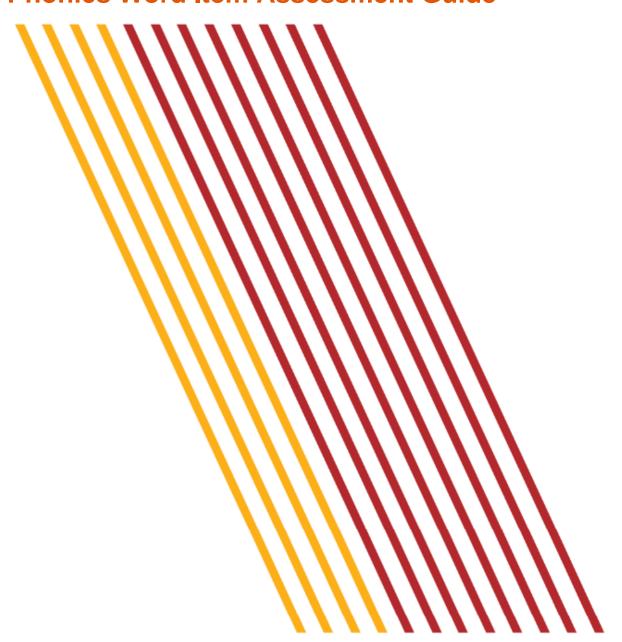




Diagnostic Assessment Tools in English (DATE)

Phonics Word Item Assessment Guide



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1. Introduction

The purpose of this guide is to support administration of the Diagnostic Assessment Tools in English (DATE) Phonics Word Item Assessment, which has been developed to assess a student's ability to use phonics knowledge and skills to decode a word. The guide supports teachers by providing:

- advice on the individual items in the Phonics Word Item Assessment, including the phonics knowledge each word assesses
- guidance on determining whether student attempts were correct or incorrect and how this can inform focused teaching for individual and groups of students.

The Phonics Word Item Assessment complements existing assessment items already in the DATE and helps to identify students' progress in developing literacy skills. The assessment is organised into 4 phonics knowledge skill lists, with 2 choices of word lists provided for each skill (i.e., 8 assessment word lists in total). The word lists are sequenced and start with beginning phonics skills and move to more complex knowledge and skills, as follows:

- vowel, consonant (VC) and consonant, vowel, consonant (CVC) words (where 'V' refers to vowel and 'C' refers to consonant)
- consonant digraphs and one syllable words
- split/vowel digraphs and longer one syllable words
- multisyllabic and more complex words including trigraphs.

Students can be reassessed at any time to check or monitor progress. When reassessing the same phonics knowledge skill set it is recommended to choose a different list of words, if possible, so that the student is being assessed using unseen or new words.

2. Learning to read

Competent readers:

- are quick to recognise words
- automatically use visual and phonological information to identify sounds in a word accurately
- automatically recall letter patterns without relying on working memory
- use this knowledge to decode new vocabulary.

Learning the patterns of letter-sound relationships in English assists with becoming an independent reader, however some words are not spelled phonetically. While there are only 44 sounds (phonemes), there are many letter-sound combinations, ambiguities and exceptions with only 26 letters (graphemes) to represent these. Explicit teaching of letter-sound patterns (phonics) is important until they are recognised automatically. Words and patterns that appear frequently are more likely to be learnt quickly, but words with irregular patterns that also appear frequently require further explicit teaching so they can be read automatically.

Students may read a common, English word using a range of strategies such as:

- memorisation of high frequency words
- using contextual cues to predict
- applying phonics knowledge and sounding out and blending.

3. Why do we assess non-words?

Non-words are included in the new phonics items to assess whether students are using phonics knowledge and skills to decode the word. As they are not actual words, students are unlikely to have seen or been taught them. Therefore, they use their phonics knowledge and skills to 'sound out' or decode the non-word. Assessing students' reading of non-words allows teachers to identify which combinations of letter-sounds in English students have learnt, to inform their teaching.

4. Administering the new items

Instructional text for teachers is provided in DATE to support administration of the assessment, as well as a link to the word list that needs to be printed for the selected assessment.

The assessment comprises a word list that includes a mix of real English words and non-words to be read aloud by the student. The instructional text in DATE will ask you to place the printed word list in front of the student with a blank sheet of paper over the list so that only one word is showing at a time. It is then recommended that you begin the assessment by saying:

"I am going to show you some words. Some are real words and some are made up words. I want you to look at these words and read them to me."

The teacher then proceeds to show the student the words in order and ask that they be read aloud. The student responses are then recorded in DATE.

5. Summary of the word lists

The following tables summarise what each of the 8 word lists can be used to assess, in terms of a student's phonics knowledge.

Note: 'd' indicates the letter (grapheme), /d/ indicates the sound (phoneme).

A. Foundation – List A: VC and CVC words

The table below provides a summary of the total number of VC words (4) and CVC words (16) in VC and CVC words List A (20 words), the number of non-words (15), the number of real English words (5) and identifies the single phoneme/graphemes being assessed.

Total	Non-words	Real English	VC and CVC	Common single phoneme/		eme/
words		words	words	graphemes		
20	15	5	VC – 4 words	a - 5	j - 1	s - 1
			CVC – 16 words	b - 2	k - 2	t – 3
				c - 1	l - 1	u - 1
				d - 3	m - 3	v - 2
				e - 3	n - 1	w - 1
				f - 1	o - 5	x - 2
				g - 3	p - 4	y - 1
				h - 1	q - 1	z - 1
				i – 6	r – 1	

B. Foundation – List B: VC and CVC words

The table below provides a summary of the total number of VC words (4) and CVC words (16) in VC and CVC words List B (20 words), the number of non-words (16), the number of real English words (4) and identifies the single phoneme/graphemes being assessed.

