

DORA placement into Accelerated Reader

Overview: Determining the “reading level” of written material is not an exact science. There are many sources of error thus it is important to realize even if a student is “tested” at a particular level, the teacher may need to adjust their level up or down when choosing specific materials.

Conversion for STAR Reading Test and Accelerated Reader from DORA Comprehension Subtest

DORA comprehension score	DORA Lexile equivalency	ZPD
0.5	below 250	0 to 250
1.17	250	150 to 350
1.5-1.83	275	150 to 350
2.17	300	300 to 400
2.5	325	300 to 400
2.83	350	300 to 400
3.17	400	400 to 500
3.5	425	400 to 500
3.83	450	400 to 500
4.17	500	500 to 600
4.5	525	500 to 600
4.83	550	500 to 600
5.17	600	600 to 700
5.5	625	600 to 700
5.83	650	600 to 700
6.17	700	700 to 800
6.5	725	700 to 800
6.83	750	700 to 800
7.17	800	800 to 1000
7.5	825	800 to 1000
7.83	850	800 to 1000
8.17	900	800 to 1000
8.5	925	800 to 1000
8.83	950	800 to 1000
9.17 to 9.83	1000	1000 to 1250
10.17 to 10.83	1100	1000 to 1250
11.17+	1200	1250 +

Note on conversion: The comprehension subtest in DORA has specific biases. Remember there is no grand unified theory on what is comprehension. DORA uses non-fiction passages that get longer as the reading difficulty goes up. Furthermore, students by default are not allowed to review the passages when answering questions. This removes the bias of “skimming skills”. The DORA comprehension subtest was designed to predict whether students would be successful at content reading in older grades. For example can they bring home a social studies book, read three chapters, and then be able to discuss these chapters at school the next day. With this said DORA errors with scores on the lower side in Comprehension.