

	Page	Cory	Esmeralda*	Javier	Kimberly	Mac*	Rashaun	Average for All Readers
	2	0.85	1.16	0	0	1.07	0	0.51
	3	0	0.53	8.99	0.71	0.94	0	1.86
	5	1.33	0.31	0	0	1.36	0	0.50
	6	0	2.59	0	0.52	0.58	0	0.61
	6	0.46	0	0	0.95	0.9	0	0.38
	7	0.56	1.56	0	0.73	0	0	0.55
	8	0.48	4.31	2.33	1.57	1.93	0.18	1.52
Total Fixation Duration		3.68	10.46	11.32	4.48	6.78	.18	6.02
Average for Reader		.52	1.49	1.61	.64	.95	.02	.86

*bilingual reader

Table 3. Total Fixation Durations (in Seconds) on the Word *a* in Multiple Contexts

6. The location of fixations within words varied.

Readers' eye fixations were not always made on the center of a word, horizontally or vertically. Figure 4 shows that Kimberly's eye fixations were not neatly located in the center of words in any sense (fixations on the second line illustrate my point). Notice that Kimberly's fixations on the words *sitting* and *a* were located slightly above each word and to the right. With the word *rocking* there were two fixations, one toward the beginning and one toward the end of the word. Both fixations were toward the bottom of the word. The phenomenon of variability of fixation location

relative to centers of words was found in all readers' eye fixations.

7. When readers produced oral miscues, they usually had examined this word for longer than the average fixation time.

Paulson (2000) found that oral reading miscues are not caused by faulty eye movements, but rather that readers fixated the miscued word for periods of time well beyond their average fixation time. I also examined eye fixations and duration times of all of my readers' miscues to see if they exhibited similar behaviors.

Javier offers an example of how much time readers spent fixating a word before producing a miscue. His average fixation time is .71 seconds for each word in the story. Figure 5 shows his fixations on the word *counting* as numerals in seconds and as variable-sized dots. Javier spends 5.22 seconds more than his average fixation time (.71 seconds) in looking at the word *counting* before producing the miscue *holding*. This miscue is a syntactically and semantically acceptable alternative to *counting on*, but results in a partial change of meaning. (See miscue in Figure 5.) The fixation durations shown in Figure 5 represent only the last fixation sequence on *counting* just prior to saying *holding*. He had additional fixations that totaled 25.73 seconds on the word *counting* prior to producing his miscue.

Table 4 represents a tabulation of all readers' miscues and occasions when they fixated the miscued word for more or less time than their average fixation duration. The table shows that in 94% of the instances when readers miscued, they fixated the miscued word well beyond their average fixation time. In 6% of the instances they fixated the word for a period of time less than their average fixation time or they didn't fixate the word at all.



Figure 4. Eye fixations were not consistently made on the centers of words, horizontally or vertically.