

Reading Plus Anchor Skills and how they align with the KS2 reading content domains

| Reading Plus Anchor Skills | Reading Plus Subskills | KS2 reading content domains |
|--------------------------------|---|---|
| 1. Close reading | | Includes: Retrieval, inference and summarising (2B, 2D, 2C) |
| | A. Recalling explicit details | |
| | • Identifying explicit details | 2b Retrieval |
| | • Identifying speaker and character details | 2b |
| | • Identifying setting details | 2b |
| | B. Analysing implicit details | |
| | • Making inferences | 2d Inference |
| | • Drawing conclusions | 2c Summarising |
| 2. Main idea and themes | | Includes: Summarising |
| | A. Determining the main ideas and themes | 2c |
| | B. Determining relative importance | 2b |
| | C. Summarising and paraphrasing | 2c |
| 3. Interaction of ideas | | Includes: Author's choice, prediction, and examines relationship in the content (identify/explain how information/narrative is related and contributes to meaning as a whole) |
| | A. Predicting outcomes | 2e Prediction |
| | B. Analysing setting/ plot/ character | 2f Relationship of ideas within a text to contribute to overall meaning |
| | C. Analysing cause and effect | 2g Recognising author's intent |
| 4. Use of language | | Includes: Vocabulary and author's choice |
| | A. Interpreting word meaning | 2a Vocabulary |
| | • Interpreting word meaning definitions | 2a |
| | • Interpreting word meaning figurative language | 2a |
| 5. Structure | | Includes: Relationships in content (identify/explain how information/narrative relates and contributes to meaning as a whole) and summarising |
| | A. Examining text structure | 2f, 2h |
| | B. Examining sequence of ideas and events | 2f, 2b |
| | C. Genre | |

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|----------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| 6. Point of view | | Includes: Author's choice |
| | A. Recognising author's purpose | 2g |
| | B. Recognising persuasion | |
| | • Recognising persuasive devices | 2g, 2b, 2d |
| | • Recognising mood and tone | 2g, 2b, 2d |
| | • Recognising fact and opinion | 2g, 2b, 2d |
| 7. Imaging scaffolds | | Includes: Summarising |
| | A. Interpreting images and maps | 2f |
| 8. Reasoning and rhetoric | | Includes: Relationships between content (identify/explain how information/narrative is related and contributes to meaning as a whole) |
| | A. Judging validity | 2d, 2b |
| | B. Reasoning | 2d |
| 9. Comparative reasoning | | Includes: Comparison |
| | A. Comparing and contrasting | 2h Compare and Contrast |
| | B. Classifying | 2h |

Reading content domains weight in recent SATs

| KS2 reading content domains | % of marks in 2022 | % of marks in 2023 | % of marks in 2024 | % of marks in 2025 |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 2a Give/explain the meaning of words in context. | 10% | 18% | 10% | 12% |
| 2b Retrieve and record information/ identify key details from fiction and non-fiction. | 38% | 32% | 38% | 30% |
| 2c Summarise main ideas from more than one paragraph. | 4% | 2% | 2% | 6% |
| 2d Make inferences from text/ explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text. | 44% | 46% | 44% | 48% |
| 2e Predict what might happen from details stated and implied. | 2% | 0% | 0% | 0% |
| 2f Identify/ explain how information/ narrative content is related and contributes to meaning as a whole. | 2% | 2% | 0% | 0% |
| 2g Identify/ explain how meaning is enhanced through choice of words and phrases. | 0% | 0% | 0% | 2% |
| 2h Make comparisons within the text. | 0% | 0% | 6% | 2% |

Comparison between 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025 SATs Reading paper

| Text | Indicator | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 |
|------|-------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1 | Text type | Fiction | Fiction | Non-fiction | Non-fiction |
| | Word count | 450 | 627 | 578 | 578 |
| | Reading time at 185 wpm* | 2.4 mins | 3.3 mins | 3.1 mins | 3.1 mins |
| | Readability | Y3 | Y3 | Y9 | Y6 |
| | Reading Plus level equivalent | B | B | H | E |
| | Marks available | 16 | 14 | 16 | 14 |
| Text | Indicator | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 |
| 2 | Text type | Non-fiction | Non-fiction | Fiction | Fiction |
| | Word count | 540 | 808 | 648 | 546 |
| | Reading time at 185 wpm* | 2.9 mins | 4.4 mins | 3.5 mins | 3 mins |
| | Readability | Y5 | Y7 | Y3 | Y6 |
| | Reading Plus level equivalent | D | F | B | E/F |
| | Marks available | 16 | 20 | 18 | 18 |
| Text | Indicator | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 |
| 3 | Text type | Fiction | Fiction | Fiction | Fiction |
| | Word count | 580 | 611 | 786 | 730 |
| | Reading time at 185 wpm* | 3 mins | 3.3 mins | 4.2 mins | 4 mins |
| | Readability | Y8 | Y5 | Y6 | Y6 / Y7 |
| | Reading Plus level equivalent | G | D | E | F |
| | Marks available | 19 | 16 | 16 | 18 |

**185 wpm is the recommended reading fluency speed for the end of Y6.*

Analysis of readability levels are conducted using the [Lexile Analyzer[®]](#) model.