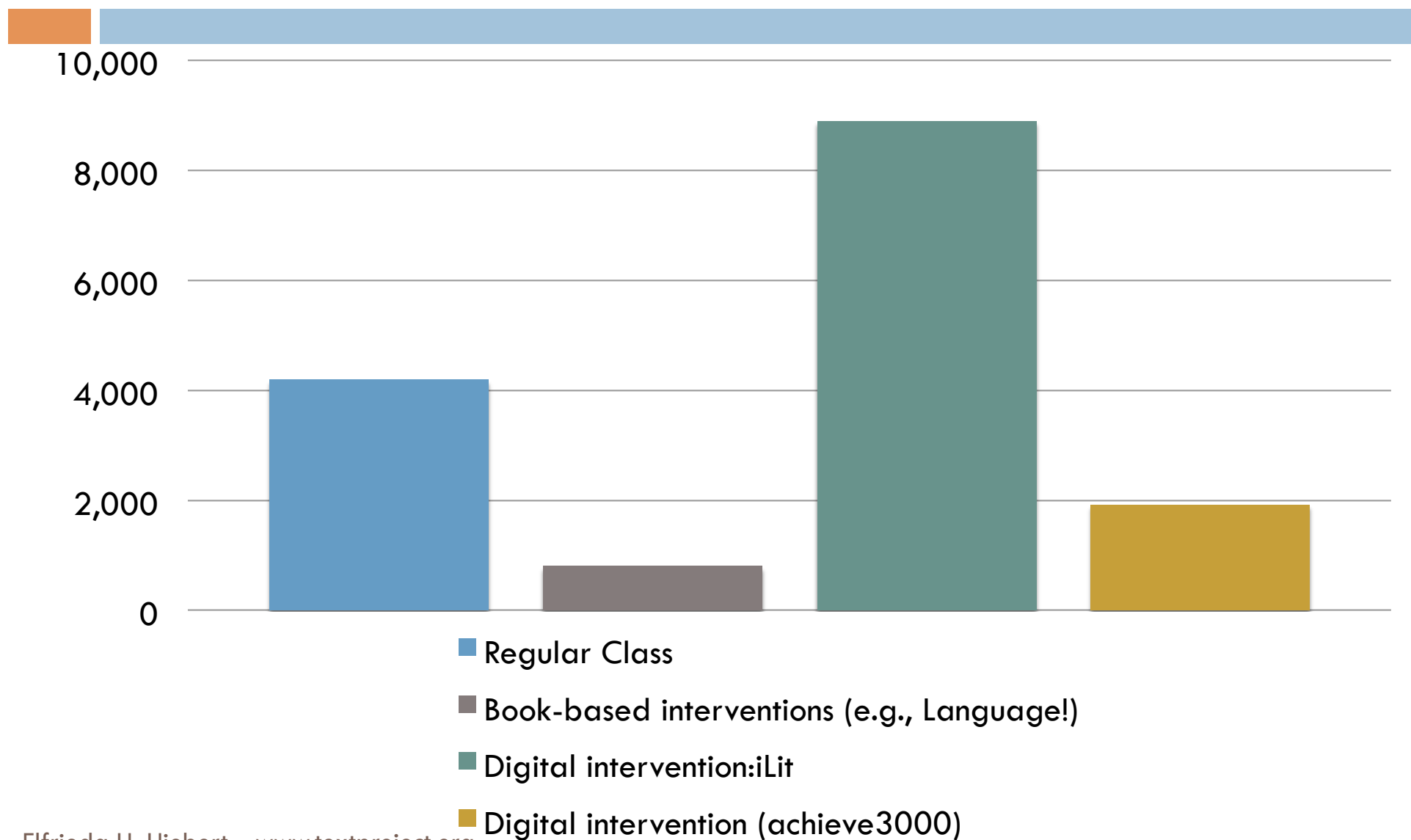




**WHAT** can happen when students read more?

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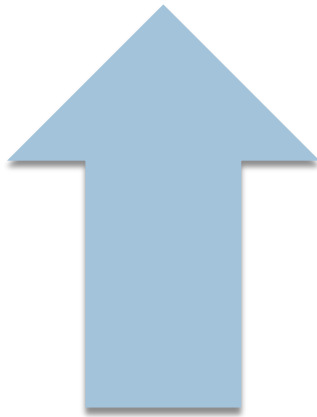
# Words read per week (45-min instructional sessions): Grs. 6-7)



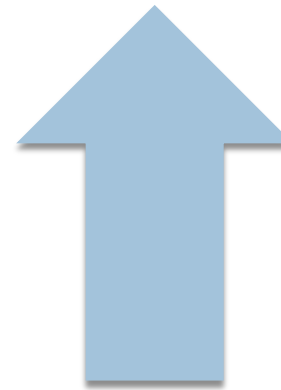
# Gain over a year (GRADE percentiles)