Total words	Non-words	Real English words	VC and CVC words	Common single phoneme/ graphemes			
20	16	4	VC – 4 words	a– 6	j - 2	q - 1	y - 1
			CVC – 16	b - 3	k - 1	r - 1	z - 2
			words	c - 1	l - 1	s - 1	
				d - 4	m - 2	t – 3	
				e - 3	h - 1	u - 3	
				f - 1	n - 3	v – 2	
				g - 2	o - 4	w - 1	
				i – 4	p - 2	x - 2	

C. Level 1 – List A: Consonant digraphs and one syllable words

The table below provides a summary of the total number of CVCC words (8) and CCVC words (8) in the consonant digraph and one syllable words List A (16 words), the number of non-words (8), the number of real English words (8) and identifies the consonant digraphs being assessed in these words.

Total words	Non words	Real words	Consonant digraphs	CVCC/CCVC words
16	8	8	sh – 2	CVCC – 8 words
			th – 2	CCVC – 8 words
			ch – 1	
			ck – 1	
			ss – 1	
			II – 1	
			ff – 1	
			zz – 1	

D. Level 1 – List B: Consonant digraphs and one syllable words

The table below provides a summary of the total number of CVCC words (9) and CCVC words (7) in the consonant digraph and one syllable words List B (16 words), the number of non-words (8), the number of real English words (8) and identifies the consonant digraphs being assessed in these words.

Total words	Non words	Real	Consonant	CVCC/CCVC words
		words	digraphs	
16	8	8	ck – 2	CVCC – 9 words
			sh – 1	CCVC – 7 words
			ch – 1	
			ng – 1	
			II – 1	
			ff – 1	
			th – 1	
			ss – 1	

E. Level 2 – List A: Split/vowel digraphs and longer one syllable words

The table below provides a summary of the total number of CCVCC words (3) and the CCCVC words (2) in the split/vowel digraphs and longer one syllable words List A (22 words), the number of non-words (8), the number of real English words (14) and identifies the split/vowel digraphs being assessed in these words.

Total words	Non words	Real words	Split digraphs	Vowel digraphs	CCVCC/CCCVC words
22	8	14	i_e – 2	ee – 2	CCVCC – 3
			a_e – 1	oi – 1	words
			o_e – 1	00-1	CCCVC – 2
			u_e – 1	ai – 1	words
				ay — 1	
				ue – 1	
				ea – 1	
				oy – 1	
				ow – 1	
				oa – 1	

F. Level 2 – List B: Split/vowel digraphs and longer one syllable words

The table below provides a summary of the total number of CCVCC words (3) and CCCVC words (2) in the split/vowel digraph and longer one syllable words List B (22 words), the number of non-words (8), the number of real English words (14) and identifies the split/vowel digraphs being assessed in these words.

Total	Non words	Real words	Split digraphs	Vowel digraphs	CCVCC/CCCVC
words					words
22	8	14	i_e – 2	ee – 2	CCVCC – 3
			a_e – 3	oi – 1	words
			o_e – 1	ow – 2	CCCVC – 2
				00 – 1	words
				ai – 1	
				ea – 1	
				oy – 1	
				au – 1	

G. Level 2 or 3 – List A: Multisyllabic and more complex words including trigraphs

The table below provides a summary of the total number of multisyllabic words (6) in the multisyllabic and more complex words including trigraphs List A (18 words), the number of non-words (8), the number of real English words (10) and identifies the r controlled vowel and less common graphemes being assessed in these words.

Total words	Non words	Real words	r controlled vowel	Less common grapheme	Multisyllabic
18	8	10	ar – 5 er – 1	igh – 3 air – 1	6 words
			or – 3	schwa – 1 y (/ i: /) – 1	

H. Level 2 or 3 – List B: Multisyllabic and more complex words including trigraphs

The table below provides a summary of the total number of multisyllabic words (6) in the multisyllabic and more complex words including trigraphs List B (18 words), the number of non-words (8), the number of real English words (10) and identifies the r controlled vowel and less common graphemes being assessed in these words.

Total words	Non words	Real words	r controlled vowel	Less common grapheme	Multisyllabic
18	8	10	ar – 4	igh – 2	6 words
			ir – 2	ph – 1	
			or – 3	air – 1	
			er - 2	schwa – 1	

6. Phonics knowledge and word recognition indicator guide

The following tables show the student phonics knowledge aligned to each word in the Phonics Word Item Assessment. For each word list they indicate the pattern of phonic elements in each word and what teachers are able to observe in terms of students' phonics knowledge.

A. Foundation – List A: VC and CVC words

The table below provides a summary of the pattern of phonic elements in each VC or CVC word and what teachers are able to observe in terms of students' phonics knowledge with that word.

Word:	Pattern of phonic elements	Opportunity to observe
ot	blends phonemes of taught graphemes to decode VC words says the most common phoneme for all single - letter graphemes	common phoneme for graphemes o, t VC word
ар	blends phonemes of taught graphemes to decode VC words says the most common phoneme for all single - letter graphemes	common phoneme for graphemes a, p VC word
ix	blends phonemes of taught graphemes to decode VC words says the most common phoneme for all single - letter graphemes	common phoneme for graphemes i, x VC word
iv	blends phonemes of taught graphemes to decode VC words says the most common phoneme for all single - letter graphemes	common phoneme for graphemes i, v VC word
fot	blends phonemes of taught graphemes to decode CVC words says the most common phoneme for all single - letter graphemes	common phoneme for graphemes f, o, t CVC word
keb	blends phonemes of taught graphemes to decode CVC words says the most common phoneme for all single - letter graphemes	common phoneme for graphemes k, e, b CVC word
gan	blends phonemes of taught graphemes to decode CVC words says the most common phoneme for all single - letter graphemes	common phoneme for graphemes g, a, n CVC word
mep	blends phonemes of taught graphemes to decode CVC words says the most common phoneme for all single - letter graphemes	common phoneme for graphemes m, e, p CVC word
gax	blends phonemes of taught graphemes to decode CVC words says the most common phoneme for all single - letter graphemes	common phoneme for graphemes g, a, x CVC word
zim	blends phonemes of taught graphemes to decode CVC words says the most common phoneme for all single - letter graphemes	common phoneme for graphemes z, i, m CVC word
com	blends phonemes of taught graphemes to decode CVC words says the most common phoneme for all single - letter graphemes	common phoneme for graphemes c, o, m CVC word

