

CURRICULUM BASED ASSESSMENT - LEVEL D

This Curriculum Based Assessment focuses directly on the Three Level Question Guide. These question levels have been term "closed" and "open" questions, generically, and included in recent resources freely available to teachers in schools through the Strategic Questioning DVD from Curriculum Corporation.

Level D refers to the approximate level of difficulty, at about Grade 4.

The terminology used in here includes both Right There, Think & Search and On My Own Questions (RT, TS & OMO), along with Here, Hidden and Head. These labels can be interchanged as they refer to the same concept labels for where to find answers to questions.

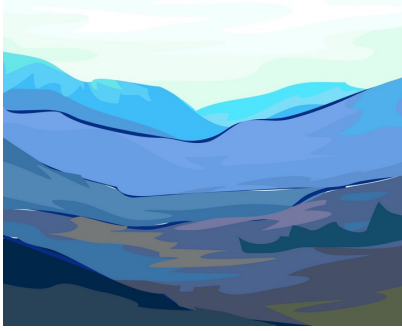
The text and related questions and scoring rubric have been trialled in several schools. The purpose of this Curriculum Based Assessment is to highlight directions for future instruction, that is, "Assessment for Learning", again linking directly with Curriculum Corporation's DVD.

The scoring rubric provides a starting point for consistent teacher judgement around the acceptability of student responses to questions. Feel free to agree or disagree with the placement of student responses. In fact, teachers within a school should make their own decisions about the validity of placement of student responses. The critical point of the rubrics is the consistency of judgements between teachers in a school.

The effectiveness of this Curriculum Based Assessment will only be evident from the use of subsequent instruction to improve student performance. Other levels are available, and the numbers and different types of questions vary across estimated grade levels, with more Right There (Here) questions in the early grades, and more On My Own (Head) questions in higher grades.

The assessment should be administered for 30 minutes with the whole class, and students can ask questions about what the words say (decoding) not about word, sentence or question meanings. Teachers can adjust the administration by providing oral reading of the text to individual students or small groups; providing extra time, or by scribing for students. Extra Skills Assessments can also be used as an adjustment. Such adjustments should be noted on the student's work or in the teacher's program for future checking.

Any feedback about the rubric, text or questions should be emailed directly to Gail Brown (gailbrown@designedlearning.com.au).



Will Wentworth



William Wentworth was born in 1790 on Norfolk Island. He liked to be called Will. He did not like William because his mum called him William when she was angry. Will is most famous for being one of the three men who first walked across the Blue Mountains.

Will lived on Norfolk Island until he was six. Then, this family moved to Sydney. Will lived in Sydney until his dad sent him back to England to go to school when he was 13 years old. Will came back to Sydney when he had finished school. In 1810, Will won the first horse race in Sydney on his dad's horse named Hector.

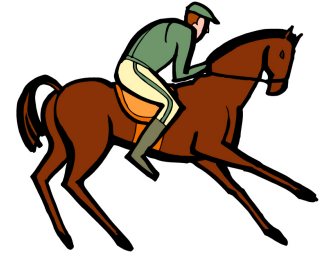
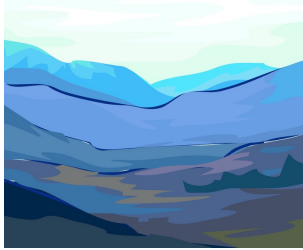
When he grew up, Will was given some land out near Penrith. Every day he would look at the Blue Mountains a lot from his house in Penrith.

Will didn't know why no one had crossed the mountains. Some people said that no one could ever cross the mountains. They said that the bush had too many dangerous animals and insects. Also, people told stories of aborigines that might kill white settlers. As well, there might be no food or water in the bush.

Will dreamed that one day people would cross those mountains and live on the other side. One day, he met two men and they agreed to try to cross the mountains. The two men were Greg Blaxland and Will Lawson. The next day, they packed their gear and set off. They walked and walked for many long days. They used ropes and climbed many difficult mountains and cliffs. Finally, they crossed the Blue Mountains. Will was only 23 years old when he, Greg and Will Lawson crossed the Blue Mountains. He would never forget the thrill of seeing what no other white man had seen before: The Western Plains of New South Wales!

Date:.....

Name:.....



Read the text and write full sentence answers to these questions.

