## A. Jane Barnes: Precision Learning a Collegiate Vocabulary

**Claudia E. McDade**

Learning Skills 102: Freshman Orientation is taught within the Center for Individualized Instruction at Jacksonville State University. Designed to assist entering freshmen in adjusting to college, to managing their own behavior, to handling the freedom issues that threaten their remaining in college, LS 102 also addresses study skills. Since the average college bound high school graduate reads at the tenth grade level, faculty in the Department of Learning Skills are dedicated to enhancing the vocabulary skills of students in four courses. In some courses students learn word parts--prefixes, suffixes, and root words; in others, they learn to discriminate easily confused words. Several Precision Teaching techniques used include SAFMEDS, practice sheets, and the Computer-Based Precision Learning System™ (McDade, 1992).

In LS 102 students are given a pretest on 300 words that were found from surveying freshman level textbooks. Then they are given the list of words to make SAFMEDS of them. They are taught to chart their progress on a daily Standard Celeration Chart and encouraged to study, practice, and chart at least three times a week. Words are discussed in class in the context of examples and appropriate sentence usage. Students then take written tests of five minutes duration over the full list of 300 words.

Kevin was an 18 year old college freshman in LS 102 in Spring Semester, 1992. His pretest score was zero, while his posttest was 130. Over seven weeks' duration Kevin maintained his high rate on the written test.

---

## Notes from Below the Floor

_____◇◇◇_____

I am interested in more Charts of pleasant and unpleasant feelings and positive and negative thoughts, especially those using of the one minute timing with inners!

My request includes:

projects using a one minute timing,
projects of counting only,
Charts with all-day or partial-day record floors,
projects you begin today as a result of reading this ad, and any other variety of Charts in which you or someone you supervise counted a pair of inner behaviors.

Please send to: Abigail B. Calkin
631 Lane
Topeka, KS 66606-1536
(913) 354-7018