Word:	Pattern of phonic elements	Opportunity to observe
vop	blends phonemes of taught graphemes to decode CVC	common phoneme for
	says the most common phoneme for all single - letter graphemes	graphemes v, o, p CVC word
het	blends phonemes of taught graphemes to decode CVC words says the most common phoneme for all single - letter	common phoneme for graphemes h, e, t
	graphemes	CVC word
yab	blends phonemes of taught graphemes to decode CVC words says the most common phoneme for all single - letter graphemes	common phoneme for graphemes y, a, b CVC word
wid	blends phonemes of taught graphemes to decode CVC words says the most common phoneme for all single - letter graphemes	common phoneme for graphemes w, i, d CVC word
sud	blends phonemes of taught graphemes to decode CVC words says the most common phoneme for all single - letter graphemes	common phoneme for graphemes s, u, d CVC word
jag	blends phonemes of taught graphemes to decode CVC words says the most common phoneme for all single - letter graphemes	common phoneme for graphemes j, a, g CVC word
rod	blends phonemes of taught graphemes to decode CVC words says the most common phoneme for all single - letter graphemes	common phoneme for graphemes r, o, d CVC word
quip*	says the most common phoneme for all single - letter graphemes recognises qu as consonant - vowel blend* with two phonemes	common phonemes for graphemes q+u (kw), i, p
ilk	says the most common phoneme for all single - letter graphemes	common phoneme for graphemes i, l, k VCC word

^{*}for 'quip' the 2 letter (grapheme) sequence 'qu' at the beginning represents the 2 consonant vowel blend sound sequence/kw/ as in 'quit'. Brooks, G., Beard, R., & Ampaw - Farr, J. (2021). 'English has 100+ phonemes': some errors and confusions in contemporary commercial phonics schemes. *Research Papers in Education*, 36(1), 96 - 126.

B. Foundation – List B: VC and CVC words

The table below provides a summary of the pattern of phonic elements in each VC or CVC word and what teachers are able to observe in terms of students' phonics knowledge with that word.

Word:	Pattern of phonic elements	Opportunity to observe
ib	blends phonemes of taught graphemes to decode VC words says the most common phoneme for all single - letter graphemes	common phoneme for graphemes i, b VC word
ac	blends phonemes of taught graphemes to decode VC words says the most common phoneme for all single - letter graphemes	common phoneme for graphemes a, c VC word

Word:	Pattern of phonic elements	Opportunity to observe
ud	blends phonemes of taught graphemes to decode VC words says the most common phoneme for all single - letter graphemes.	common phoneme for graphemes u, d VC word
av	blends phonemes of taught graphemes to decode VC words says the most common phoneme for all single - letter graphemes	common phoneme for graphemes a, v VC word
von	blends phonemes of taught graphemes to decode CVC words says the most common phoneme for all single - letter graphemes	common phoneme for graphemes v, o, n CVC word
lig	blends phonemes of taught graphemes to decode CVC words says the most common phoneme for all single - letter graphemes	common phoneme for graphemes I, i, g CVC word
tem	blends phonemes of taught graphemes to decode CVC words says the most common phoneme for all single - letter graphemes	common phoneme for graphemes t, e, m CVC word
jat	blends phonemes of taught graphemes to decode CVC words says the most common phoneme for all single - letter graphemes	common phoneme for graphemes j, a, t CVC word
ind	says the most common phoneme for all single - letter graphemes	common phoneme for graphemes i, n, d
emp	says the most common phoneme for all single - letter graphemes	common phoneme for graphemes e, m, p
hab	blends phonemes of taught graphemes to decode CVC words says the most common phoneme for all single - letter graphemes	common phoneme for graphemes h, a, b CVC word
jek	blends phonemes of taught graphemes to decode CVC words says the most common phoneme for all single - letter graphemes	common phoneme for graphemes j, e, k CVC word
zan	blends phonemes of taught graphemes to decode CVC words says the most common phoneme for all single - letter graphemes	common phoneme for graphemes z, a, n CVC word
yub	blends phonemes of taught graphemes to decode CVC words says the most common phoneme for all single - letter graphemes	common phoneme for graphemes y, u, b CVC word

Word:	Pattern of phonic elements	Opportunity to observe
wod	blends phonemes of taught graphemes to decode CVC words	common phoneme for graphemes w, o, d
	says the most common phoneme for all single - letter graphemes	CVC word
gop	blends phonemes of taught graphemes to decode CVC words	common phoneme for graphemes g, o, p
	says the most common phoneme for all single - letter graphemes	CVC word
fax	blends phonemes of taught graphemes to decode CVC words	common phoneme for graphemes f, a, x
	says the most common phoneme for all single - letter graphemes	CVC word
sod	blends phonemes of taught graphemes to decode CVC words	common phoneme for graphemes s, o, d
	says the most common phoneme for all single - letter graphemes	CVC word
rut	blends phonemes of taught graphemes to decode CVC words	common phoneme for graphemes r, u, t
	says the most common phoneme for all single - letter graphemes	CVC word
quiz*	says the most common phoneme for all single - letter graphemes	common phonemes for graphemes q+u (kw), i, z
	recognises qu as consonant - vowel blend with two phonemes	

^{*}for 'quiz' the 2 letter (grapheme) sequence 'qu' at the beginning represents the 2 consonant vowel blend sound sequence/kw/ as in 'quit'.

C. Level 1 – List A: Consonant digraphs and one syllable words

The table below provides a summary of the pattern of phonic elements in each one syllable word, the consonant digraph or consonant blend in the word, and what teachers are able to observe in terms of students' phonics knowledge with that word.

