INTRODUCTION to the PROBE2 KIT

PROBE2
reading comprehension assessment

READ THIS
even if you have used PROBE before
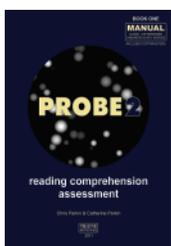
## WHAT'S IN THIS INTRODUCTORY GUIDE

CONTENTS OF THIS PROBE KIT

The PROBE2 kit has <u>two</u> books. This kit is generally referred to as the **full kit**

← **BOOK ONE: The Manual** divided into four parts

PART 1: **GUIDE**   purpose & procedure
PART 2: **DETERMINER**   pre-test - purpose & procedure
PART 3: **ANSWERS**   includes notes & keywords
PART 4: **COPYMASTERS**   Determiner & Recording Sheets

← **PROBE2 STUDENTS' GUIDE CD** - inside manual cover. (See page 2)
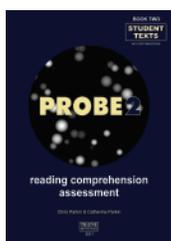
← **BOOK TWO: Student Texts**

Includes the PROBE 2 Determiner word lists (pages 2 & 3)

40 stories & questions (fiction & non-fiction)

NOTE: *Students read the stories from this book only*
i.e. <u>Not</u> from the recording sheets in the manual

COPYRIGHT - WHAT YOU CAN & CANNOT COPY

Triune Initiatives copyright

PROBE2 is protected by the international law of copyright.

Legal use of copymasters

Copies can only be made (directly) from copymasters in a legally purchased manual.

Copies of copies are NOT permissible.

Guide, Determiner, Answer Section or Student Texts MUST NOT BE COPIED.

NO changes permitted

THIS WORK MUST NOT: 1. be reformatted. 2. have texts or questions altered. 3. have illustrations added.

PIRATING DENIES US
A RETURN FOR OUR LABOUR AND CAPITAL FOR FUTURE RESOURCES

HOW **PROBE2** IS DIFFERENT FROM **PROBE1**

Whilst the first PROBE remains a valuable and effective assessment resource, PROBE 2 provides fresh, new stories, has significant improvements to the design, and better enables teachers to evaluate students' skills and ability to read closely and intelligently.

THE SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES

• Forty new and original stories.

• Layout changes (particularly the manual).

• More comprehensive & user-friendly recording sheet.

• Determiner included in the manual (not a separate book).

• Expanded answer section - one page per text.

• Key words with all answers (not a separate book).

ABOUT THE PROBE2 SUPPLEMENTARY KIT

It is **not** a kit with additional stories, etc.

PURPOSE
When multiple copies of the (full) PROBE 2 Reading Comprehension Assessment kit are required and budgets are limited, the PROBE2 Supplementary (kit) provides an alternative.

The kit has 2 books:

BOOK ONE
Guide & Answers

BOOK TWO
Student Texts

SO, WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE?

It has (almost) all the elements of PROBE 2 Reading Comprehension Assessment:
same stories, questions & answers, **BUT** there are **NO COPYMASTERS**.
Copymasters are accessed from the manual in a full kit.

THERE ARE CONDITIONS OF SALE
· Supplementary kits are ONLY SOLD TO SCHOOLS.
· Each school campus must have purchased at least one full PROBE 2 kit.
· Proof of purchase may be required.
· Kits only for use by the institution that has purchased them (they cannot be shared).
· Not sold to private or specialist educators.

SOME TIPS TO GETTING STARTED

If you want to use this assessment as it was designed to be used, carefully read through the manual, the texts, answers & notes before you begin. Refer to them often from then on in.

EXPERIMENT FIRST
• Use a compliant child or adult you know - someone who has good self-esteem as a reader.
• Well before using PROBE itself, find a starting point (use prior knowledge or PROBE Determiner)
• Use only fiction or only non-fiction for this trial - not both as is normal.
• Familiarise yourself with the beginning text (as well as two or three above & two or three below).
• Familiarise yourself with the appropriate answers and notes.

• Just before starting the test it will help you if you refer to the ready reference pages:
    - page 38 **Answers: Guide to Use**
    - page 39 **Answers: Page Features**
    - page 82 **Recording Sheet: Use**

• You'll need to proceed slowly, so explain to your trial reader **it's to do with you - not them**.
• Discuss your results with a colleague. Peer review should remain a regular occurrence.

