Adventure on Highway 66

A snowstorm can be exciting. But too much snow can cause problems. I learned this in a way I will never forget.

My name is John Hearon. I’m a bus driver. At five o’clock one Monday morning I turned my bus onto Highway 66. It was snowing. But I was not used to driving in all kinds of weather. Maybe this storm wouldn’t last long.

As I drove, I counted my passengers. There were 14 – nine men, four women and a little two-year-old boy. It was so early that most of them were still asleep. No one seemed to worry about the storm.

But after an hour or two, I felt the wind getting stronger. The bus swayed from side to side. It was snowing harder, and I had to drive more and more slowly. I wished I had never started out. I didn’t like the look of things.

To score this passage, the teacher records any errors the student makes (e.g. misread words, omitted words, or added words). She calculates the number of words read correctly in one minute by subtracting the errors from the total number of words read. She uses the numbers at the end of each line in the passage to help. For example, Natalia made eleven mistakes. The last word she read was “boy.” The teacher looks at the line before the last word. There are 75 words. She then counts the number of words in the next line, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84. So Natalia read a total of 84 words. The teacher subtracts 11 from the total number of 84, which is a score of 73 words read correctly in one minute.