Word:	Pattern of phonic elements	Opportunity to observe
frot	segments CCVC words containing consonant blends	common phoneme for graphemes f, r, o, t CCVC word
kazz	reads single - syllable words with taught consonant segments CVCC words containing consonant digraphs	common phoneme for graphemes k, a consonant digraph zz CVCC word
drap	segments CCVC words containing consonant blends	common phoneme for graphemes d, r, a, p CCVC word

Word:	Pattern of phonic elements	Opportunity to observe
shan	reads single - syllable words with taught consonant	common phoneme for
	segments CCVC words containing consonant digraphs	graphemes a, n
		consonant digraph sh
		CCVC word
poth	reads single - syllable words with taught consonant digraphs	common phoneme for graphemes p, o
	segments CVCC words containing consonant digraphs	consonant digraph th
		CVCC word
lect	segments CVCC words containing consonant blends	common phoneme for
		graphemes I, e, c, t
		CVCC word
shup	reads single - syllable words with taught consonant digraphs	common phoneme for graphemes u, p
	segments CCVC words containing consonant digraphs	consonant digraph sh
		CCVC word
criff	reads single - syllable words with taught consonant	common phoneme for
	digraphs	graphemes c, r, i
	segments CCVCC words containing consonant digraphs	consonant digraph ff
	and consonant blends	CCVCC word
trip	segments CCVC words containing consonant blends	common phoneme for
		graphemes t, r, i, p
		CCVC word
peck	reads single - syllable words with taught consonant digraphs	common phoneme for graphemes p, e
	segments CVCC words containing consonant digraphs	consonant digraph ck
	segments evec words containing consonant digraphs	CVCC word
thin	reads single - syllable words with taught consonant	common phoneme for
	digraphs	graphemes i, n
	segments CCVC words containing consonant digraphs	consonant digraph th
		CCVC word
press	reads single - syllable words with taught consonant	common phoneme for
	digraphs and consonant blends	graphemes p, r, e
		consonant digraph ss
		CCVCC word
self	segments CVCC words containing consonant blends	common phoneme for
		graphemes s, e, l, f
:II-	composts CVCC words containing account blood	CVCC word
milk	segments CVCC words containing consonant blends	common phoneme for graphemes m, i, l, k
		CVCC word
rich	reads single - syllable words with taught consonant	common phoneme for
11011	digraphs	graphemes r, i
	segments CVCC words containing consonant digraphs	consonant digraph ch
		CVCC word
		CVCC WOIG

Word:	Pattern of phonic elements	Opportunity to observe
quill*	reads single - syllable words with taught consonant	common phoneme for
	digraphs	graphemes q+u (kw), i
		consonant digraph II
		CCVCC word

^{*}for 'quill' the 2 letter (grapheme) sequence 'qu' at the beginning represents the 2 consonant vowel blend sound sequence/kw/ as in 'quit'.

D. Level 1 – List B: Consonant digraphs and one syllable words

The table below provides a summary of the pattern of phonic elements in each one syllable word, the consonant digraph or consonant blend in the word, and what teachers are able to observe in terms of students' phonics knowledge with that word.

Word	Pattern of phonic elements	Opportunity to observe
lemp	segments CVCC words consonant blends	common phoneme for graphemes I, e, m, p CVCC word
beff	reads single - syllable words with taught consonant digraphs segments CVCC words containing consonant digraphs	common phoneme for graphemes b, e consonant digraph ff
tull	reads single - syllable words with taught consonant digraphs segments CVCC words containing consonant digraphs	cVCC word common phoneme for graphemes t, u consonant digraph II CVCC word
shog	reads single - syllable words with taught consonant digraphs segments CCVC words containing consonant digraphs	common phoneme for graphemes o, g consonant digraph sh
frem	segments CVCC words containing consonant digraphs	common phoneme for graphemes f, r, e, m CVCC word
tilm	segments CVCC words containing consonant blends	common phoneme for graphemes t, i, l, m CVCC word
hamp	segments CCVC words containing consonant blends	common phoneme for graphemes h, a, m, p CCVC word
jing	reads single - syllable words with taught consonant digraphs segments CVCC words containing consonant digraphs	common phoneme for graphemes j, i consonant digraph ng CVCC word
back	reads single - syllable words with taught consonant digraphs segments CVCC words containing consonant digraphs	common phoneme for graphemes b, a consonant digraph ck

Word	Pattern of phonic elements	Opportunity to observe
chin	reads single - syllable words with taught consonant digraphs	common phoneme for graphemes i, n
	segments CCVC words containing consonant digraphs	consonant digraph ch
		CCVC word
deck	reads single - syllable words with taught consonant digraphs	common phoneme for graphemes d, e
	segments CVCC words containing consonant digraphs	consonant digraph ck
		CVCC word
fled	segments CCVC consonant blends	common phoneme for
		graphemes f, l, e, d
		CCVC word
tram	segments CCVC consonant blends	common phoneme for
		graphemes t, r, a, m
		CCVC word
fund	segments CVCC words consonant	common phoneme for
		graphemes f, u, n, d
		CVCC word
think	reads single - syllable words with taught consonant	common phoneme for
	digraphs	graphemes i, n, k
	segments CCVCC words containing consonant digraphs	consonant digraph th
	and consonant blends	CCVCC word
dress	reads single - syllable words with taught consonant	common phoneme for
	digraphs	graphemes d, r, e
	segments CCVCC words containing consonant	consonant digraph ss
	digraphs and consonant blends words containing	CCVCC word
	consonant digraphs and consonant blends	

E. Level 2 – List A: Split/vowel digraphs and longer one syllable words

The table below provides a summary of the pattern of phonic elements, the vowel digraph or split vowel digraph in the word, and what teachers are able to observe in terms of students' phonics knowledge with that word.

Word	Pattern of phonic elements	Opportunity to observe
tabe	reads single - syllable words with common long vowels CVCe	common phoneme for graphemes t, b split digraph a_e CVCe word
veen	reads words with taught vowel digraph	common phoneme for graphemes v, n vowel digraph ee
stribe	reads single - syllable words with common long vowels CCCVCe	common phoneme for graphemes s, t, r, b split digraph i_e CCCVCe word

