

EFF Assessment Task

Reading Want Ads to Compare Rental Houses

Characteristics of this Assessment Task

Action (Performance Goal)

Read and understand 2 House Rental Ads in order to gain information, compare housing options, and make a decision about which house is better for a family

Text Type

2 Simplified classified advertisements for rental houses, containing short bulleted lists of attributes (some word groups, some short sentences or sentence fragments); six questions with fairly simple structure (1 complex sentence); a very brief scenario comprised of simple sentences

Content

Everyday content and high-interest (some specialized) mostly 1-2 syllable words associated with renting a house; a few numbers/dollar amounts

Environment

Familiar, comfortable environment, such as the classroom

Estimated time to complete task

20 minutes

Materials

2 simplified rental ads on a sheet labeled "Figure 1"

6 questions about the information in ads on a form labeled "Answer Sheet 1"

6-box graphic organizer to compare 2 houses in ads, a brief written scenario, and a question, on a form labeled "Answer Sheet 2"

Pens/pencils, highlighters, dictionaries (bilingual dictionaries can be used in addition to English dictionaries)

Knowledge and strategies that are the focus of this assessment task

(proficient performance on this task will require fluent and independent use of the following knowledge and strategies)

- Decoding and recognizing mostly everyday words, but also some new and polysyllabic words, by drawing on prior familiarity with content and oral vocabulary, breaking words into parts, applying pronunciation rules, and adjusting reading pace
- Familiarity with common high-interest content
- Monitoring and enhancing comprehension by use of a range of simple strategies such as recalling, restating, rephrasing, explaining the content of the text or using simple examples
- Activating prior knowledge and combining it with new information

Additional knowledge and strategies that may affect performance on this task

- Some familiarity with function and content of rental ads
- Some understanding of cultural issues related to housing needs, as appropriate
- Some experience with use of graphic organizers

Evidence of learner performance that will be collected using this assessment task

- **Observations**
[none in this task]
- **Work Products**
 1. Oral or written answers to 6 questions on “Answer Sheet 1”
 2. Completed graphic organizer and answer to question on “Answer Sheet 2”.

Step-by-step procedures for administration

This task may be administered to a group of learners. While there is no time limit to complete the task, it should require no more than 20 minutes to complete. You may repeat any of the steps as needed, but repetition must be in English and you must read the steps exactly as they are written in the scripts. You may also model any requirement of the task to help clarify, as needed.

Step 1. Explain the task requirements/expectations to the learners:

This task assesses how well you can read and understand 2 newspaper ads about rental houses.

Step 2. Pass out copies of 2 simplified rental ads on the sheet labeled “Figure 1”. Hold up a copy of “Figure 1” and ask learners to read the ads.

This sheet labeled “Figure 1” contains 2 ads from a newspaper that describe houses available for rent. Please read the ads silently to yourself. You may make notes or highlight on any of the materials you receive. You may also use a dictionary to look up words you don’t understand.

Are there any questions?

After answering student questions (or if there are none), say:

Please read the ads silently to yourself. Look up when you are finished.

Step 3. Pass out copies of Answer Sheet 1. Hold up one copy of the Answer Sheet and ask learners to answer the questions based on the information they just read in the rental ads.

Now using the information you just read in the two newspaper ads, please write answers to the six questions on this sheet labeled “Answer Sheet 1”. You may look back at the ads while you answer the questions if you need to.

Are there any questions?

After answering student questions (or if there are none), say:

Please begin. When you are finished, please look up.

Step 4. Pass out copies of the 6-block graphic organizer labeled “Answer Sheet 2”. Hold up a copy of the rental ads in “figure 1” and a copy of Answer Sheet 2 and ask learners to fill in the boxes and answer the question on the Answer Sheet.

You will be filling out this graphic on Answer Sheet 2. You will use the information from the ads in Figure 1 to fill this graphic out.

Are there any questions?

After answering student questions (or if there are none), say:

Please fill out the graphic. When you are finished, please look up.

Step 5. After student fills out the boxes of the graphic, ask him or her to write an answer to the question on Answer Sheet 2:

Now, please read the information below the boxes about Joe and his family, and write an answer to the question there. You may want to think about your own knowledge about renting houses from your own experience to help you answer.

Are there any questions?

After answering student questions (or if there are none), say:

Please answer the question. When you are finished, please look up.

