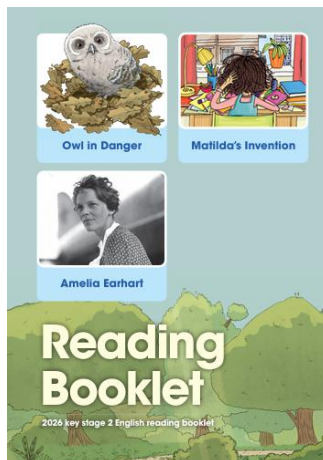


Texts



<p>This is a story about two friends who make a surprising discovery.</p> <h3>Owl in Danger</h3> <p>“Quick – over here!” Mandy shouted to her friend, James. She knelt down in a pile of last autumn’s fallen leaves, gently brushing some aside.</p> <p>Mandy and James were out walking in Monkton Spinney near Wolford, the Yorkshire village where they lived. Mandy had spotted something in the carpet of leaves beneath one of the oak trees.</p> <p>“What have you found?” James ran over and skidded to a halt beside her. His trainers set up a spray of leaves. He pushed his glasses back up his nose and looked down at the little hollow Mandy had made in the leaves.</p> <p>Mandy cupped her hands together and lifted something very carefully from the ground. She held what looked like a bundle of bedraggled feathers. Two round, dark eyes stared up at James. A sharp, hooked beak opened and a kind of creamy noise came out. It sounded like a gasp that needed sipping. Mandy drew in her breath. She gazed up at James with closing eyes.</p> <p>“Oh! Look, it’s a baby owl!”</p> <p>James touched the tiny creature gently with his fingertips. “What kind of owl is it?”</p> <p>“A tawny owl, I think,” said Mandy. “Oh, the poor thing!” She had thought it might be an owl when the first spind of bundles of grey-brown flecked feathers lying among the leaves. Although she’d seen pictures of baby owls, she had never actually seen a live one. It felt soft and beautiful and very fragile.</p> <p>“Wow!” exclaimed James. His eyes were wide behind his glasses. “Where did it come from, Mandy?”</p>	<p>LUCY DANIELS</p>	<p>Owl in Danger – excerpt taken from Owl in the Office (Animal Ark) By Ben M. Baglio, 1999</p>	<p>605 words.</p> <p>Flesch-Kincaid Level – 4.5 - Year 5.</p>
<p>This is an extract from a book about a character named Matilda, who loves science and dreams of becoming a famous inventor.</p> <h3>Matilda's Invention</h3> <p>You meant to describe yourself in books, so here goes: the shortest for my age. I have light brown shoulder-length hair that I never brush because I have more important things on my mind like... What shall I create today? So be worrying about how to look. I always wear blue dungarees because they have the most pockets. I have a pencil tucked behind my ear, a tape measure slipped to my belt and a screwdriver in my rucksack.</p> <p>I AM READY TO INVENT AT ALL TIMES!</p> <p>A famous guy called Thomas Edison once said, “To invent, you need a good imagination and a pile of junk.” He was the man who invented light bulbs, so he was very bright.</p> <p>I have lots – good imagination and lots of stuff!</p> <p>My skills in life are:</p> <p>ISAMBAARD KIEZKOPH BRUNEL. He built huge bridges, like the Clifton Suspension Bridge, huge ships, like the ironclad Great Britain, steam tractors, like London Paddington, and probably also some stuff that was small, like maybe a lock-holder (I don't know that for certain).</p> <p>MARY ANDESSON. You know what it's raising and an adult's driving and puts the windows down on them, yes, they Anderson. (She invented the wipers.)</p> <p>I've wanted to be an inventor for as long as I can remember.</p> <p>My Grandad was my mentor. Once a week, my parents and I would visit him and Grandpa Jim for Sunday lunch. I knew that Grandpa Jim had been a scientist himself, years and years ago, but she didn't talk about it at all and I wasn't allowed to ask her about it. Grandad was a bit before he retired, but was an inventor in his spare time, so he and I would leave my parents and Grandpa Jim drinking boring cups of tea and disappear into his workshop at the bottom of the garden and invent the next. It was my favourite hour of the week.</p>	<p>ELLIE IRVING</p>	<p>Matilda's Invention - excerpt taken from The Matilda Effect by Ellie Irving, 2017.</p>	<p>632 words.</p> <p>Flesch-Kincaid Level – 5.96 – Year 6.</p>