Word	Pattern of phonic elements	Opportunity to observe
doil	reads words with taught vowel digraph	common phoneme for graphemes d, l vowel digraph oi
stroke	reads single - syllable words with common long vowels CCCVCe	common phoneme for graphemes s, t, r, k split digraph o_e CCCVCe word
rude	reads single - syllable words with common long vowels CVCe	common phoneme for graphemes r, d split digraph u_e CVCe word
stripe	reads single - syllable words with common long vowels CCCVCe	common phoneme for graphemes s, t, r, p split digraph i_e CCCVCe word
cheek	reads words with taught vowel digraph	common phoneme for grapheme k consonant digraph ch vowel digraph ee
floost	reads words with taught vowel digraph	common phoneme for graphemes f, l, s, t vowel digraph oo
clain	reads words with taught vowel digraph	common phoneme for graphemes c, l, n vowel digraph ai
bluns	reads CCVCC words	common phoneme for graphemes b, l, u, n, s CCVCC word
splam	reads CCCVC words	common phoneme for graphemes s, p, l, a, m CCCVC word
trays	reads words with taught vowel digraph	common phoneme for graphemes t, r, s vowel digraph ay
fuel	reads words with taught vowel digraph	common phoneme for graphemes f, l vowel digraph ue
stream	reads words with taught vowel digraph	common phoneme for graphemes s, t, r, m vowel digraph ea
toy	reads words with taught vowel digraph	common phoneme for grapheme t vowel digraph oy

Word	Pattern of phonic elements	Opportunity to observe
split	reads CCCVC words	common phoneme for graphemes s, p, l, i, t
		CCCVC word
drank	reads CCVCC words reads word with consonant blends and digraphs	common phoneme for graphemes d, r, a, n, k
		CCVCC word
props	reads CCVCC words	common phoneme for graphemes p, r, o, p, s CCVCC word
scram	reads CCCVC words	common phoneme for graphemes s, c, r, a, m CCCVC word
brown	reads words with taught vowel digraph	common phoneme for graphemes b, r, n vowel digraph ow
coats	reads words with taught vowel digraph	common phoneme for graphemes c, t, s vowel digraph oa

F. Level 2 – List B: Split/vowel digraphs and longer one syllable words

The table below provides a summary of the pattern of phonic elements, the vowel digraph or split vowel digraph in the word, and what teachers are able to observe in terms of students' phonics knowledge with that word.

Word	Pattern of phonic elements	Opportunity to observe
zale	reads single - syllable words with common long vowels CVCe	common phoneme for graphemes z, I
		split digraph a_e
		CVCe word
strabe	reads words with taught vowel digraph	common phoneme for
		graphemes s, t, r, b
		split digraph a e
		CCCVCe word
foid	reads words with taught vowel digraph	common phoneme for
		graphemes f, d
		vowel digraph oi
yown	reads words with taught vowel digraph	common phoneme for
		graphemes y, n
		vowel digraph ow
spike	reads single - syllable words with common long vowels	common phoneme for
	CCVCe	graphemes s, p, k
		split digraph i_e
		CCVCe word

Word	Pattern of phonic elements	Opportunity to observe
name	reads single - syllable words with common long vowels CVCe	common phoneme for graphemes n, m split digraph a_e CVCe word
wove	reads single - syllable words with common long vowels CCVCe	common phoneme for graphemes w, v split digraph o_e CCVCe word
strike	reads single - syllable words with common long vowels CCCVCe	common phoneme for graphemes s, t, r, k split digraph i e CCCVCe word
moist	reads words with taught vowel digraph	common phoneme for graphemes m, s, t vowel digraph oi
doom	reads words with taught vowel digraph	common phoneme for graphemes d, m vowel digraph oo
freed	reads words with taught vowel digraph	common phoneme for graphemes f, r, d vowel digraph ee
queen*	reads words with taught vowel digraph	common phoneme for graphemes q+u (kw), n vowel digraph ee
clisk	reads CCVCC words	common phoneme for graphemes c, l, i, s, k CCVCC word
glips	reads CCVCC words	common phoneme for graphemes g, l, i, p, s CCVCC word
scroy	reads words with taught vowel digraph	common phoneme for graphemes s, c, r vowel digraph oy
splad	reads CCCVC words	common phoneme for grapheme s, p, l, a, d CCCVC word
haunt	reads words with taught vowel digraph	common phoneme for graphemes h, n, t vowel digraph au
main	reads words with taught vowel digraph	common phoneme for graphemes m, n vowel digraph ai
drink	reads CCVCC words	common phoneme for graphemes d, r, i, n, k CCVCC word

Word	Pattern of phonic elements	Opportunity to observe
treats	reads words with taught vowel digraph	common phoneme for graphemes t, r, s vowel digraph ea
crowds	reads words with taught vowel digraph	common phoneme for graphemes c, r, d, s vowel digraph ow
scrum	reads CCCVC words	common phoneme for graphemes s, c r, u, m CCCVC word

^{*}for 'queen' the 2 letter (grapheme) sequence 'qu' at the beginning represents the 2 consonant vowel blend sound sequence/kw/ as in 'quit'.

G. Level 2 or 3 – List A: Multisyllabic and more complex words including trigraphs

The table below provides a summary of the pattern of phonic elements in each multisyllabic or more complex word, including trigraphs and what teachers are able to observe in terms of students' phonics knowledge with that word.

Word	Pattern of phonic elements	Opportunity to observe
charb	reads words with r - controlled vowel combinations ar	common phoneme for grapheme b consonant digraph ch r controlled vowel ar
flarm	reads words with r - controlled vowel combinations ar	common phoneme for graphemes f, l, m r controlled vowel ar
herks	reads words with r - controlled vowel combinations er	common phoneme for graphemes h, k, s r controlled vowel er
quorg*	reads words with r - controlled vowel combinations or	common phoneme for graphemes q+u (kw), g r controlled vowel or
tharn	reads words with r - controlled vowel combinations ar	common phoneme for grapheme n consonant digraph th r controlled vowel ar
jorb	reads words with r - controlled vowel combinations or	common phoneme for graphemes j, b r controlled vowel or
quigh*	reads less common graphemes that contain alternative spelling for phonemes	common phoneme for graphemes q+u (kw) less common grapheme igh
skarb	reads words with r - controlled vowel combinations ar	common phoneme for graphemes s, k, b r controlled vowel ar
torn	reads words with r - controlled vowel combinations or	common phoneme for graphemes t, n r controlled vowel or

