

Appendix A. Instruments

A. Word Recognition Test

1. Two funny stories about Fritz

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 1. convertible | [a] small quick meal |
| 2. pony | [b] something that narrows to a point from a circular flat base |
| 3. cone | [c] a horse with small body |
| 4. snack | [d] a car that has top that can be folded or removed |
| 5. cookies | [e] biscuit |
| 6. pet | [f] tame animal |
| | [g] lowest floor of a building |
| | [h] deep narrow steep-sided valley |

2. Tornado

- | | |
|------------|---|
| 1. tornado | [a] violent destructive storm with circular winds |
| 2. storm | [b] period of very strong winds, rain, etc. |

- 3. funnel 1 [c] tube that is wide at the top and narrow at the bottom
- 4. basement [d] lowest floor of a building, below ground level
- 5. floor [e] deep narrow steep-sided valley
- 6. ravine [f] surface of a room on which one stands and walks
- [g] sea animal with a soft body and eight arms
- [h] container, usually made of glass, with a wide top

3. Ultimate: An Exciting Sport

- 1. disk [a] organ in the body that controls thought, feeling, etc.
- 2. teammate [b] person who buys something in a shop
- 3. referee [c] person who trains an athlete in a sport
- 4. coach [d] person who does a teamwork
- [e] person who controls a game
- [f] the thin flat circular plate that is easy to throw

4. Running to Win

- 1. athlete [a] shelter made of canvas, etc. and supported by poles and ropes
- 2. bike [b] exciting or dangerous journey or activity
- 3. competition [c] lowest floor of a building, below ground level
- 4. ocean [d] person trained for physical games
- [e] event in which people compete

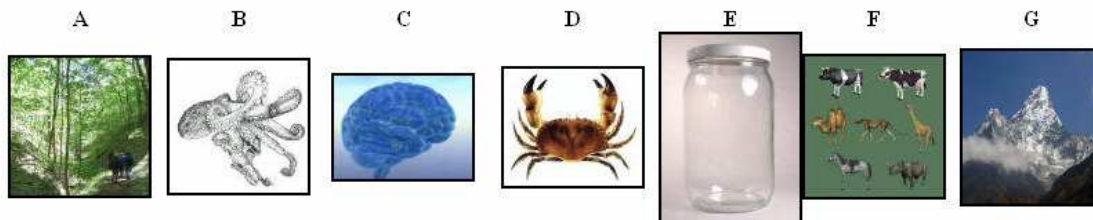
[f] (infml) short for BYCYCLE

5. Can Animals Think

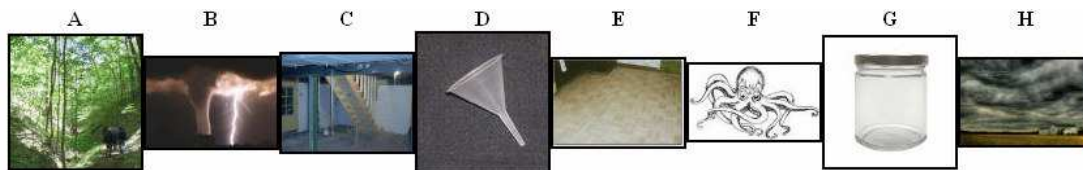
1. brain [a] deep narrow steep-sided valley
2. octopus [b] organ in the body that controls thought, feeling, etc.
3. crab [c] sea animal with a soft body and eight arms
4. jar [d] ten-legged shellfish
5. mammal [e] container, usually made of glass, with a wide top
[f] any of the kind of animal of which the female feeds her young
with milk from her body
[g] mass of very high rock with steep sides

