

**How many Reading Points is this book worth?
(Use your math!)**

1. Determine the **Reading Level** of the book by doing the following. Write down each number as you go.

- Randomly select three 100-word passages from the book.
- Count the number of syllables and the number of sentences in each passage.
- Add the total number of syllables in each passage together to get a grand total number of syllables.
- Add the total number of sentences in each passage together to get a grand total number of sentences.
- Divide each total by three (3) to get an *average* (or *arithmetic mean*) number of syllables and an average number of sentences.
- Plot these averages on the **Fry Graph for Estimating Reading Ages (grade level)** and place a dot where the lines intersect.
- The section of the graph in which the dot is placed is the approximate reading level of the book.

2. Calculate the **Word Count** in the book with this formula:

$$(text\ pages - non-text\ pages) \times words\ per\ page = total\ word\ count$$

Write down each number as you go:

- Select an average page from the book that contains only text and count the words.
- Count the total number of **text pages** in the book. Text pages are pages that have nothing but text on them—no pictures, graphs, diagrams, etc. (Do not include table of contents, preface, index, glossary, etc.)
- Count the total number of **non-text** pages. (Non-text pages are the ones with things other than text on them: pictures, graphs, diagrams, etc.)
- Subtract the number of non-text pages from the number of text pages.
- Multiply the difference by the number of words on an average page (which you counted in the first step). That total is the approximate word count of the book.

3. Now that you know both the **Reading Level** and the **Word Count** of your book, use this formula to calculate the number of **Reading Points** the book is worth:

$$(10 + Reading\ Level) \times (Word\ Count \div 100,000) = Reading\ Points$$

Example: Let's say you have a book with a reading level of 7.6 that has a word count of 112,000. Your equation would look like this:

$$\begin{aligned} &(10 + 7.6) \times (112,000 \div 100,000) \\ &17.6 \times 1.12 \\ &17.6 \times 1.12 = 19.71 \text{ Reading Points} \end{aligned}$$

When you submit a book report on a book that is not on the Accelerated Reader list, you must show your work to illustrate how you arrived at the number of reading points the book is worth, so make sure you count honestly and calculate correctly. (If the book is on the Accelerated Reader list, the point value is already established.)