Word	Pattern of phonic elements	Opportunity to observe
snarl	reads words with r - controlled vowel combinations	common phoneme for
	ar	graphemes s, n, l
		r controlled vowel ar
night	reads less common graphemes that contain	common phoneme for
	alternative spelling for phonemes	graphemes n, t
		less common grapheme igh
stair	reads less common graphemes that contain	common phoneme for
	alternative spelling for phonemes	graphemes s, t
		less common grapheme air
panic	reads multi - syllabic words including those with	common phoneme for
	prefixes and suffixes	graphemes p, a, n, i, c
compact	reads multi - syllabic words including those with	common phoneme for
	prefixes and suffixes	graphemes c, o, m, p, a, t
arrow	reads multi - syllabic words including those with	common phoneme for
	prefixes and suffixes	graphemes a
		consonant digraph rr
		vowel digraph ow
brightly	reads multi - syllabic words including those with	common phoneme for
	prefixes and suffixes	graphemes b, r, t, l
		less common grapheme igh, y
reaching	reads multi - syllabic words including those with	common phoneme for
	prefixes and suffixes	graphemes r, i
		vowel digraph ea
		consonant digraphs ch, ng
tantrum	reads multi - syllabic words including those with	common phoneme for
	prefixes and suffixes	graphemes t, a, n, r, m
		schwa phoneme for u

^{*}for 'quorg' and 'quigh' the 2 letter (grapheme) sequence 'qu' at the beginning represents the 2 consonant vowel blend sound sequence/kw/ as in 'quit'.

H. Level 2 or 3 – List B: Multisyllabic and more complex words including trigraphs

The table below provides a summary of the pattern of phonic elements in each multisyllabic or more complex word, including trigraphs and what teachers are able to observe in terms of students' phonics knowledge with that word.

Word	Pattern of phonic elements	Opportunity to observe
thard	reads words with r - controlled vowel combinations ar	common phoneme for grapheme d
		consonant digraph th
		r controlled vowel ar
shird	reads words with r - controlled vowel combinations ir	common phoneme for grapheme d
		consonant digraph sh
		r controlled vowel ir

Word	Pattern of phonic elements	Opportunity to observe
barst	reads words with r - controlled vowel	common phoneme for
	combinations ar	graphemes b, s, t r controlled vowel ar
harn	reads words with r - controlled vowel	common phoneme for
IIaiii	combinations ar	graphemes h, n
		r controlled vowel ar
short	reads words with r - controlled vowel	common phoneme for
	combinations or	grapheme t
		consonant digraph sh
hauba	was de consideración a construction de const	r controlled vowel or
herbs	reads words with r - controlled vowel combinations er	common phoneme for graphemes h, b, s
		r controlled vowel er
chirp	reads words with r - controlled vowel	common phoneme for
-	combinations ir	grapheme p
		consonant digraph ch
		controlled vowel ir
world	reads words with r - controlled vowel	common phoneme for
	combinations or	graphemes w, l, d r controlled vowel or
forn	reads words with r - controlled vowel	common phoneme for
10111	combinations or	graphemes f, n
		r controlled vowel or
jigh	reads less common graphemes that contain	common phoneme for
	alternative spelling for phonemes	grapheme j
		less common grapheme igh
phope	reads less common graphemes that contain alternative spelling for phonemes	common phoneme for grapheme p
	diternative spenning for phonemes	less common grapheme ph
		split digraph o_e
		CCVCe word
jair	reads less common graphemes that contain	common phoneme for
	alternative spelling for phonemes	graphemes j
		less common grapheme air
comic	reads multi - syllabic words including those with prefixes and suffixes	common phoneme for graphemes c, o, m, i
stopping	reads multi - syllabic words including those with	common phoneme for
arohhilig	prefixes and suffixes	graphemes s, t, o, i
		consonant digraphs pp, ng
marking	reads multi - syllabic words including those with	common phoneme for
	prefixes and suffixes	graphemes m, k, i
		consonant digraph, ng
		r controlled vowel ar

Word	Pattern of phonic elements	Opportunity to observe
second	reads multi - syllabic words including those with prefixes and suffixes	common phoneme for graphemes s, e, c, n, d schwa phoneme for o
pumpkin	reads multi - syllabic words including those with prefixes and suffixes	common phoneme for graphemes p, u, m, k, n schwa phoneme for i
fighters	reads words with taught vowel digraph r controlled vowel er	common phoneme for graphemes f, t, s less common grapheme igh r controlled vowel er

7. Acceptable pronunciations for non-words

Some of the graphemes used in the assessment represent a number of different phonemes. When decoding an English word in the assessment, the student needs to select the correct phoneme for the word, for example the 'ow' in 'blow' should not be pronounced as the 'ow' in 'cow.'

However, when decoding a non-word, all plausible alternative pronunciations are acceptable.

The following tables provide guidance for teachers when recording student responses for acceptable pronunciations of the non-words. When a pronunciation is acceptable it can be assessed as correct.

Note: 'd' indicates the letter (grapheme), /d/ indicates the sound (phoneme)

A. Foundation – List A: VC and CVC words

The following table provides guidance for teachers when recording student responses for acceptable pronunciations of the VC and CVC non-words.

Non words	Acceptable pronunciations	Phonemic representation
ot	rhymes with pot	/v t/
ар	rhymes with zap	/æ p/
ix	rhymes with fix	/ı ks/
iv	rhymes with give	/I v/
fot	'f' as in fun and rhymes with 'pot'	/f o t/
keb	'k' as in 'key' and rhymes with 'web'	/k e b/
gan	'g 'as in 'game' and rhymes with 'fan'	/g æ n/
тер	'm' as in 'mat' and rhymes with 'rep'	/m e p/
gax	'g' as in game and rhymes with 'fax	/g æ ks/
zim	'z' as in zip and rhymes with 'dim'	/z ɪ m/
com	'c' as in cat and rhymes with 'from'	/k p m/

Non words	Acceptable pronunciations	Phonemic representation
vop	'v' as in vet and rhymes with 'hop	/v p p/
het	'h' as in hat and rhymes with 'pet	/h e t/
yab	'y' as in yet and rhymes with 'tab	/j æ b/
wid	'w' as in wet and rhymes with 'hid'	/w i d/

B. Foundation – List B: VC and CVC words

The following table provides guidance for teachers when recording student responses for acceptable pronunciations of the VC and CVC non-words.

