

Trend Task: Spelling List

Approach: Independent
 Focus: Conventions of spelling
 Resources: 4 individual answer sheets

Year: 4 & 8

Questions / instructions:

In this activity you are going to try to spell some words without help from anyone else. I'll give you the paper to write your words on, then I will tell you what to do.

Give one answer sheet to each student.

Now listen carefully to the instructions before we start. I will say each word on its own, then I will say a sentence with the word in it, then I will say the word on its own again. It is best that you listen to the word each time before you write it down. If you make a mistake, cross out the word and write it again on the same line.

Read out the words and sentences, allowing time for each word to be written before moving to the next.

[Read as adjacent – word, sentence, word repeated.]

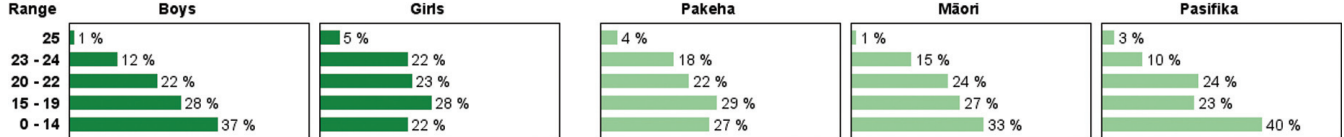
			% response 2006 ('02)	
			year 4	year 8
1. BOY	He is the oldest boy in the class.	BOY	98 (97)	99 (100)
2. WITH	Come with me to the shops.	WITH	94 (92)	99 (100)
3. MAKE	Let's make some popcorn.	MAKE	93 (92)	99 (100)
4. CAVE	There is a cave in those rocks.	CAVE	96 (92)	99 (98)
5. COOK	Who will cook dinner?	COOK	92 (90)	98 (100)
6. BABY	The baby has gone to sleep.	BABY	88 (90)	98 (98)
7. SHOW	Show me what you can do.	SHOW	92 (89)	99 (98)
8. THERE	There are 26 letters in the alphabet.	THERE	80 (73)	89 (85)
9. SCHOOL	We are at school today.	SCHOOL	94 (94)	99 (99)
10. KNOW	Do you know this story?	KNOW	75 (67)	96 (95)
11. BEING	Are you being looked after?	BEING	92 (92)	97 (97)
12. FIFTEEN	The car was fifteen years old.	FIFTEEN	45 (41)	79 (77)
13. DECEMBER	December is the last month of the year.	DECEMBER	65 (70)	90 (91)
14. USUALLY	Jack usually walks to school.	USUALLY	11 (10)	61 (57)
15. REALLY	Are you really that old?	REALLY	55 (48)	87 (82)
16. FLOOR	Sweep the floor with a broom.	FLOOR	74 (74)	93 (94)
17. MIDDLE	We sat in the middle row.	MIDDLE	61 (56)	92 (93)
18. EAR	She had a ring in her ear.	EAR	83 (81)	96 (97)
19. RIVER	The river was good for fishing.	RIVER	87 (85)	97 (97)
20. LYING	Why are you lying in bed?	LYING	37 (30)	74 (73)
21. ADVENTURE	I like to read adventure books.	ADVENTURE	40 (35)	83 (81)
22. WRONG	It was a wrong answer.	WRONG	49 (49)	91 (89)
23. QUIETLY	Walk quietly out of the room.	QUIETLY	30 (25)	74 (64)
24. STRAIGHT	Jess went straight home after school.	STRAIGHT	30 (24)	72 (71)
25. HAVING	We are having a good time.	HAVING	77 (75)	95 (93)

Total score:	25	3 (3)	37 (31)
	23-24	17 (11)	32 (28)
	20-22	23 (20)	16 (26)
	15-19	28 (37)	12 (12)
	0-14	29 (29)	3 (3)

Subgroup Analyses:

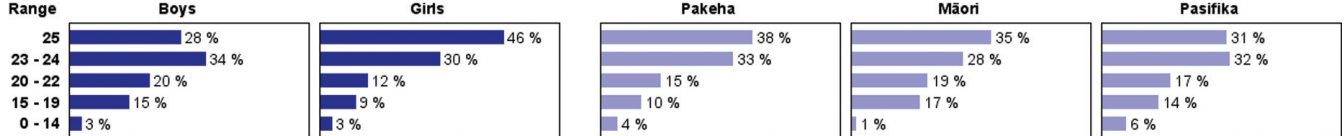
Year 4

Score Range



Year 8

Score Range



Commentary:

December was marked correct whether or not the first letter was a capital D. About 20 percent fewer students at both levels would have succeeded if a capital D was required. About 70 percent of year 8 students, compared to 20 percent of year 4 students, spelled more than 90 percent of the words correctly. Girls averaged better than boys but Pakeha, Māori and Pasifika students performed comparably.