Step 6. Collect all task materials and record approximate time taken by each student to complete the task

Scoring Rubric for Reading Rentals Ads for Housing (Level 3)

Date:
Student Name:

Unable to Score	Beginning	Proficient	Advanced
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decodes and recognizes some everyday and some specialized words, and strategies for recalling/restating information need improvement; correctly answers 4 or fewer of the 6 questions on Answer Sheet 1, and provides correct information in fewer than 4 of the 6 graphic boxes on Answer Sheet 2 • Decision on Answer Sheet 2 may be inappropriate or may not be adequately supported by information from the rental ads • Explanation of decision on Answer Sheet 2 is inappropriate or incomplete, and/or does not support his or her choices of information from the ads, indicating difficulty integrating prior knowledge with information from the reading; the student does not introduce any information not from the reading in his or her explanation • May work with hesitation and may need more than one attempt, but completes the task with some direction and support. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decodes and recognizes most everyday words, and some specialized words related to rental ads for housing, and effectively recalls and restates information in ads by correctly answering 5 of the 6 questions on Answer Sheet 1, and provides correct information in 5 of the 6 graphic boxes on Answer Sheet 2 • Provides 2 pieces of information from the rental ads to support decision about which house to rent on Answer Sheet 2 • Explanation of decision on Answer Sheet 2 is appropriate and complete with few major errors, and supports his or her choices of information from the ads, indicating ability to integrate prior knowledge with information from the reading; the student introduces information not from the reading in his or her explanation • Completes the task with little direction or support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easily decodes and recognizes all words; easily and independently answers all questions and completes the graphic correctly • Provides 2 pieces of information from the rental ads to support decision about which house to rent on Answer Sheet 2 • Explanation of decision on Answer Sheet 2 is appropriate, complete, and elaborate, with few to no minor errors, and supports his or her choices of information from the ads, indicating ability to integrate prior knowledge with information from the reading; the student introduces information not from the reading in his or her explanation, and may independently draw inferences about the information provided in the ads about Joe’s family needs. • Works without hesitation; Completes task without any direction or support

Answer Sheet 1

Student Name: _____

Answer these questions:

1. How many bedrooms are in House #2?
2. How big is House #1?
3. Which house has more bathrooms?
4. Which house has a better yard for children to safely play in?
5. Which house rents for less money?
6. If you want to rent House #2, what telephone number will you call?

Answer Sheet 2

Student Name _____

Read the rental ads again, and write the correct information in the boxes

	HOUSE #1	HOUSE #2
Rent per Month		
Number of Bedrooms		
Is it close to schools?	Yes ____ No ____ Don't Know ____	Yes ____ No ____ Don't Know ____

Joe has six people in his family: a wife, 2 sons, and 2 daughters. His income is \$1,300.00 per month. He has a car. His children go to school.

Which house should Joe rent, #1 or #2? List 2 pieces of information from the want ad to support your choice of houses for Joe and explain why you think Joe should rent this house.

Answer Key for Answer Sheet 1.

1. How many bedrooms are in House #2?

Three (3)

2. How big is House #1?

1000 square feet

3. Which house has more bathrooms?

House #2

4. Which house has a better yard for children to safely play in?

House #2

5. Which house rents for less money?

House #1

6. If you want to rent House #2, what telephone number will you call?

509-555-6161

Answer Key for Answer Sheet 2.

	HOUSE #1	HOUSE #2
Rent per Month	\$350	\$500
Number of Bedrooms	One (1)	Three (3)
Is it close to schools?	Yes ___ No ___ Don't Know <u>X</u>	Yes <u>X</u> No ___ Don't Know ___

Joe has six people in his family: a wife, 2 sons, and 2 daughters. His income is \$1,300.00 per month. He has a car. His children go to school.

Which house should Joe rent, #1 or #2? List 2 pieces of information from the want ad to support your choice of houses for Joe and explain why you think Joe should rent this house.

Specific answers will vary; a proficient answer will choose a house and provide 2 convincing reasons for this choice. For example (examples are not exhaustive):

- *Joe should rent house #2. It has 3 bedrooms and is close to schools.*
- *Joe should rent house #1. The rent is lower and it has a yard for the children to play in.*

Figure 1: WANT ADS ABOUT RENTAL HOUSING

Read these rental ads for renting a house.

House #1

HOUSE FOR RENT

- 1 bedroom, 1 bath
- 1000 square feet
- Yard in back of house
- Rent - \$ 350.00 per month
- First and last month's rent required
- Call 509-555-1010

House #2

HOUSE FOR RENT

- 3 bedrooms, 2 baths
- Fenced yard
- 1300 square feet
- Rent - \$ 500.00 per month
- Close to schools
- Call 509-555-6161