Non words	Acceptable pronunciations	Phonemic representation
ib	rhymes with nib	/ɪ b/
ас	rhymes with mac	/æ k/
ud	rhymes with bud	/^ d/
av	rhymes with have	/æ v/
von	'v' as in 'vet' and rhymes with 'on'	/v p n/
lig	'l' as in 'let' and rhymes with 'wig'	/l I g/
tem	't' as in 'top' and rhymes with 'hem'	/t e m
jat	'j 'as in 'jet' and rhymes with 'hat'.	/dʒ æ t/
ind	'i' as in 'it' and rhymes with 'pinned'. Pronunciations that voice the long i vowel sound /aɪ / and rhyme with 'mind' are also acceptable.	/ɪ n d/ OR /aɪ n d/
emp	'e' as in 'egg' and rhymes with 'temp'.	/e m p/
hab	'h' as in 'hat' and rhymes with 'tab'	/h æ b/
jek	'j' as in 'jet' and rhymes with 'trek'	/dʒ e k/
zan	'z' as in 'zip' and rhymes with 'tan'.	/z æ n/
yub	'y' as in 'yet' and rhymes with 'cub'.	/j ^ b/
wod	'w' as in 'wet' and rhymes with 'pod'.	/w p d/
gop	'g' as in 'get' and rhymes with 'hop'.	/g p p/

C. Level 1 – List A: Consonant digraphs and one syllable words

The following table provides guidance for teachers when recording student responses for acceptable pronunciations of the consonant digraphs and one syllable non-words.

No	n words	Acceptable pronunciations	Phonemic representation
fro	t	the onset 'fr' as in 'frog' and rhymes with 'hot'	/frɒt/

kazz	'k' as in 'kid' and rhymes with 'jazz'.	/k æ z/
drap	the onset 'dr' as in 'drop' and rhymes with 'trap'.	/d r æ p/
shan	'sh' as in 'ship' and rhymes with 'can'	/∫ æ n/
poth	'p' as in 'pot' and rhymes with 'moth'. Note: rhyming with 'both' is also acceptable	/p p θ/ OR /p əʊ θ/
lect	'l' as in 'let' and rhymes with 'sect'.	/l e k t/
shup	'sh' as in 'ship' and rhymes with 'pup'.	/ʃ ^ p/
criff	the onset 'cr'as in 'crab' and rhymes with 'cliff'.	/krɪf/

D. Level 1 – List B: Consonant digraphs and one syllable words

The following table provides guidance for teachers when recording student responses for acceptable pronunciations of the consonant digraphs and one syllable non-words.

Non words	Acceptable pronunciations	Phonemic representation
lemp	'l' as in 'lip' and rhymes with 'temp'	/I e m p/
beff	'b' as in 'bat' and rhymes with 'Jeff	/b e f/
tull	't' as in 'top' and rhymes with 'gull'. Pronunciations that rhyme with 'bull' and 'pull' are also acceptable.	/t ^ l/ OR /t ʊ l/
shog	sh' as in 'ship' and rhymes with 'dog'.	/ʃ ɒ g/
frem	the onset 'fr' as in 'frog' and rhymes with 'hem'	/frem/
tilm	't' from 'tap' and rhymes with 'film'.	/tɪlm/
hamp	'h' as in 'hat' and rhymes with 'camp'.	/hæmp/
jing	'j 'as in 'jet' and rhymes with 'king'.	/dʒ ɪ ŋ/

E. Level 2 – List A: Split/vowel digraphs and longer one syllable words

The following table provides guidance for teachers when recording student responses for acceptable pronunciations of the split vowel and vowel digraphs and longer one syllable non-words.

Non words	Acceptable pronunciations Phonemic representa	
tabe	't' as in 'tap' and rhymes with 'babe'	/t eɪ b/
veen	'v' as in 'vet' and rhymes with 'seen'. /v i: n/	
stribe	the onset 'str' as in 'strap' and rhymes with 'scribe'.	/straib/
doil	'd' from 'dog' and rhymes with 'soil'.	/l rc b/
floost	the onset 'fl' as in 'flute' and rhymes with 'boost'. Pronunciations that voice the 'oo' like in 'look' are also acceptable.	flu:st/ OR /flʊst/

Non words	Acceptable pronunciations	Phonemic representation
clain	the onset 'cl 'as in 'clown' and rhymes with 'pain'.	/k l eɪ n/
bluns	the onset 'bl' as in 'blunt' and rhymes with 'suns'.	/b ʌ n s/
splam	the onset 'spl' as in 'splash' and rhymes with 'pram'.	/s p l æ m/

F. Level 2 – List B: Split/vowel digraphs and longer one syllable words

The following table provides guidance for teachers when recording student responses for acceptable pronunciations of the split vowel and vowel digraphs and longer one syllable non-words.

Non words	Acceptable pronunciations	Phonemic representation
zale	'z' as in 'zoo' and rhymes with 'whale'. /z eɪ l/	
strabe	the onset 'str 'as in 'straw' and rhymes with 'babe'. /s t r eɪ b/	
foid	'f' as in 'fun' and rhymes with 'void'.	/f ɔɪ d
yown	combines the 'y' from yellow and rhymes with 'down'.	/j aʊ n/
clisk	the onset 'cl' as in 'clown' and rhymes with 'disk'	/klisk/
glips	the onset 'gl' as in 'glue' and rhymes with 'clips'.	/g I ɪ p s/
scroy	the onset 'scr' as in 'scrap' and rhymes with 'toy'.	/s k r ɔɪ/
splad	the onset 'spl' as in 'splash' and rhymes with 'had'.	/s p l æ d/

G. Level 2 or 3 – List A: Multisyllabic and more complex words including trigraphs

The following table provides guidance for teachers when recording student responses for acceptable pronunciations of the multisyllabic and more complex non-words including trigraphs.

