

Module 8: Maze

Slide 1 – *Module 8: Maze*

This module focuses on the administration and scoring procedures for Maze.

Slide 2 -- *Objectives*

Objectives

Upon completion of this module, participants will:

- Know the Big Idea related to Maze
- Be able to accurately administer and score Maze

Trainer Note: For many participants, this measure is easy to learn to administer and score. The measure can be group-administered for benchmark assessment, or individually administered for progress monitoring. Administration involves reading from a script. Scoring involves using a scoring answer key.

Slide 3 – *Acadience Reading K-6 Measures Assess the Basic Early Literacy Skills*

Maze provides an indicator of silent reading comprehension. It is a different way of measuring comprehension than ORF and provides an additional measure of comprehension.

Slide 4 – *Essential Early Literacy and Reading Skills*

As an assessment of reading comprehension, Maze provides an indication of whether or not a student is understanding what he or she has read.

Slide 5 – *What is Reading Comprehension?*

Reading comprehension is the ultimate goal of all of our reading instruction and assessment activities. It is the ability to understand what is read by interacting with print.

Slide 6 – *Why is Comprehension Important?*

Comprehension is the complex process of gaining meaning from text for a variety of purposes.

Slide 7 – Reading Comprehension Skills

Reading comprehension is founded on and often defined by accurate and fluent reading of connected text. It involves successful language, verbal skills, the use of background knowledge, and working memory.

Slide 8 – What Is Maze?

Maze is a 3-minute indicator of reading comprehension. It can be given to an entire class at one time. Maze is used for benchmark assessment from the beginning of 3rd grade through the end of 6th grade. The score is the number of correct words in 3 minutes minus half the number of incorrect words.

Slide 9 – Design of Maze

The Acadience Reading Maze passages were written by professional authors according to design specifications. Similar to our oral reading fluency passages, Maze represents both narrative and expository text passages which met readability criteria for the grade level as measured by the Acadience Learning Passage Difficulty Index.

Maze is designed so that approximately every seventh word in the passage the student is provided a choice of a correct word and two distractor words.

Slide 10 – What is the Research on Maze?

Evidence supporting the technical adequacy of Maze is strong.

Slide 11 – Maze

This slide provides an overview of Acadience Reading Maze. Maze is a 3-minute measure of reading comprehension that is administered from 3rd through 6th grades. The score is the number of correct words corrected for guessing. I will discuss that more when we get to scoring.

Slides 12 – Maze Benchmark Goals and Cut Points Grades 3-4

The benchmarks for the beginning, middle, and end of third and fourth grade are listed on this slide. The benchmark is in bold, the above benchmark score is in blue, and the cut point is in red.

Slide 13 – *Maze Benchmark Goals and Cut Points (G5-G6)*

The benchmarks for the beginning, middle, and end of fifth and sixth grade are listed on this slide.

Slide 14 – *Maze*

The students are asked to read a passage and circle the word that make the most sense in the story. Three choices of missing words are given. The student has to circle the word that makes the most sense.

The score is the number of correct responses, minus half the number of incorrect responses, which compensates for students guessing.

Slide 15 – *ALO*

This is what Maze looks like in ALO. In ALO, the assessor will be reading the directions from a tablet. The student will take the assessment on a table or computer.

Slide 16 – *Maze Video Demonstration*

Let's watch a video of an educator administering the paper-pencil version of Maze to a 5th grade class. The directions are similar for assessment in ALO, but adapted for the student to be on a computer.

Slide 17 – *Materials*

The materials required for Maze include the student workbooks for each student, a stopwatch, a pen or pencil for each student, and the assessor's copy of the directions and scoring key.

Slide 18 – *Materials*

For Acadience Learning Online (ALO), the student will do the assessment on a tablet or a computer.

Slide 19 – *Administration Directions*

Make sure each student has a pencil. Before handing out the worksheet to each student, say ***I'm going to give you a worksheet. When you get your worksheet, please write your name at the top and put your pencil down.***

Hand out the Maze worksheet. When all students are ready, say, ***You are going to read a story with some missing words. For each missing word there will be a box with three words. Circle the word that makes the most sense in the story. Look at Practice 1.***

Slide 20 – Administration Directions

A sample or model is provided to students in practice 1. Practice 2 allows the assessor to gauge whether or not students understand the task.

Slide 21 – Administration Directions

The assessor provides the correct response for practice 2 after 30 seconds, then continues with the remaining directions.

Start the stopwatch after you say begin.

Slide 22– Administration Directions

Use the reminders as needed. At the end of 3 minutes, stop the student and collect the Maze worksheets.

Slides 23 – 25 Administration Directions ALO

You can see the directions for Maze in ALO here and on the next few slides. As you can see, other than the adaptations for computer-based assessment, the instructions for the student are the same as for paper-pencil assessment.

Slide 26 – Scoring Rules: Paper & Pencil Scoring*

For paper-pencil assessment, a scoring key is used for scoring. Students receive 1 point for each correct word that is circled. Put a slash through words that are incorrect. Incorrect responses include errors, boxes with more than one answer, and items left blank that are blank because they were skipped.

