

THE RAYGOR READABILITY ESTIMATE

PURPOSE

The RAYGOR provides a quick means of assessing a text's readability level. It was originally introduced to assist in choosing appropriate textbooks for a given level L1 use in middle school and high school. Teachers of L2 have found it a valuable tool for measuring non-basalized texts. (Basalized texts have already been "doctored" to take out the long words and many of the complex sentences).

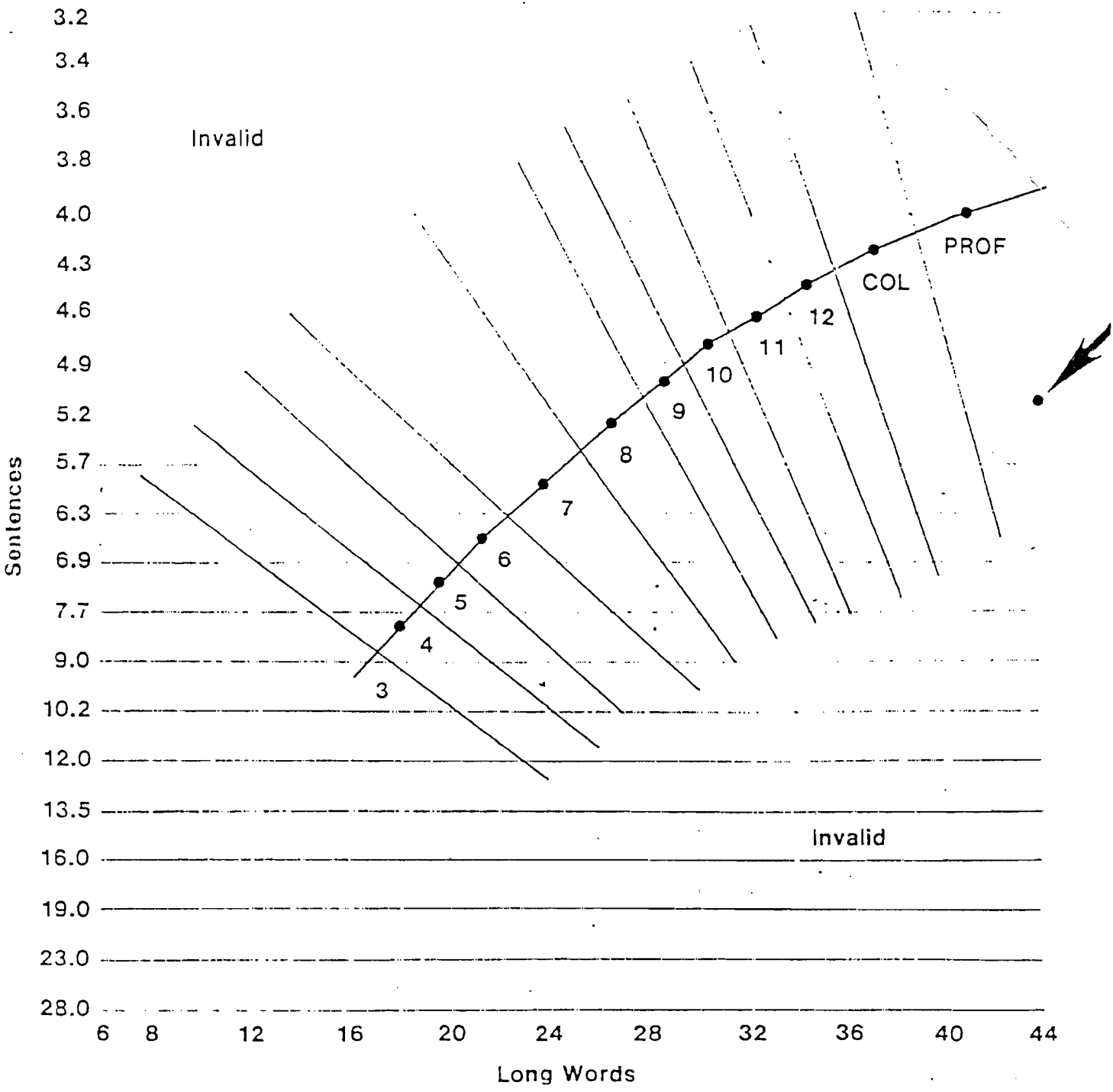
DIRECTIONS

1. Count out three one hundred word passages at the beginning, middle, and end of a text. In shorter texts, count out only two. The first paragraph can be atypical in a number of passages. Count out proper nouns, but not numbers. Headings should be excluded.
2. Count the number of sentences per 100 word unit. Work them out to the nearest tenth to account for partial sentences.
3. Count the number of words with six or more letters.
4. Average the sentence length and word length measures over the three samples, and plot the averages on the graph. The grade level nearest the spot marked is the best estimate of the difficulty of the section.

RAYGOR READABILITY ESTIMATE	FRY READABILITY GRAPH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -works on formula measuring long word count over the number of sentences per given number of words -is relatively teacher proof .. we only need to be able to count long words of more than 6 letters -registers readability in terms of school grade levels from reading research.. (note that the grade levels are for L1.) -is accurate to within one grade level. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -works on formula measuring syllable count over the number of sentences per given number of words. -varies due to dialectal variation of native language teachers, and even more so among the non-native speaking teachers -registers readability in terms of word acquisition measures .. 1,000 2,500 that match with abridged readers.

Neither of the estimates account for recurrent lexical items, non-textual elements, quality of writing style, level of syntax, or subject complexity.

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 Alton L. Raygor—University of Minnesota



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