

WHAT HAPPENS DURING THE READING TEST?

Children are given a drink and biscuit/cereal bar as they arrive for register.

They will do some warm-up activities with the test lead (their tutor or their English teacher).

Some children will go to do their test elsewhere.

Papers will be given to children, and the instructions shared.

Children will have 1 hour* to read and answer questions about the 3 different texts. (**Some children will have 1 ¼ hours*).

Word count				
Extract	2016	2017	2018	2019
First	629	601	568	860
Second	780	709	230	632
Third	635	629	1348	1281
Total	2044	1939	2146	2773



**THE TEST ALWAYS HAS
3 DIFFERENT TEXTS,
INCLUDING 1
NON-FICTION.**

**THE TEXTS INCREASE IN
COMPLEXITY.**

Year	Text 1	Text 2	Text 3	Total	Pass mark (out of 50)
2014	627 (The Humble Potato)	576 (The Octopus)	652 (White Fang)	1,855	19
2015	505 (Charlie Small)	708 (Guide Dogs)	658 (California's Unlikely Warriors)	1,871	18
2016	384 (The Lost Queen)	768 (Wild Ride)	635 (The Way of the Dodo)	1,787	21
2017	602 (Gaby to the Rescue)	709 (Swimming the English Channel)	626 (An Encounter at Sea)	1,937	26
2018	560 (The Giant Panda Bear)	214 (Grannie poem)	714 (Albion's Dream)	1,488	28
2019	633 (The Park)	632 (Fact Sheet: About Bumblebees)	903 (Music Box)	2,168	28

**THE 'PASS MARK' (to meet
age-related standards)
changes every year.**



READING SKILLS

Not Just Word Reading

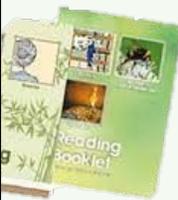
Content domain reference

2a	give / explain the meaning of words in context
2b	retrieve and record information / identify key details from fiction and non-fiction
2c	summarise main ideas from more than one paragraph
2d	make inferences from the text / explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text
2e	predict what might happen from details stated and implied
2f	identify / explain how information / narrative content is related and contributes to meaning as a whole
2g	identify / explain how meaning is enhanced through choice of words and phrases
2h	make comparisons within the text

Children struggle most with questions relating to inference (tested domain 2d):

- *it often involves more than one step.
- *children prefer to copy information rather than infer from a range of clues.
- *they are more likely to involve the child having to explain.
- *the question format tends to be the most challenging, in that the questions tend not to fall into the easier 'tick a box' type response.
- *it tends to be one of the most heavily tested domains.

Content domain	2023	2022	2019	2018	2017	2016
2a (vocabulary)	18%	10%	12%	20%	20%	20%
2b (retrieval)	32%	38%	42%	26%	28%	30%
2c (summarise)	2%	4%	2%	6%	4%	2%
2d (inference)	46%	44%	36%	44%	44%	36%
2e (predict)	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%	6%
2f (narrative content)	2%	2%	0%	0%	2%	2%
2g (enhancing meaning)	0%	0%	6%	0%	2%	4%
2h (comparisons)	0%	0%	2%	4%	0%	0%



1

Look at the first paragraph.

How can you tell Priya was feeling nervous?

Write **two** ways.

1. _____

2. _____

2 marks

2

Look at page 4.

Why did Priya find it surprising to hear two vehicles drive by?

1 mark

“Not necessarily a problem, but for the 2023 test to contain 2,106 words (the maximum allowed is 2,300) and the 2022 test only containing 1,564 words, this drastically reduces the time available to answer the test questions by 8 and a half minutes” compared to the year before.

Question 1 (2d inference) and question 2 (2d inference).

In 2023, there were two inference questions right at the start of the paper. They required pupils to re-read the text to find the answers, rather than more straightforward retrieval questions which can be found at speed.

WHAT CAN I DO AT HOME?

Regular language discussion

Encouraging and engaging in **daily reading** whether your child reads on their own or if you read together.

Discuss the books, the characters, the storylines and encourage your child to express their own opinions on the book. This is important to their long term development as well as SATs test. Talk about everything and expect your child to explain their views and reasoning.

These are the texts we read in class together:



Don't get stuck! Encourage your child to read a range of books - go to AR Bookfinder for ideas.

