

Narrative Story Retell Elicitation Protocol (PGHW)

- Materials
 - Recording device
 - The book, *Pookins Gets Her Way* (Lester, 1987)
 - You will need two copies of the book--one copy with the text covered up for the student to look at and one copy to read aloud
 - If you do not have two copies, use the book with the text covered up for the student to look at and read the script below
 - Quiet location free of distractions with a table and two chairs

- Preparation

Check the recorder for loudness levels. Record your name, date, student's identifier, birthdate, age, and grade. Remember, the student's book needs to have the words covered up (e.g., use 3x5 notecard to tape over the words in the book).

- Directions

Seat the student next to you. Show the student the book with the text covered up, and say *"I am helping your teacher find out how you tell stories. First, I will read this story to you while you follow along. Then I'm going to ask you to tell the story using your own words."*

Read the story using a copy of the book that does not have the text covered up or the script below. Make sure the student has a book with the text covered up to look at while you read.

After reading the story, prepare the recorder to record the student's sample. Give the student the copy of the book which has the text covered and say *"Now I would like you to tell the story. Notice that the words are covered up. That's because I want you to use your own words to tell the story."*

Turn to the first page with pictures and start recording. Say *“Do the best that you can. Now you tell me the story.”*

Examiner’s role during the retell

During the retell, move slightly away from the student, turning so that eye contact is easy. The student should be in charge of page turning during the retell but provide assistance if the student has trouble turning pages, or starts skipping too many pages. Moving away from the student promotes language and minimizes pointing.

Do not give specific cues to the student during the task. You can point to the book to focus attention or say, *“Tell me more,” “Keep going,” “You are doing a great job,” “And then...”* if the student stops talking before the story is finished. You may also use nonverbal cues such as head nodding and smiling to promote continued talking. If the student is unable to start the task, use the prompt *“One day....”* Using overly-specific questions or providing too much information to the student compromises the process of capturing the student’s true language and ability level. Open-ended prompts *do not* provide the student with answers or vocabulary. But they *do* encourage the student to try or they let the student know it is ok to move on if needed. Avoid asking the “wh” questions, who?, what?, when?, where? as these often lead to obvious and limited responses/answers.

Acknowledgements

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Optional Comprehension Questions

Following the student's retell, you have the option of evaluating his/her understanding of the story by asking a series of comprehension questions. Refer to the document entitled "Comprehension Questions for SALT Narrative Story Retells" for details. Please note that the SALT Narrative Story Retell database samples were not scored for comprehension.

Pookins Gets Her Way

By Lester, 1987

Page	Script
1	Pookins was used to getting her own way.
2-3	If Pookins did not get her own way she would make faces, throw apples, and yell very loudly.
4	And because nobody wanted her to make faces, throw apples, and yell very loudly, Pookins always got her own way. She had ice cream for breakfast.
5	She never ate her vegetables.
6-7	She did not pick up her clothes, and she got all the toys she ever asked for.
8	She roller-skated in the living room.
9	And she went to bed very late, sometimes even after the owls.
10-11	One day Pookins went out for a skip. She wore the party dress she was supposed to save for parties—just because she felt like it. Before long she met a magic gnome.
12	He asked, “What can I do for you?” “Lots,” said Pookins. “I want three wishes. First, I want a new pair of cowboy boots, or else I’ll make faces, throw apples, and yell very loudly.”
13	The gnome rubbed his magic hat and Pookins got her cowboy boots.
14	“Now,” demanded Pookins, “I want a beautiful queen hat. Make sure it has plenty of diamonds, or else I’ll make faces, throw apples, and yell very loudly.” Pookins got her queen hat—with plenty of diamonds.
15	“And finally,” she said, “I want to become a flower, the prettiest flower in the world.” The magic gnome looked at Pookins and asked, “Are you sure you want to become a flower?” “If you don’t let me become a flower,” warned Pookins, “I’ll make faces, I’ll throw...” “Nevermind,” said the gnome.

16	"Becoming a flower is not easy," said the gnome. "First we must put you in a pot."
17	"Then you need some nice soil around your roots." He dumped a load of dirt all over Pookin's lovely new cowboy boots.
18	"And of course, you will need plenty of water." The gnome gave Pookins a good watering all over. Soon the soil felt very squishy in the pot.
19	"Finally," chirped the gnome, "you must stand in the sun for hours and hours and hours." And with that he rubbed his magic hat.
20-21	There stood Pookins. In the sun. In a pot. Very wet. Up to her ruffles in soil.
22	Hours and hours and hours and even more passed.
23	Pookins was a flower.
24	By this time Pookins decided that getting her own way wasn't so much fun after all. "Let me out of this pot," she cried, "or else—" "Or else what?" said the gnome.
25	"Flowers can't throw apples or yell loudly, and I can hardly see your face through all those petals. You wanted your own way and I gave it to you." Pookins felt very sorry for herself and began to cry.
26-27	Suddenly without warning it began to rain. "My hat, my magic hat," cried the gnome. "It will shrink and I will lose my powers." For the first time Pookins felt sorry for the gnome. "Get under my petals. I'll keep you dry," she said.
28	The gnome stayed there until the rain stopped. "Pookins," he said, "you helped me so I will help you, on one condition. You must put all of your bad faces, loud yells, and apples into my magic hat forever. Then I will let you out of the pot." Pookins quickly agreed.
29	The magic gnome then rubbed his hat and Pookins was no longer a flower.

30	The happy Pookins skipped quickly home. And she only kept one small apple—just in case.
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