B. Picture Recognition Test

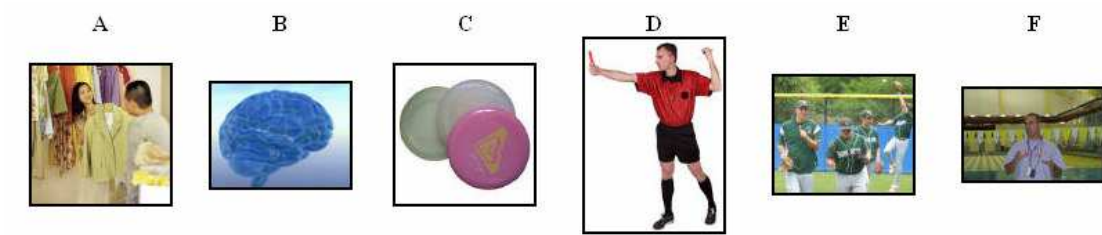
1. Two Funny Stories about Fritz



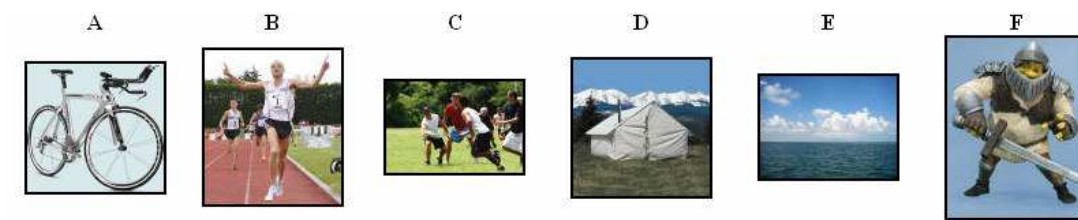
2. Tornado



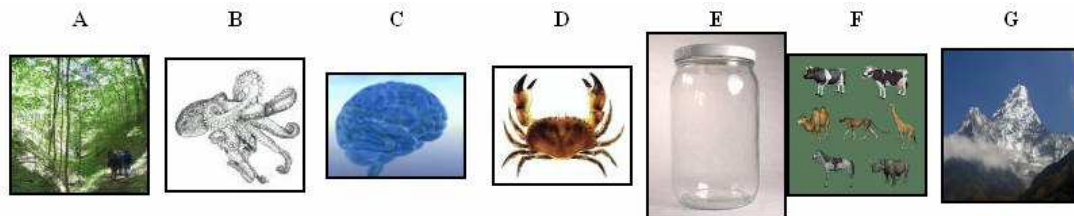
3. Ultimate: An Exciting Sport



4. Running to Win



5. Can Animals Really think?



Appendix B. Treatment Materials

1. Two Funny Stories About Fritz

To understand one of my favorite stories, you have to know that my family owned a very big car. It was a **convertible**. When the top was down, Fritz, my **pony**, could fit into the back of the car. Since Fritz loved ice cream, we always took him with us when we went out for ice cream.

You can imagine the looks we got from back seat eating an ice cream



cone! My mother was always asking me if I had brushed my teeth. Every time I had a snack, just some cookies or a piece of fruit, she wanted to know if I had brushed my teeth. I decided that Fritz should have clean teeth too. Naturally, I thought I should clean them for him. So, I got out my toothpaste and brushed his teeth. Fritz just loved it. We had many different pets when I was growing up, but Fritz was definitely the most interesting.

Flesch Readability Statistics:

Passive Sentences: 0%

Flech Reading Ease: 79.9

Readability: Fairly Easy

2. Tornado

With the arrival of the tornado season, the National Weather Service is again telling people how to protect themselves from these deadly storms. The winds from tornados are the most violent winds on earth. They can blow up to 400 miles per hour. A tornado looks like a funnel; it is also very loud. It may sound like a train coming at you. In fact, the winds from a tornado can pick up a section of a train and throw it around. if a tornado is seen in your area, it is very important that you protect yourself. A basement is the safest place to go. Try to wait under a table in the



basement. If your building does not have a basement, stay on the ground [floor](#) but lie flat under a bed or table. Stay away from windows. If you are outside or in your car, try to find a [ravine](#) to lie down in.

