**Dictionary Check-Up**

**Approach:** Station  
**Focus:** Use of a dictionary.  
**Resources:** The New Zealand Oxford Junior School Dictionary

| Questions/instructions | % responses  
|-------------------------|------------  
| Use the dictionary to answer all of the questions. Write down the number of the page on which you found the answer. | -  
| 1. Mere’s grandfather is a **rangatira**. What is a rangatira? |  
| Answer: Māori chief/Māori leader | 85 (81)  
| Page number: 129 or 172 | 88 (85)  
| 2. The smoke from the fire made my eyes **smart**. What does smart mean? |  
| Answer: stinging pain | 47 (35)  
| Page number: 153 or 172 | 89 (88)  
| 3. What is the right spelling? **This is my best acheavement.** |  
| Answer: achievement | 65 (52)  
| Page number: 1 or 2 | 79 (67)  

† different editions

**Commentary**

Students were more successful in finding the right dictionary entry than in extracting the required information. Overall, about 10 percent more students succeeded well in 2001 than in 1997. This task paralleled the year 8 task Dictionary Find (opposite page).