

The Reading and Writing Centre

your centre for expert advice and professional learning
in child and adolescent reading and writing disorders

Reader Profile

What is a
Reader
Profile?

Developing a Reader Profile requires a differential diagnostic process that identifies a student's strengths and challenges in the key components of reading comprehension – word reading and listening comprehension. The Reader Profile is based on the Simple View of Reading (Gough and Tunmer 1986), a valid conceptual framework for understanding reading development in English, other languages and across disability areas.

Why create a
Reader
Profile?

To ensure curriculum, assessment and pedagogy practices are accessible, teachers must be explicitly aware of a student's profile-specific differences and needs in reading comprehension.

Which
students need
a Reader
Profile?

Differential diagnosis requires assessment of the language skills that underpin reading comprehension and as such requires allocation of time and resources. A Reader Profile is administered to those students who, despite quality teaching and focussed interventions are not meeting age or year level expectations in reading.

The need for
rigor

The Reader Profile informs intervention strategies and access to differentiated curriculum delivery, pedagogy and assessment practices. The Reader Profile can be used as supporting evidence in the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data (NCCD) and to document access arrangements and reasonable adjustments (AARA). It is therefore critical, a rigorous process that reflects a thorough understanding of differential diagnosis, clinical reasoning, and the application of accommodations and adjustments is applied.

Who creates
a Reader
Profile?

Understanding child and adolescent reading development requires input from an inclusive educational team. As difficulty at one or more levels of the language system is very often at the core of reading, spelling and writing difficulty (Bishop and Adams 1990; Catts et al 2005; Nation and Snowling 2004; Serry et al 2015), your speech language pathologist is integral to the differential diagnostic process.

