

**Prose Level 1**

Scale range: 0 to 225

*Most of the tasks in this level require the reader to read relatively short text to locate a single piece of information which is identical to or synonymous with the information given in the question or directive. If plausible but incorrect information is present in the text, it tends not to be located near the correct information.*

Average difficulty value of tasks in this level: 198

Percentage of adults performing in this level: 21%

Tasks in this level require the reader to locate and match a single piece of information in the text. Typically the match between the question or directive and the text is literal, although sometimes synonymous matches may be necessary. The text is usually brief or has organizational aids such as paragraph headings or italics that suggest where in the text the reader should search for the specified information. The word or phrase to be matched appears only once in the text.

One task in Level 1 with a difficulty value of 210 asks respondents to read a newspaper article about a marathon swimmer and to underline the sentence that tells what she ate during a swim. Only one reference to food is contained in the passage, and it does not use the word "ate." Rather, the article says the swimmer "kept up her strength with banana and honey sandwiches, hot chocolate, lots of water and granola bars." The reader must match the word "ate" in the directive with the only reference to foods in the article.

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Underline the sentence that tells what Ms. Chanin ate during the swim.

## Swimmer completes Manhattan marathon

*The Associated Press*

NEW YORK—University of Maryland senior Stacy Chanin on Wednesday became the first person to swim three 28-mile laps around Manhattan.

Chanin, 23, of Virginia, climbed out of the East River at 96th Street at 9:30 p.m. She began the swim at noon on Tuesday.

A spokesman for the swimmer, Roy Brunett, said Chanin had kept up her strength with "banana and honey" sandwiches, hot chocolate, lots of water and granola bars."

Chanin has twice circled Manhattan before and trained for the new feat by swimming about 28.4 miles a week. The Yonkers native has competed as a swimmer since she was 15 and hoped to persuade Olympic authorities to add a long-distance swimming event.

The Leukemia Society of America solicited pledges for each mile she swam.

In July 1983, Julie Ridge became the first person to swim around Manhattan twice. With her three laps, Chanin came up just short of Diana Nyad's distance record, set on a Florida-to-Cuba swim.

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