The more you work at using the test correctly, the more confident you'll become.
Your achievement of a state of relaxed alertness will positively affect your students.
You'll be able to make better observations and your skills of evaluation will grow.

HELP IS AVAILABLE

CONTACT TRIUNE DIRECT
• If you have any issues or need any further clarification (no matter how small),
  we encourage you to contact Triune by email or phone (The latter is often easier).
• You are most welcome to ask questions directly of the writers.
• The phone number and email addresses are on the website (go to **Contact Us**)
• All we ask is that you present your question as fully and clearly as possible.

WORKSHOPS
• Talk to us about workshops in your area (including overseas).
• We are also planning to make some online training available.

BECOME A WEBSITE MEMBER

Become a website member and receive the occasional newsletter.
Membership is free and we think you will find it useful - including ideas that might challenge some commonly held beliefs about reading and about education in general.

The newsletter will have a link to specific 'members pages', in particular the **COMPREHENZ MAGAZINE**. The magazine is not big as many magazines go, but it is informative. It includes items (not found elsewhere) on the website including a series of short articles about ...

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www.comprehenz.com

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to join

MEMBERSHIP
Join now - it's free
and probably useful

About Joining

PROBE2 Reading Comprehension Assessment: BEST PRACTISE

USING THE PROBE2 STUDENTS' GUIDE CD

The STUDENTS' GUIDE CD is inside the front cover of the manual

PURPOSE
It will help students gain a better understanding of the assessment,
along with processes and behaviours to improve test performance.

Key features include advice on:
- staying relaxed but alert.
- how to read more effectively.
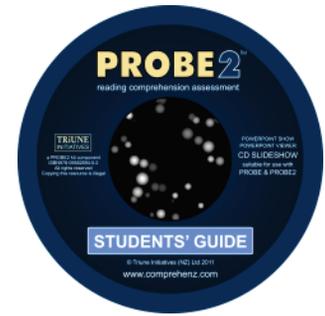- how the questions are designed.
- how to answer the questions.

With a group presentation, time spent explaining the process
to each student is significantly reduced, if not eliminated.

for use with individuals, groups, even whole classes

CONTENTS

PART 1: THE PURPOSE OF THE TEST	PART 2: WHAT IS EXPECTED OF YOU
PART 3: PREPARING YOUR MIND	PART 4: THE PRE-TEST
PART 5: THE WAYS PROBE IS USED	PART 6: HOW TO READ THE STORIES
PART 7: ABOUT THE QUESTIONS	PART 8: ANSWERING QUESTIONS
PART 9: MORE THAN ONE STORY	PART 10: SUMMARY

USE
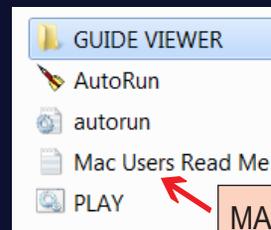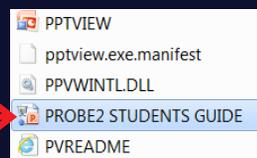Present with a computer, data projector, or interactive whiteboard.

Insert the disk & open the **folder to view files.**

Click on the file named *GUIDE VIEWER*

Then click on the file named
PROBE2 STUDENTS' GUIDE

GUIDE VIEWER
AutoRun
autorun
Mac Users Read Me
PLAY

MAC users read me

PPTVIEW
pptview.exe.manifest
PPVWINTL.DLL
PROBE2 STUDENTS GUIDE
PVREADME

If you need to install PowerPoint Viewer click on the file *PPTVIEW*

PPTVIEW
pptview.exe.manifest
PPVWINTL.DLL
PROBE2 STUDENTS GUIDE
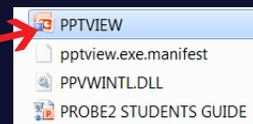
NOTE: No animation or sound. You control the show.

PROCEDURE
- Familiarise yourself with the Students' Guide.
- Read it thoroughly before sharing with your students.
- Initially, it is advisable to show all of the Students' Guide in the given order.
- Point to and read aloud the words on each slide.
- Explain the contents wherever necessary.
- It is recommended that students view the Students' Guide more than once.
- Much of the advice applies to other tests as well as reading in general.

ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THE CD are available on request.