Miscue analysis

Aim
To practise making an assessment of children’s reading using miscue analysis.
To discover the strategies children use when reading.

What to do
Read *A Dark, Dark Tale* by Ruth Brown to the students.
Ask them to look at Michael’s reading of *A Dark, Dark Tale* in Figure 10.1 which has been annotated to show his miscues.

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**A Dark, Dark Tale by Ruth Brown**

*One*
Once e upon a time there
was a dark, dark moor.

On the moor there was
a dark, dark wood.
*dark*
In the wood there was
a dark, dark house.

At the front of the house
there was a dark, dark door.

Behind the door there
was a dark, dark hall.
*hill*

*hill*
The students should use this to work out Michael's strengths and weaknesses as a reader. They should set two targets for Michael. One should be to develop his word recognition strategies, the other to develop his comprehension. They should then list a number of classroom activities which would help Michael to achieve his targets.

**Figure 10.1** Michael's reading

*A Dark, Dark Tale* by Ruth Brown is reproduced by kind permission of Anderson Press/Red Fox.

The students should use this to work out Michael’s strengths and weaknesses as a reader. They should set two targets for Michael. One should be to develop his word recognition strategies, the other to develop his comprehension. They should then list a number of classroom activities which would help Michael to achieve his targets.

**Websites**

DCSF target setting: http://www.standards.dfes.gov.uk/ts/
This website contains guidance about setting school and individual targets.

National Curriculum in Action: http://www.ncaction.org.uk/
This website contains samples of children’s work. The samples are analysed to show what children have done well and where there is room for improvement.
QCA Optional Tasks for the More Able: http://www.qca.org.uk/qca_9146.aspx
The tasks linked to this page provide schools with optional resources that can be used to support teacher assessment of more able pupils. These also provide teachers with ideas for literacy activities for gifted children.


Links to on-line reading

This is a guide to the assessment arrangements at Key Stage 1. It gives advice about how to build assessment into everyday classroom activity, together with some examples of level judgements for reading, writing and mathematics.