

Line Return

The jump back to the start of the line

NAME	DATE	PARENT / TEACHER

RETURN SWEEP

VISUAL TRACKING

READING FLUENCY

THE STRATEGY ON THIS SHEET

At the end of each line, aim at the first word of the next line before your eyes move. The return sweep is a jump with a target, not a drift downwards.

1 Box the first word of every line. Then circle **river** wherever it appears.

1	The longhouse stands on stilts above the
2	riverbank, and in the wet season the water rises
3	until it is only a metre below the floor. Jalil
4	has lived here all his life. He can read the river
5	the way other people read a timetable: the colour
6	of the water tells him what is happening upstream,
7	and the speed of the drifting leaves tells him how
8	much rain fell in the hills. Visitors think the
9	river is dangerous. Jalil thinks it is simply
10	honest. It tells you exactly what it intends to
11	do, he says, provided you have learned to look at
12	the river properly and have not simply learned to
13	look at photographs of it.

FOUND ___ / 3	LINES BOXED ___ / 13	TIME TAKEN __ : __
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Trains: return sweep, visual tracking

Accuracy first; speed is what accuracy buys you

Answer Key

LOS-5.5 · Line Return · for the adult marking

Target

TASK 1 — RIVER

- 1 The longhouse stands on stilts above the
- 2 riverbank, and in the wet season the water rises
- 3 until it is only a metre below the floor. Jalil
- 4 **has lived here all his life. He can read the river**
- 5 the way other people read a timetable: the colour
- 6 of the water tells him what is happening upstream,
- 7 and the speed of the drifting leaves tells him how
- 8 much rain fell in the hills. Visitors think the
- 9 **river is dangerous. Jalil thinks it is simply**
- 10 honest. It tells you exactly what it intends to
- 11 do, he says, provided you have learned to look at
- 12 **the river properly and have not simply learned to**
- 13 look at photographs of it.

Lines carrying it

0 · 0 · 0 · 1 · 0 · 0 · 0 · 0 · 1 · 0 · 0 · 1 · 0 **3**

FIRST WORD OF EVERY LINE — THE RETURN SWEEP

- | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------|----------------|-----------|-----------|---------|--------|---------|----------|-----------|
| 1 → The | 2 → riverbank, | 3 → until | 4 → has | 5 → the | 6 → of | 7 → and | 8 → much | 9 → river |
| 10 → honest. | 11 → do, | 12 → the | 13 → look | | | | | |

A line skipped entirely is a return-sweep failure — the eye landed on the wrong line coming back. A target missed inside a line that was read is a scanning failure. They are different problems.