Writing Items for Reading

Sookhee Jeong

Reading	
Characteristics of test-takers	·Age: 16 (high school student) · English ability: Intermediate (EFL learners in Korea)
Construct/subskills	·Recognizing inferences based on global reading comprehension will be included. ·Organizational knowledge is assumed. ·Grammatical knowledge is not included.
Estimated difficulty of input	Flesch-Reading Ease 61.5 Flesch-Kincaid Grade 9.0
Directions	Read the given passage and answer the question in your answer sheet. Use only the information in the passage as a basis for your responses and the following symbols in writing your answers: T: if the statement may be inferred as TRUE. F: if the statement may be inferred as UNTRUE. N: if NO INFERENCE can be drawn about it from the paragraph.
Reading Passage	Rich in nutritional value and unique in taste, Korean cuisine has been embraced by diners across the world. According to a recent survey conducted by the Korean government, visitors to Korea cite the cuisine as one of the top three attractions, along with shopping and sightseeing. Another survey by the Korean Center in Los Angeles showed that about half of Americans surveyed picked "Korean food" as the first thing that comes to mind when they think of Korea. Gimchi is the best known Korean dish. TIME magazine chose gimchi as one of its Top 10 Healthy Foods. There is so much more than just gimchi, though! There are over 2,000 types of Korean dishes, each one unique in taste, presentation, and color. People worldwide are learning more about Korean food.
Items	Indicate that the following can be inferred from the passage using T, F, or N. ( ) 1. The healthy food is chosen by TIME magazine every year. ( ) 2. Visitors to Korea showed their disappointment with Korean dishes. ( ) 3. Korean food has health benefits. ( ) 4. Visitors to Korea enjoy eating Korean food better than shopping. ( ) 5. The decreasing interest in Korean food is one of the Korean center's concerns.
Answer Key with 1-2 word explanation of subskill tested	1. N (inference) 2. F (inference) 3. T (inference) 4. N (inference) 5. F (inference)
Scoring Guide	1 point for a correct answer/ 0 point for an incorrect answer

Source: Lee, C.S. (2010). *High School English 1.* Seoul:Neugryul Publisher.

Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level

Gade	Lexile Measure	Flesch-Kincaid
2nd-3rd	420-820	1.98-5.34
4th-5th	740-1010	4.51-7.73
6th-8th	925-1185	6.51-10.34
9th-10th	1050-1335	8.32-12.12
11th-CCR	1185-1385	10.34-14.2

Flesch Reading Ease test

Score	Notes
90-100	Easily understood by average 11-year-old student
60-70	Easily understood by 13-to 15-year0old students
0-30	Best understood by university graduates