

FRY READABILITY FORMULA

1. Select three 100-word passages from the material:
 - ◆ Omit headings
 - ◆ Select sample from different content areas
 - ◆ Count proper nouns
 - ◆ Hyphenated words count as one word
 - ◆ Symbols count as one word
 - ◆ For very short pamphlets, select single 100 word sample

2. Count the number of sentences in each 100 words
 - ◆ Estimate the fraction length of the last sentence, e.g., if the 100th word occurs 5 words into a 15-word sentence, the fraction of the sentence is 1/3

3. Count the total number of syllables in each 100-word passage
 - ◆ Make a small check over each syllable
 - ◆ For initializations (e.g., IRS) count one syllable for each letter (IRS= 3 syllables)

4. Calculate the average number of sentences and the average number of syllables from the three passages:

	# OF SENTENCES	# OF SYLLABLES
1 st 100 words	5.9	124
2 nd 100 words	4.8	141
3 rd 100 words	6.1	158
Totals	16.8	423
Divide by 3	5.6 Avg.	141 Avg.

5. Refer to Fry Graph
 - ◆ Horizontal axis: average number of syllables
 - ◆ Vertical axis: average number of sentences

