

English reading

Working towards the expected standard

The pupil can:

- read accurately by blending the sounds in words that contain the common graphemes for all 40+ phonemes*
- read accurately some words of two or more syllables that contain the same grapheme-phoneme correspondences (GPCs)*
- read many common exception words.*

In a book closely matched to the GPCs as above, the pupil can:

- read aloud many words quickly and accurately without overt sounding and blending
- sound out many unfamiliar words accurately.

In discussion with the teacher, the pupil can:

- answer questions and make inferences on the basis of what is being said and done in a familiar book that is read to them.

Working at the expected standard

The pupil can:

- read accurately most words of two or more syllables
- read most words containing common suffixes*
- read most common exception words.*

In age-appropriate books, the pupil can:

- read words accurately and fluently without overt sounding and blending, e.g. at over 90 words per minute
- sound out most unfamiliar words accurately, without undue hesitation.

In a familiar book that they can already read accurately and fluently, the pupil can:

- check it makes sense to them
- answer questions and make some inferences on the basis of what is being said and done.

* These are detailed in the word lists within the spelling appendix to the national curriculum (English Appendix 1). Teachers should refer to these to exemplify the words that pupils should be able read as well as spell.

Working at greater depth within the expected standard

The pupil can, in a book they are reading independently:

- make inferences on the basis of what is said and done
- predict what might happen on the basis of what has been read so far
- make links between the book they are reading and other books they have read.