

Reader's Name _____ Date _____

Excerpt from *Ramona Forever* by Beverly Cleary

Book Introduction:

Say this to the reader before they begin reading the text. "In this book, Willa Jean is being babysat by Ramona. Willa Jean is playing with an accordion. Please read aloud the first section. Continue reading on in your head when you get to this line. After you finish reading I will ask you to retell what you read and you will answer a few questions about the text. "

During & after the running record, you may make these observations & notes to inform instruction:

- Self-corrects;
- Pauses while reading to think;
- Uses more than one strategy to figure out unfamiliar words
- Uses word parts to solve unfamiliar words (prefixes, suffices, endings, etc.);
- Miscues make sense;
- Miscues fit the syntax or structure of the sentence;
- Miscues look similar to words in the text;
- Figures out the meaning of unfamiliar words- if the child mispronounces a word during the running record ask the child if they know the meaning of the word once they finish reading the excerpt.

Running Record; For the first 100 words, record the miscues and self-corrections. Later you may code them using miscue analysis (MSV). Stop when the child has made 5 errors and go back to the previous level.

Willa Jean returned to the accordion as if it might have learned to play while she let it rest, but no, it went right on shrieking and groaning. "I know how I'll make it play," she said.

Ramona turned from the window in time to see Willa Jean set her accordion on one end on the floor. Holding it down with one foot through the strap, she used both hands to stretch it up as high as she could pull it. Then, as Ramona understood what she was about to do and tried to grab her, Willa Jean quickly took her foot out of the strap, turned, sat on the upended accordion, and lifted both feet from the floor. As she sank down, the accordion uttered one long screech, as

if it were dying in agony.

Reader can continue on reading silently at this point.

“Willa Jean!” cried Ramona, horrified and delighted by the dreadful piercing noise that let her ears ringing. Willa Jean jumped up beaming. The accordion, Ramona could see, would never rise again. Its bellows had split, silencing it forever. “You broke it,” Ramona said, knowing she might have done the same thing at Willa Jean’s age.

“I don’t care,” said Willa Jean. “I made a big noise, and now I don’t want it anymore.”

Mrs. Kemp burst in to see what had happened. “You naughty girls!” she cried when she saw the remains of Uncle Hobart’s present.

“But, I didn’t do it,” protested Ramona. “It’s not my fault.”

“An expensive musical instrument is ruined,” said Mrs. Kemp. “You’re a big girl, Ramona. You should know better than let Willa Jean break it.” She turned to her granddaughter. “Aren’t you ashamed of yourself?”

“No,” said Willa Jean. “It’s a dumb old thing that wouldn’t play.”

Total miscues: ____

Self corrections: ____

Accuracy rate: circle the number of miscues the reader did not self-correct

100%	99%	98%	97%	96%
0 errors	1 error	2 errors	3 errors	4 errors

96%-100% accuracy is necessary to determine a child's independent reading level. Try a lower level if the reader made five or more miscues.

Literal Retell: Say, "Please retell or summarize what you just read." Write notes of the reader's retell on the back of the page.

Comprehension Questions:

1. *Was it Ramona's fault that the accordion broke?*
2. *Why was Mrs Kemp mad at Ramona?*
3. *When Mrs Kemp approached Willa Jean, she said, "Aren't you ashamed of yourself?" How did Willa Jean respond?*
4. *How would you describe Willa Jean?*