



A SATs Guide for Parents



Reading

The reading test consists of a single test paper with three unrelated reading texts. Children are given 60 minutes in total, which includes reading the texts and answering the questions.

A total of 50 marks are available.

Questions are designed to assess the comprehension and understanding of a child's reading.

During the reading paper, a child's inference and deduction skills are thoroughly tested. They will also be expected to answer questions on authorial choices, explaining why an author has chosen to use particular vocabulary, grammar and text features.

Some questions are multiple choice or selected response; others require short answers and some require an extended response or explanation.

Sample Questions:

1 What evidence is there of Martine being stubborn in the way she behaved with her grandmother?

Give **two** points.

1. _____

2. _____

1 Look at the paragraph beginning: One of the victims...

What does the word **invaders** suggest about the humans arriving on Mauritius?

How to help with reading at home:

Focus on developing an enjoyment and love of reading.

Enjoy stories together – reading stories to your child is equally as important as listening to your child read.

Read a little at a time but often, rather than rarely but for long periods of time!

Talk about the story before, during and afterwards – discuss the plot, the characters, their feelings and actions, how it makes you feel, predict what will happen and encourage your child to have their own opinions.

Look up definitions of words together – you could use a dictionary, the Internet or an app on a phone or tablet.

All reading is valuable – it doesn't have to be just stories. Reading can involve anything from fiction and non-fiction, poetry, newspapers, magazines, football programmes, TV guides.

Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar

Paper 1 of the spelling, punctuation and grammar test focuses on vocabulary, punctuation and grammar.

This test lasts for 45 minutes and requires short answer questions including some multiple choice. A total of 50 marks are available.

Paper 2 is a spelling test containing 20 words, which lasts approximately 15 minutes.

A total of 20 marks are available.

Marks for these two tests are added together to give a total out of 70 for spelling, punctuation and grammar.

Sample Questions:

1 Tick to show whether each sentence is **active** or **passive**.

Sentence	Active	Passive
Otters live in clean rivers.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fish are eaten by otters.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Usually, otters are playful creatures.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

1 Which verb completes the sentence so that it uses the **subjunctive form**?

I wish I _____ able to join you, but it will not be possible.

am

was

were

be

How to help with writing at home:

Practise and learn weekly spelling lists – make it fun!

Encourage opportunities for writing such as letters to family or friends, shopping lists, notes or reminders, stories and poems.

Write together – be a good role model for writing.

Encourage use of a dictionary to check spelling and a thesaurus to find synonyms and expand vocabulary.

Remember that good readers become good writers! Identify good writing features when reading (e.g. vocabulary, sentence structure and punctuation).

Maths

For mathematics, children will sit three tests: paper 1, paper 2 and paper 3.

Paper 1 is for arithmetic lasting for 30 minutes, covering calculation methods for all operations, including use of fractions, percentages and decimals. Questions gradually increase in difficulty.

Papers 2 and 3 cover problem solving and reasoning, each lasting for 40 minutes.

Pupils will still require calculation skills but will need to answer questions in context and decide what is required to find a solution.

Sample Questions:

Paper One - Arithmetic

1.	$3.005 + 6.12 =$	<input data-bbox="826 1323 1206 1417" type="text"/> <input data-bbox="1262 1346 1353 1435" type="radio"/>
----	------------------	--

2.	$43 \overline{)1118}$	<input data-bbox="826 1962 1206 2056" type="text"/> <input data-bbox="1262 1984 1353 2074" type="radio"/>
----	-----------------------	--

Paper Two and Three - Reasoning

1

6 pencils cost **£1.68**

3 pencils and 1 rubber cost **£1.09**

What is the cost of **1 rubber**?

Show your
method.

2

$$5542 \div 17 = 326$$

Explain how you can use this fact to find the answer to 18×326

How to help with maths at home:

Play times tables games.

Play mental maths games including counting in different amounts, forwards and backwards.

Encourage opportunities for telling the time.

Encourage opportunities for counting coins and money; finding amounts or calculating change when shopping.

Look for examples of 2D and 3D shapes around the home.

Identify, weigh or measure quantities and amounts in the kitchen or in recipes.