Note that in ALO, Maze will be automatically scored. The student's benchmark status will be computed and the score will be transferred to the student's profile.

Slide 27 – Scoring Example: Correct Response

Here are several examples of correct responses. The correct answer is printed on the scoring key in bold. If the student circled the word that is in bold on the answer key, it is correct and should be left blank.

Slide 28 – Scoring Example: Incorrect Response

Put a slash over incorrect responses. A response is incorrect if the student circled an item that is not in bold font on the scoring key, if they circled more than one response, or if they skipped an item.

Slide 29 – Scoring Unmarked Items

Slash as an error any item that is skipped, including all items on skipped pages. Do not score as errors the items that were not attempted. Those might be items left blank after the last scored item or items not attempted due to starting on the second page.

Slide 30 – Reminders

There are 3 reminders that can be used as often as needed.

- If a student starts reading the passage out loud, say “**Remember to read the story silently.**”
- If a student is not working on the task, say “**Remember to circle the word in each box that makes the most sense in the story.**”
- In addition, if a student asks you to provide a word or for help with the task, say, “**Just do your best.**”

Slide 31 – Approved Accommodations for Maze

Approved accommodations are unlikely to affect how the assessment functions. A score can be reported and interpreted as an official Acadience Reading score.

Approved accommodations for Maze include the use of:

- enlarged student materials for students with visual impairments
- colored overlays, filters, or lighting adjustments for students with visual impairments
- assistive technology, such as hearing aids and assistive listening devices (ALDs), for students with hearing impairments
- markers or rulers to focus student attention on a single row

Slide 32 –Final Score: Student Copy

Use the scoring key to determine the total number of correct and incorrect responses and record those on the cover of the worksheet.

Slide 33 – Final Score: Maze Adjusted Score

An adjusted score is used as the final score for Maze to correct for the possibility that the student was correct by simply guessing.

The formula for calculating the Maze adjusted score is the number of correct responses minus the number of incorrect responses divided by 2.

Correct – (Incorrect / 2)

Or stated another way:

Correct – (Incorrect x 0.5)

If completing the formula results in a decimal, round to the nearest whole number. Half-points (0.5) should be rounded up.

The minimum adjusted score is 0. If the adjusted score is a negative number, record an adjusted score of zero. Do not record a negative number.

Acadience Data Management (www.acadiencelearning.net) will calculate this score for you. Use the formula to calculate the adjusted score yourself if you are not using a data management service.

The steps for calculating the Maze adjusted score are:

1. Record the number of correct responses.
2. Record the number of incorrect responses.
3. Divide the number of incorrect responses by 2.
4. Subtract the result of step 3 from the number of correct responses.
5. The result of the formula should then be rounded to the nearest whole number. Half-points (0.5) should be rounded up. The minimum Maze Adjusted Score is 0. Do not record a negative number.
6. Write the adjusted score on the top of the Maze cover sheet and circle it.

Slide 34 – Adjusted Score Examples

Here are two examples of adjusted scores. The first example shows that the formula will not significantly change the raw score for students who are not guessing. The second example shows that the adjusted score will lower the raw score when the student has guessed correctly on a large number of items.

Slide 35 – Final Score: Cover Sheet

Record the adjusted score on the cover of the worksheet.

Slide 36 – Maze Review

Trainer Note: This slide contains 5 questions. Participants are encouraged to read each question and answer the question as a group. Show the questions one at a time. Have participants answer as a group. Once they have answered a question, advance the slide to reveal the answer.

Now let's review some of key administration and scoring rules for Maze.

Slide 37-43 – Maze Practice

For this practice, you will need the materials in your training book and a pen or pencil. The student materials on the screen indicate the student response. Use the scoring key to determine the accuracy of the student's responses. Put a slash over errors and leave blank any correct responses.

Trainer Note: Move to the next slide when it seems that participants are ready.

Now we will go over the correct marks. Check the marks on your handout against the ones on the next 3 slides.

Slide 44 – Final Score: Cover Sheet

The final score that gets recorded for Maze is an Adjusted Score. The Adjusted Score corrects for students who may have been correct simply by guessing. Do not prorate a score on Maze. Acadience Data Management will calculate the Maze Adjust Score for you. To calculate it yourself, the formula is:

The Number of Correct Responses minus Incorrect Responses divided by 2.

Record the number correct responses on the bottom of the cover page.

Record the number of incorrect responses below it.

Then record the Adjusted Score. In this example, you would divide 13 by 2 and get 6.5. Subtract 6.5 from the number of correct responses, which was 48. 48 minus 6.5 is 41.5. Round up to 42.

Record the score on the cover of the worksheet and transfer it to the cover of each student's benchmark or progress monitoring scoring booklet.

Slide 45 – *Maze Summary*

Maze is used in grades three through six. It is typically given to an entire class at the same time. The timing starts after the directions and practice items, and stops at the end of 3 minutes. An answer key is available for scoring. Correct responses are left blank and errors are slashed. Errors include incorrect responses, marking more than one word, not responding, or unclear marks. The adjusted score is the total number of correct responses in 3 minutes, minus half the number of incorrect responses.