**All 79 classes**  
**(Grades 6 to 12)**

**Grade 9**  
**(sample of 47 classes)**



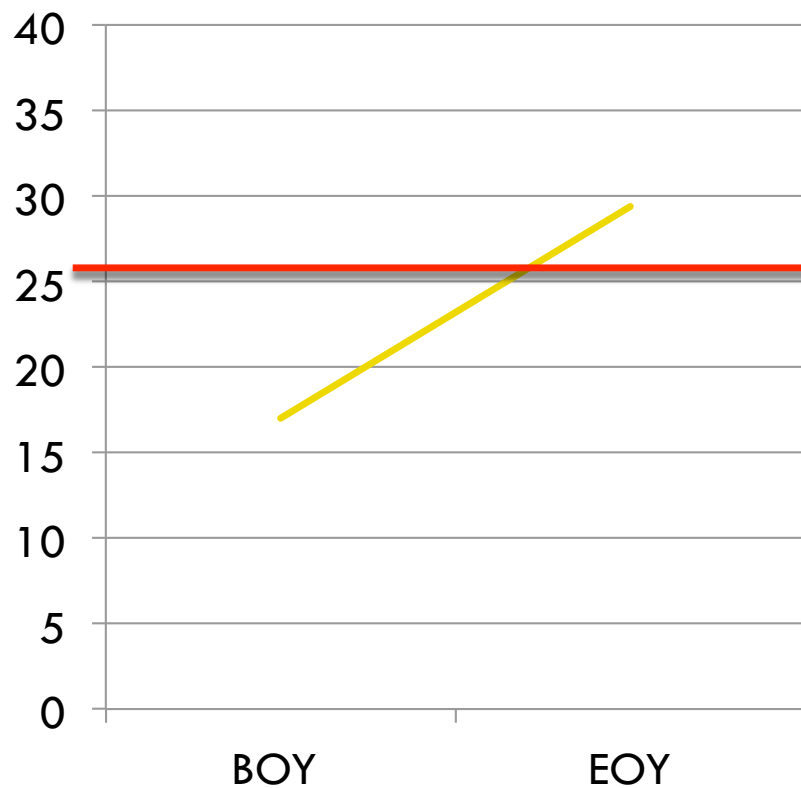
**12.4**



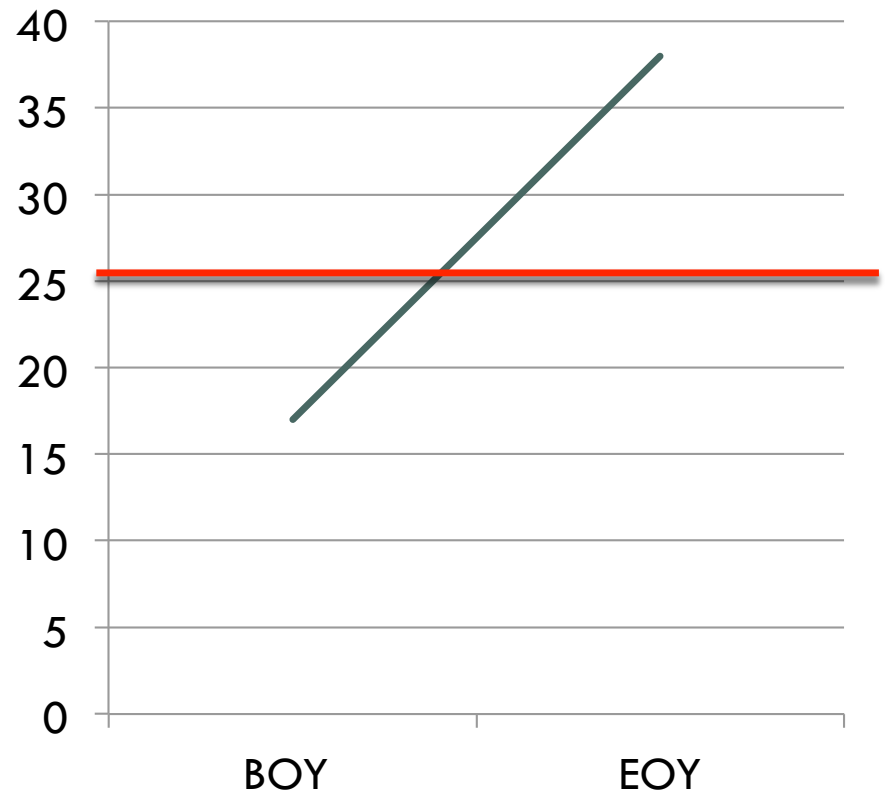
**21**

# AND: Movement out of bottom quartile

ALL (Grs 6-10)



Grade 9





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