

Fluency Strip

Dense text, timed, repeated

NAME

DATE

PARENT / TEACHER

RETURN SWEEP

VISUAL TRACKING

READING FLUENCY

THE STRATEGY ON THIS SHEET

Box the first word of every line before you read, so the return sweep has a target waiting for it. Then read for meaning — you will be asked what the passage said, not only where the words were.

- 1 Box the first word of every line. Circle **quipu** wherever it appears. Circle **cords** as well.

- 1 High in the Andes, a system of knotted cords kept the
2 accounts of an empire that never developed writing in the
3 usual sense. The cords, called quipu, encoded numbers
4 through the position and type of each knot, and colour
5 appears to have carried meaning of its own. Spanish
6 administrators recorded that trained specialists could read
7 a quipu aloud, reciting tribute owed, populations counted
8 and goods stored, with an accuracy the administrators found
9 inconvenient. Most quipu were destroyed. Several hundred
10 survive in museums, and a small number have been matched
11 against colonial documents, which confirms that the
12 numerical portion has been correctly understood. The
13 remainder is not understood at all. Whether the
14 non-numerical cords recorded narrative, or names, or
15 something with no European equivalent, remains open, and the
16 surviving record is now too thin for the question to be
17 settled by evidence alone.

FOUND

___ / 3

SECOND TARGET

___ / 3

LINES BOXED

___ / 17

TIME TAKEN

__ : __

SECOND ATTEMPT, 3
DAYS ON

__ : __

Trains: return sweep, visual tracking, reading fluency

Repeat in three days, not tomorrow — spacing is the point

Answer Key

LOS-8.5 · Fluency Strip · for the adult marking

Target

TASK 1 — QUIPU

- 1 High in the Andes, a system of knotted cords kept the
- 2 accounts of an empire that never developed writing in the
- 3 **usual sense. The cords, called quipu, encoded numbers**
- 4 through the position and type of each knot, and colour
- 5 appears to have carried meaning of its own. Spanish
- 6 administrators recorded that trained specialists could read
- 7 **a quipu aloud, reciting tribute owed, populations counted**
- 8 and goods stored, with an accuracy the administrators found
- 9 **inconvenient. Most quipu were destroyed. Several hundred**
- 10 survive in museums, and a small number have been matched
- 11 against colonial documents, which confirms that the
- 12 numerical portion has been correctly understood. The
- 13 remainder is not understood at all. Whether the
- 14 non-numerical cords recorded narrative, or names, or
- 15 something with no European equivalent, remains open, and the
- 16 surviving record is now too thin for the question to be
- 17 settled by evidence alone.

Lines carrying it

0 · 0 · 1 · 0 · 0 · 0 · 1 · 0 · 1 · 0 · 0 · 0 · 0 · 0 · 0 · 0 · 0

3

TASK 1 — CORDS

- 1 **High in the Andes, a system of knotted cords kept the**
- 2 accounts of an empire that never developed writing in the
- 3 **usual sense. The cords, called quipu, encoded numbers**
- 4 through the position and type of each knot, and colour
- 5 appears to have carried meaning of its own. Spanish
- 6 administrators recorded that trained specialists could read
- 7 a quipu aloud, reciting tribute owed, populations counted
- 8 and goods stored, with an accuracy the administrators found
- 9 inconvenient. Most quipu were destroyed. Several hundred
- 10 survive in museums, and a small number have been matched
- 11 against colonial documents, which confirms that the

12 numerical portion has been correctly understood. The

13 remainder is not understood at all. Whether the

14 **non-numerical cords recorded narrative, or names, or**

15 something with no European equivalent, remains open, and the

16 surviving record is now too thin for the question to be

17 settled by evidence alone.

Lines carrying it 1 · 0 · 1 · 0 · 0 · 0 · 0 · 0 · 0 · 0 · 0 · 0 · 0 · 0 · 1 · 0 · 0 · 0 3

FIRST WORD OF EVERY LINE — THE RETURN SWEEP

- 1 → High
- 2 → accounts
- 3 → usual
- 4 → through
- 5 → appears
- 6 → administrators
- 7 → a
- 8 → and
- 9 → inconvenient.
- 10 → survive
- 11 → against
- 12 → numerical
- 13 → remainder
- 14 → non-numerical
- 15 → something
- 16 → surviving
- 17 → settled

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.