Non words	Acceptable pronunciations	Phonemic representation		
charb	'ch' from 'chop' and rhymes with 'barb'. /t $\int \alpha$: b/			
flarm	the onset 'fl' as in 'flaw' and rhymes with 'harm'.	/f I a: m/		
herks	'h' as in 'hat' and rhymes with 'perks'. /h 3: k s/			
quorg	combines the 'qu' from 'queen' and the 'org' from 'organ'	/kw ɔ: g/		
tharn	combines the 'th' from 'thin', and rhymes with 'barn'. Pronunciations with the voiced sound for /th/ as in 'this' are also acceptable.	/θ a: n/ OR /ð a: n		
jorb	'j' as in 'job' and rhymes with 'absorb'.	/dʒ ɔ: b/		
quigh	'qu' as in 'quite' and rhymes with 'high'.	/kw aɪ/		
skarb	the onset 'sk' as in 'sky' and rhymes with 'barb'.	/s k a: b/		

H. Level 2 or 3 – List B: Multisyllabic and more complex words including trigraphs

The following table provides guidance for teachers when recording student responses for acceptable pronunciations of the multisyllabic and more complex non-words including trigraphs

Non words	Acceptable pronunciations	Phonemic representation
thard	thard 'th' as in 'thick' and rhymes with 'card'.	
	Pronunciations with the voiced sound for 'th' as in 'this'	OR
	are also acceptable.	/ð a: d/.
shird	'sh' as in 'shop' and rhymes with 'third'.	/ʃ 3: d/
barst	'b' as in 'bar' and rhymes with 'fast'	/b a: s t/
harn	'h' as in 'hat' and rhymes with 'barn'.	/h a: n/
forn	'f' as in for and rhymes with 'horn'.	/f ɔ: n/
jigh	'j' in 'jet' and rhymes with 'high'.	/dʒ aɪ/
phope	'ph' in 'photo' and rhymes with 'rope'.	/f əʊ p/
jair	'j' as in 'jet' and rhymes with 'chair'.	./dʒ eə/

8. Student materials

A. Foundation – List A: VC and CVC words

ot ap ix iυ fot keb ga n mep gax zi m co m vop het yab wid sud jag rod quip

ilk

B. Foundation – List B: VC and CVC words

ib ac ud aυ von lig tem jat ind emp hab jek za n yub wod gop fax sod rut quiz

C. Level 1 – List A: Consonant digraphs and one syllable words

frot kazz drap shan poth lect shup criff trip peck thin press self milk rich quill

D. Level 1 – List B: Consonant digraphs and one syllable words

lemp beff tull shog frem tilm hamp jing back chin deck fled tra m fund think dress

tabe veen stribe doil stroke rude stripe cheek floost clain bluns spla m trays fuel strea m toy split drank props scra m brown

coats

zale
strabe
foid
yown
spike
name
wove
strike
moist
doom
freed
queen
clisk
glips
scroy
splad
haunt
main
drink
treats
crowds

scru m

charb flarm herks

tharn

quorg

jorb

quigh

skarb

torn

snarl

night

stair

panic

compact

arrow

brightly

reaching

ta ntru m

thard shird ba rst harn short herbs chirp world forn jigh phope jair comic stopping marking second pumpkin fighters

9. Glossary of terms

The following is a list of terms that are useful for teachers to know as a shared metalanguage with students and colleagues in teaching and assessment.

digraph	A digraph is composed of two or more letters that represent one sound (phoneme). For example: sh.
grapheme	A grapheme is the technical term for a letter, e.g., 'A', 'a', or a combination of two (digraph), three (trigraph), or four letters (quadgraph).
phoneme	A speech sound of which there are 20 vowel sounds/phonemes, and 24 consonant sounds/phonemes in the English language.
phonemic	Ability to focus on the separate, individual sounds in words, the
awareness	phonemes.
	Includes onset - rime identification, initial and final sound segmenting, as well as blending, segmenting, and deleting/manipulating sounds. Is a subset of phonological awareness.
phonics	The phoneme - grapheme relationship in a language.
	Also refers to teaching the sound - letter patterns (graphemes).
r - controlled vowels	A type of vowel sound where a vowel or vowel cluster is combined with /r/. The most common r - controlled vowel sounds are:
(Australian	/er/ - term, firm, squirm, lurk, furry
Curriculum Year 2)	/ar/ - car, harm, charming, marvellous
	/or/ - more, sure, yourself
	/eer/ - hear, here, meerkat
	/air/ - wear, where, hair, share, software.
schwa	A neutral vowel sound typically occurring in unstressed syllables in English
	For example: /a/ in balloon.
	In Australian English pronunciation a schwa sound is sometimes used instead of an r controlled vowel.
stress	The relative emphasis placed on particular words, syllables or sounds
	when speaking. Stress can add to the meaning of the words spoken.
stressed and unstressed sounds	Some sounds in words are pronounced with more emphasis or stress than others. Sounds that are less prominent are called unstressed. For example, in the word giraffe, the stress pattern is gi/RAFFE where the first syllable is unstressed. When students are learning to listen for sounds.
	unstressed sounds can be harder for them to hear and produce.
trigraph	A group of three letters that represent a sound, e.g., 'eau' in 'plateau.
voiced and unvoiced	Voiced sounds are consonant sounds produced using the vocal chords e.g., the 'z' at the end of bees, or 'th' at the start of thin.
consonant sounds	Unvoiced consonant sounds are consonant sounds produced without use of the vocal chords e.g., the 's' in <u>s</u> nake, or the 'th' at the start of then.
	Note that the grapheme 's' in these examples does not provide any visual cues for young readers to know when the sound is voiced or unvoiced.
vowel	A speech sound made where the flow of air through the mouth is not stopped by closing any part of the mouth and a letter that usually represents a vowel sound, e.g., 'a', and sometimes 'y'.
vowel digraph	Vowel digraphs are a combination of two or three vowels that together are associated with one sound, for example, 'ai' or 'ou'. Split vowel digraphs use a medial vowel and 'silent e' at the end of words.

10. Recording sheet

This recording sheet may be used by the teacher if responses are being recorded offline. It should be stored in accordance with the school's assessment, reporting and records policies as relevant.

Student:		Date:	
Phonic knowledge skill set:		Word List:	
Word Checked	Correct response	Interpretation of result	