

Debbie Hepplewhite's 'spoken word' oral segmenting test

name:	test 1:
date of birth:	age: date:
	test 2:
	age: date:

"I am going to say some words one at a time and I would like you to break each word up into its smallest sounds for me please. For example, if I said the word 'cat', what sounds can you hear in the word?" **No matter what response the student gives, go on to model that the sounds in the word are /k/ /a/ /t/ and say these sounds as close as you can to the sounds (phonemes) in the real word ('purely') before proceeding with the test. Ask the student to tally the sounds he or she identifies to left-hand thumb and fingers to remove ambiguity of the number of sounds.**

Indicate how the student breaks up the words by recording what he or she 'says' next to the test word or mark the words. Does the student struggle to break up the words or is there an automatic and confident response? Does the student resort to a 'three-beat' pattern throughout? Does the student 'say the sounds' according to his or her knowledge of the spelling rather than say the individual sounds in the word? For example, does the student convert spelling to sounds: /f/ /r/ /a/ /m/ /e/ instead of /f/ /r/ /a/ /i/ /m/?

3 sounds	4 sounds (end cl.)	4 sounds (beg. cl.)	5 sounds
b a n	s a n d	f r a m e	s t a m p
l e g	k e p t	g r e e n	s p e n t
h i t	m i l k	c l i m b	t w i s t
m o s s	l o s t	s t o l e	f r o n d
c u p	h u m p	p r u n e	c r u s t
score: /5	score: /5	score: /5	score: /5

notes: score: /20

"Now I'm going to say some words which aren't real words - they are what we call 'nonsense' words. Please can you do the same as before – tally the sounds to thumb and fingers and split each word up into its smallest sounds." **Say the word 'shup' and ensure the student understands that there are three sounds /sh/ /u/ /p/ said 'purely'.**

3 sounds	4 sounds (end cl.)	4 sounds (beg. cl.)	5 sounds
sh a n	n a n t	c r a i b	th r a n d
ch e p	p e l p	s l e z	sh r e e m s
th i m	sh i n d	b l i g h n	s p r i t
p o s s	f o m p	s p o a t	t r o s k
w u t	m u l b	d r o o m	s c r o o p
score: /5	score: /5	score: /5	score: /5

notes: score: /20
total score (circle): /40