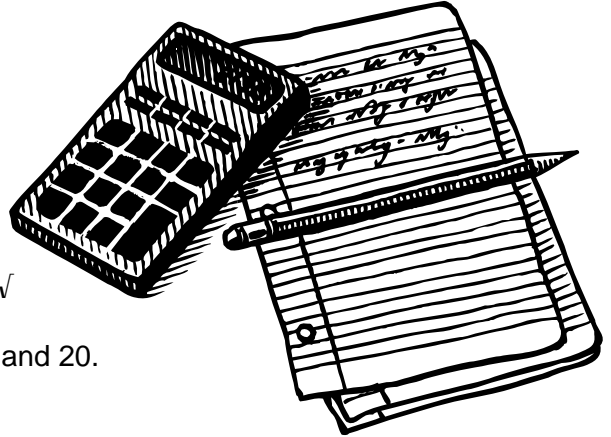


To accurately calculate readability with the SMOG formula...

What numbers do I use?

1. Choose at least ten sentences in a row and count every word with at least three syllables.
2. Divide 30 by this number.
3. Multiply the number of words with at least three syllables by the number in step 2.
4. Take the square root of this number (use the $\sqrt{\quad}$ button on your calculator) and add 3.
5. The grade level you get should be between 3 and 20.



$$\text{Grade level} = \sqrt{\text{number of words with at least 3 syllables} \times \left(\frac{30}{\text{number of sentences}} \right)} + 3$$

Does SMOG have some special rules?

- "Sentences" end with a [.] , [?] , [!] , not a [:] , [;] , or [,].
- Hyphenated words count as one word.
- Count proper nouns.
- Count syllables for numbers by reading them aloud.
- Count abbreviations as their original whole word.
- Count lists as one sentence each if items are separated by commas or semicolons. Lists with full sentences (like this one) count for as many sentences as are in the list.

Can I see an example?

Babies born to women who are covered by one of Iowa's health care programs are covered through the month of their first birthday, provided the baby continues to live with the mother and reside in the state of Iowa.

- Grade 13.95, according to SMOG

Are you pregnant? Do you get health coverage from an Iowa program? If you do, your baby will also be covered. Coverage will last until the end of the month of your baby's first birthday. The baby must live with you in Iowa.

- Grade 7.9, according to SMOG