Flesch Readability Statistics:

Passive Sentences: 8%

Flech Reading Ease: 75.0

Readability: Fairly Easy

3. Ultimate: An Exciting Sport

Ultimate is becoming a very popular sport. It is played in more than forty-two countries all over the world. It is played with a [disc](#) that looks like a Frisbee. But the Ultimate disc is larger and heavier than a Frisbee. The purpose of the game is to score goals. A goal is scored when a [teammate](#) catches the disc in the end zone. The first team to score fifteen goals wins the game. The basic rules of Ultimate are easy to learn. Each team has seven players on the field. Players cannot run while they are holding the disc. They must throw the disk to another player on their team to move it down the field. They must not let the disc touch the ground. It is a foul if a player touches another layer to prevent him or her from catching the disc. A foul is an action that is against the rules. There are no [referees](#) in Ultimate. The



players on the field make the decisions about what is fair. There are usually no **coaches** in Ultimate. The combination of trust and competition makes ultimate the ultimate sport to many people.

Flesch Readability Statistics:

Passive Sentences: 16%

Flech Reading Ease: 76.7

Readability: Fairly Easy

4. Running to Win

Martha Sorensen loves to run. In high school and college, she won many races. Now, at age thirty-three, running is a big part of her job. So are swimming and bicycling. Martha is a professional athlete. She competes in triathlons. A triathlon has three parts. First, there is a long swim. Then the **athletes** come out of the water and ride their **bikes**. When they finish riding their bikes, they have to run__ for miles! It is a very difficult sports **competition**. Three years ago, Martha went to Hawaii. She joined athletes from around the world. They competed in the famous Ironman Triathlon there. First, the athletes swam almost a mile in the **ocean**. Then they rode 112 miles (180.2 kilometers) by bike. Finally, they ran a 26.2-mile (42.16 kilometer) race. Martha did very well. She finished that race in about ten hours. Only six women were faster than Martha.



Flesch Readability Statistics:

Passive Sentences: 0%

Flech Reading Ease: 61.0

Readability: Standard

5. Can Animals Think?

There are many stories about many different things animals can do, but are they true? Can animals really think? Now, many of scientists believe that some animals have the **brain** power to understand new situations, make decisions, and plan ahead. In Italy, scientists showed that an **octopus** could learn how to perform a task by watching another octopus do it. In this experiment, an octopus who did not know how to open a jar to get to a **crab** inside was allowed to watch another octopus who did know how. After observing how the second octopus did it, the first octopus was able to open the **jar** himself. Until recently, many scientists had thought that only **mammals** could learn by watching others. But, as some scientists say, we need to conduct a lot of experiments to give a firm answer to this question.



Flesch Readability Statistics:

Passive Sentences: 12%

Flech Reading Ease: 60.3

Readability: Standard

Appendix C. Readability of Two Interchange Intro Texts

1. Two Special Houses in the American Southwest (P. 49)

In San Antonio, Texas, there is a purple house. This house is the home of Sandra Cisneros. Ms. Cisneros is a Mexican-American writer. She is famous for her interesting stories. The house has a porch with a pink floor. The rooms are green, pink, and purple. There are many books and colorful paintings. Many other houses near Ms. Cisneros's house are white or beige, so her house is different. Some of her neighbors think her house is too colorful, but Ms. Cisneros loves it.

Passive Sentences: 0%

Flesch Reading Ease: 64.4

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level: 6.5

Readability Level: Standard

2. Job Profiles (P. 55)

Lisa Parker has two jobs. She works as a waitress at night, but she's really an actress. During the day, she auditions for plays and television shows. Her schedule is difficult, and she's tried a lot. But she's following her dream. Lots of teenagers want John Blue's job. He plays video games for eight hours a day. And he gets paid for it! John is a video game tester for a big video game company. Is it ever boring? Never. John almost always wins. Becky walks in the park every day for many hours – rain or shine. Becky is a professional dog walker. She walks dogs for other people. Sometimes she takes 20 dogs to the park at one time. Carlos Ruiz is a busy man. He plans lessons, grades homework,

helps with after-school activities --and of course, he teaches! His salary isn't great, but that's OK. His students like his class, so he's happy.

Passive Sentences: 5%

Flesch Reading Ease: 69.6

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level: 5.4

Readability Level: Standard