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| **Student Score** | **What does this score mean?** | **How can you move to the next level?** |
| **Novice Low** | You understand individual words and recognize a few memorized words and phrases when you hear them spoken and when you read them.  You need to read/hear something more than once.  You need visual cues such as pictures in order to understand what you read/hear. | Try to understand by looking for clues such as pictures, titles, words you recognize, words that are similar to words in your own language |
| **Novice Mid** | You understand words, phrases and an occasional simple sentence and recognize some familiar words and phrases when you hear them spoken and when you read them.  You may need to read/hear something more than once.  You may need visual cues such as pictures, your own knowledge of a topic, familiarity with parts of words or words that are similar to English in order to understand what you read/hear | Try to understand more by looking/listening for clues such as pictures, titles, words or parts of words that you recognize, words that are similar to words in your own language. Think about what you already know about a topic for additional clues about the topic. Then go back and reread/re-listen and see what more you can understand.  Use what the passage says about the topic to understand the main idea. Try to use different approaches to understanding such as looking/listening for clues such as pictures, titles, words or parts of words that you recognize, words that are similar to words in your own language. |
| **Novice High** | You likely understand the main idea in short passages on very familiar topics but rarely the supporting facts.  You can understand the main idea of simple conversations that you overhear.  You usually need to read/hear the passage more than once.  You may need visual cues such as pictures, your own knowledge of a topic, familiarity with parts of words or words that are similar to English in order to understand what you read/hear. | Use what the passage says about the topic to understand the main idea and look for some supporting facts. Try to use different approaches to understanding such as looking/listening for clues such as pictures, titles, words or parts of words that you recognize, words that are similar to words in your own language. Use what you already know about a topic for additional clues about the topic. Then go back and reread/re-listen and see what more you can understand. |
| **Intermediate Low** | You likely understand the main idea and possibly some supporting facts in short passages on very familiar topics like everyday life, personal interests, or studies.  You can understand the main idea in conversations that you overhear.  You usually need to read/hear the passage more than once.  You usually need visual cues, context clues, and prior knowledge to help you understand what you read/hear. | Use what the passage says about the topic to understand the main idea and look for some supporting facts. Try to use different approaches to understanding such as looking/listening for clues such as words or parts of words that you recognize, words that are similar to words in your own language, word order and form. Use what you already know about a topic for additional clues about what the author wants you to understand. Then go back and reread/re-listen to get more information. |
| **Intermediate Mid** | You easily understand the main ideas and supporting facts in short passages, simple narratives and descriptive passages on familiar topics like everyday life, personal interests, and studies.  I can sometimes follow stories and descriptions about events and experiences in various time frames.  I can usually understand a few details of what I overhear in conversations, even when something unexpected is expressed.  I can sometimes follow what I hear about events and experiences in various time frames.  You may need to read/hear complex passages more than once. Context clues or prior knowledge may help you understand what you read/hear. | Practice reading/listening to longer passages or simple stories. To deepen your understanding start to look at how the passage is organized. Compare what you read or hear to what you already know and to what you expected to find out.  Frequently read/listen to longer passages, stories, news reports. To deepen your understanding start to look at how the passage is organized. Pause frequently to check your understanding. Compare what you read or hear to what you already know and to what you expected to find out. See what the details add up to. Any new insight? |
| **Intermediate High** | You fully understand and with ease main ideas and supporting facts in short passages, simple narratives and descriptive passages on familiar topics.  In addition, you can understand some more complex passages on less familiar topics.  You can usually understand a few details of what I overhear in conversations, even when something unexpected is expressed.  I can sometimes follow what I hear about events and experiences in various time frames.  You may need to read/hear complex passages more than once.  Your knowledge of the language, your ability to tell the difference between a main idea and a detail, and your ability to use context clues and inferencing may help you understand what you read/hear. | Frequently read/listen to longer passages, stories, news reports on lots of different topics. Use the organization of the text to help you read and listen more efficiently. Pause frequently to check your understanding. Compare what you read or hear to what you already know and to what you expected to find out. See what the details add up to. Any new insight? |
| **Advanced** | You are able to understand conventional narrative and descriptive texts that contain a clear underlying structure across major time frames, though comprehension may be uneven.  Main ideas and supporting details are comprehensible with familiar situational subject matter containing high-frequency vocabulary and structures.  I can follow stories and descriptions of some length and in various time frames.  I can understand information presented in a variety of genres, even when something unexpected is expressed.  I can follow stories and descriptions of some lengths and in various time frames and genres.  Some new subject matter in areas of general interest will be generally understood. | Continue developing your skills by reading text or listening to passages that contain extended narration and more complex language on topics beyond the personal and general. Read articles, and other written words, or listen to spoken language about community or world issues. Develop strategies to understand others’ opinions and support of those opinions as well as the abstract treatment of topics and discussion of a hypothetical nature. |