1. Who were the three men who crossed the Blue Mountains?

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2. What is the main idea of the fourth paragraph?

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3. What do you think made Will want to cross the mountains ?

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4. Other than crossing the Blue Mountains, what might Will be famous for?

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5 . When was Will born?

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6. How old was Will when he crossed the mountains?

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7. Why might Will look out over the mountains all the time?

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8. When he was a teenager where did Will go to school?

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9. What things did Will and his friends do to cross the mountains?

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10. What things do you think might happen next in this text?

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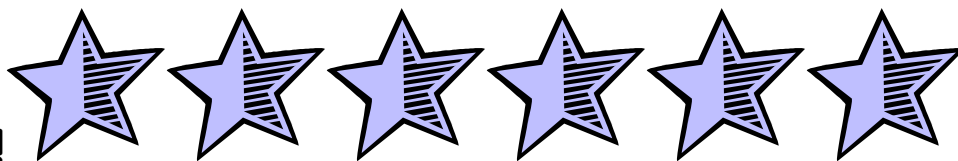
11. What reasons did people give for not crossing the mountains?

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12. In what year did Will and his friends cross the mountains?

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Well Done!



Scoring Rubric for Answers

Question	Correct	Half Correct	Incorrect
1. Who were the three men who crossed the Blue Mountains?	Will Wentworth, Greg Blaxland and Will Lawson	Only first names; One person omitted	No response
2. What is the main idea of the fourth paragraph?	Will wanted to cross the mountains and he had to overcome all the huge barriers; (Tell reader) why no one would or had crossed or dared cross the mts; Crossing mts is dangerous;	Things can be done; Three brave men can do anything they put their mind to; One day Will dreamed people would cross mts & live on the other side; No way to cross mts	Crossing mts together; Climbing over mountains; About Blue Mts; Aboriginals try to kill them; Show your dreams will come true;
3. What do you think made Will want to cross the mountains ?	Will had a dream to cross the mts; To do the impossible; No one else crossed them before; To show people you can cross the mts; To see what's there & so people could live there	To live on / see the other side; Looking at the mts; Given some land and would look Because he dreamed of climbing Find out about the other side	Seeing western plains; To be a hero; He liked to climb; He likes snow on the mts
4. Other than crossing the Blue Mountains, what might Will be famous for?	He might be famous for winning the first horse race in Sydney.	Building first house on other side mts; Won a horse race (no Sydney / first); Having no fear and following his dream	Finding Western Plains; Seeing Western Plains; Famous for climbing the Blue Mts; First person to see other side...
5. When was Will born?	1790	Adding Norfolk Island (loses half mark)	Any other year
6. How old was Will when he crossed the	23 years old		Any other age

mountains?			
7. Why might Will look out over the mountains all the time?	Dreaming of climbing the mts that no one had climbed; He wanted to climb & see other side; To see what no other white man had seen	Beautiful to climb; Wanted to cross climb; Lived close to (other side of) the mountains; He had a great view He wondered what was there	Look at pretty flowers and trees; Crossed in 1813; Look at people in bush; Pretty to look at; Remembered he crossed & the fun
8. When he was a teenager where did Will go to school?	England		Sydney He went to school
9. What things did Will and his friends do to cross the mountains?	Many days of hard walking, used ropes, lots of difficult climbing up over rocks and mountains	One of these - or incomplete description; Climbed and climbed;	Walked along a great path; Because there was food and water
10. What things do you think might happen next in this text? (need more than one)	Walked back and told everyone; To explore more NSW Talk about Will as an older man, then died; He walked back & told people & then rewarded; 3 men got land grants; Convicts sent to build roads	Build a house in mts / other side mts; Crossed again; Men got famous; Everyone happy & congratulated them; Stayed and lived there; They climbed other mts	Climbed and lived happily ever after; Go back to Sydney and get married;
11. What reasons did people give for not crossing the mountains?	Bush had too many dangerous animals & insects & aborigines might kill white people & No food and no water (ALL 3 needed)	Only two of these; Incomplete; Thought it was dangerous;	They didn't give them anything.
12. In what year did Will and his friends cross the mountains?	1813	1814 - and explained 1832 and explained Around 1812 or 1813	1810 - any other year ;Any other year; Will was 1810 years old.

