



Fluency

root dem



Do this

Read the passage three times: carefully, smoothly, like talking. Tick a box each time. Read the words over each scoop together.

When the People Were Counted

- 1 In a crowded province, the governor wanted to know how many people lived near the river, how many lived in the hills, and how many families needed grain after a dry season. He ordered a demographic record, which means a record about the people. Scribes walked from settlement to settlement. They counted households, listed trades, and noted which roads were safe for travel.
- 2 The count did not make the governor wise by itself. A leader could use the numbers well or badly. A benevolent leader might send grain to hungry villages, repair a bridge, or lower a tribute that had become too heavy. A harsh leader might demand more labor from the same people. That is why the scribe wrote a careful paragraph below the numbers. He explained what the count showed and warned that several villages near the border were weak after the drought.
- 3 The root dem means people. You can hear it in democracy, demographic, and epidemic. In this record, the root reminds the reader that numbers on a page stand for neighbors, families, and real needs.

Reading Tracker

Read 1: Read it carefully. ☐

Listener: ☐ ☐ ☐

Read 2: Read it smoothly. ☐

A word I practised:

Read 3: Read it like talking. ☐