

Name _____



Tea Time Fluency

Directions: Read the passage below **silently** for one minute. When the timer stops, **mark the last word** you read. Count the number of **words read accurately** in that minute and record your **Silent WPM (Words Per Minute)**. Then, reread the same passage **aloud** for one minute, marking where you stop again. Record your **Oral WPM**. Compare your two results: did you read faster silently or aloud? Which felt easier to understand?

“The Art of Japanese Tea Ceremonies”

In Japan, the tea ceremony called *chanoyu* is more than just drinking tea; it is a graceful tradition rooted in mindfulness, respect, and simplicity. The ceremony began over four hundred years ago, inspired by Zen Buddhism, which teaches awareness of the present moment. Each movement in the ritual, from folding the napkin to stirring the tea, is done with care and intention.

The host prepares a powdered green tea called *matcha* using a bamboo whisk and bowl. Guests bow before entering the tearoom, appreciating its quiet beauty. Conversation is gentle, and the focus stays on gratitude rather than hurry. Even the smallest details, like the choice of cup or the pattern on the scroll, are meant to reflect harmony and balance. To experience a Japanese tea ceremony is to slow down, appreciate calmness, and understand how art can live in even the simplest daily actions.

Silent WPM: _____

Oral WPM: _____

Reflection: Was your silent reading faster or slower than your oral reading? Why do you think that is?
