En

READING



English tests

Subject-specific guidance

Reading

Reading test: administration in one session	
 15 minutes' reading time 45 minutes to answer the questions 	
Reading test: administration in two sessions	
Session one: 5 minutes' reading time 20 minutes to answer the questions	 Session two: 10 minutes' reading time 25 minutes to answer the questions

Key points

- The reading test must be administered before the writing and spelling tests.
- The reading test is one hour long. It is in two parts and can either be administered in one session or split over two sessions. See below (one session) or overleaf (two sessions) for details.
- You should ensure that each pupil has a *Reading booklet* and a *Reading answer booklet*.

For information only: Some of the 2006 test papers have been printed with bar codes and computer recognition marks. This is for a trial in electronic marking, which will take place after the 2006 test series. You should administer the tests in the usual way.

Administration in one session

- Pupils must be instructed to read the whole *Reading booklet* during the 15 minutes' reading time. They must not look at the questions in the *Reading answer booklet* during this time.
- Remind pupils that they will be able to refer to the *Reading booklet* when they are answering the questions.
- After the 15 minutes' reading time, ask pupils to write their name and the name of the school in the appropriate boxes on the *Reading answer* booklet. Explain that the *Reading answer booklet* has questions on each text in the *Reading booklet* and on the booklet as a whole.
- Read the 'remember' section on the front cover of the *Reading answer* booklet to the pupils.
- Explain to pupils that they should work through the whole *Reading answer booklet*, referring to the *Reading booklet* as necessary. If they cannot answer a question, they should move on and return to it later.
- Explain to pupils that if they have any problems they may ask for help, but they cannot be helped with the answering of any questions or have any words read to them.
- Give pupils appropriate time reminders during the test.

Administration in two sessions

Session one:

- Pupils must be instructed to read only the first section (pages 2–5) of the *Reading booklet* during the 5 minutes' reading time. They must not look at the questions in the *Reading answer booklet* during this time.
- Pupils must be instructed to stop reading when they reach the bottom of page 5.
- Remind pupils that they will be able to refer to the *Reading booklet* when they are answering the questions.
- After the 5 minutes' reading time, explain to the pupils that the *Reading answer booklet* has questions on each text in the *Reading booklet* and on the booklet as a whole.
- Read the 'remember' section on the front cover of the *Reading answer* booklet to the pupils.
- Pupils have 20 minutes to answer the questions. They must be instructed to answer Part 1 only of the *Reading answer booklet*, stopping at the bottom of page 5.
- Explain to pupils that they should work through Part 1 (stopping at page 5) of the *Reading answer booklet*, referring to the first section of the *Reading booklet* as necessary. If they cannot answer a question, they should move on and return to it later.
- Explain to pupils that if they have any problems they may ask for help, but they cannot be helped with the answering of any questions or have any words read to them.
- Give pupils appropriate time reminders during the test.
- All pupils' test materials must be collected in and stored safely until they are required for session two.

Session two:

- Pupils must be reissued with their *Reading answer booklet* from session one and a copy of the *Reading booklet*.
- Pupils must be instructed to read only the second section (pages 6–13) of the *Reading booklet* during the 10 minutes' reading time. They must not look at the questions in the *Reading answer booklet* during this time.
- Remind pupils that they will be able to refer to the *Reading booklet* when they are answering the questions.
- Pupils have 25 minutes to answer the questions. They must be instructed to answer Part 2 only of the *Reading answer booklet*, starting at page 6 and continuing until they have reached the end of the booklet.
- Explain to pupils that they should work through Part 2 of the *Reading answer booklet*, referring to the *Reading booklet* as necessary. If they cannot answer a question, they should move on and return to it later.
- Explain to pupils that if they have any problems they may ask for help, but they cannot be helped with the answering of any questions or have any words read to them.
- Give pupils appropriate time reminders during the test.