<h3>Amelia Earhart</h3> <p>Early air travel</p> <p>Before the airplane was invented, travelling over long distances was very difficult and took much longer than it does today. It wasn't until 1903 that the first successful plane was invented. Later, the period between 1910 and 1939 was considered a golden age of flying. This was because of the achievement of brave, pioneering pilots who flew in some of the first powered planes.</p> <p>In those days, travelling by plane wasn't comfortable or easy. As flying became popular as a form of transport, there were lots of improvements to the way it which planes were built. There were also many opportunities for pilots to take part in extraordinary displays of their flying skills to capture the public's imagination. As well as performing at airshows, aviators began planning longer and longer flights, trying to fly to different continents, which previously could only be reached by long sea voyages. Flying had opened up a new era of adventure and exploration.</p> <p>Amelia's first flight</p> <p>Pushing the limits of aircraft and setting aviation records became the goal of a select few, among them a young American woman called Amelia Earhart. Amelia had her first flight when she was 23. By the time the plane was a few hundred feet off the ground, she was determined to learn to fly by herself. She was a strong-willed and ambitious person and, even though most pilots were men at that time, she did not change her mind. When she earned her pilot's licence in 1923, she was only the sixteenth woman in the world to do so.</p> <p>In June 1928, only one year after Charles Lindbergh completed the first solo flight across the Atlantic, Amelia was invited to accompany pilots Wilmer Stultz and Louis Gordon on a flight in their plane called 'Friendship'. They flew from Newfoundland in Canada to Wales, and she became the first woman to travel across the Atlantic as a pilot. The three became known as the 'Three Amigos', although Amelia had never set out to fly. The journey had opened up a new era of flying, the plane was not just a flying machine, but a book about the flight became a bestseller.</p> <p>Amelia Earhart in front of the 'Friendship' in 1928</p>	<p>Amelia's fame</p> <p>As she became well known as a successful modern woman, companies paid Amelia to promote and advertise their products. This meant that she was able to earn enough money to fund her flying career. She gained a reputation for her own flying skills and set a number of records, breaking flight records by herself. She made the first solo flight by a woman across the American continent and back. Amelia completed in November of 1931 the first solo circumnavigation of the world by setting a record of 30,143 hours, 49 minutes, 23 seconds, 30.143 hours, 49 minutes, 23 seconds.</p> <p>Amelia's next record attempt</p> <p>Amelia had a strong desire to go another extraordinary flying achievement: to fly around the globe at its widest points, the equator. She had a plane built specifically for the attempt, with a greatly increased fuel capacity, which meant she could fly further without stopping to refuel. In 1931, Amelia set out from Oakland, California, intending to fly from east to west around the equator. An accident in Hawaii, however, crushed her major repairs being needed to the plane.</p> <p>Amelia's last flight</p> <p>It wasn't until three months later in June that she began her attempt again from Oakland, this time travelling from west to east. She reached New Guinea, north of Australia, 20 days later, having covered about 25,000 kilometres or two-thirds of the distance. The next leg of the journey was going to be a very difficult and dangerous one. She was planning to land on Howland Island, a remote island in the Pacific Ocean with only four miles of coastline. On the island, she would take on fuel from a US coastguard ship waiting to assist her with the risky part of her journey.</p> <p>On 2nd July 1935, Amelia and her navigator left Lee in New Guinea to fly the 4,000 kilometres to Howland Island but were never seen again. What happened to Amelia Earhart is one of the most enduring mysteries of aviation. A massed and expensive search was carried out at the time, and no trace of her plane was found. There have been numerous investigations and rumours about her disappearance over the years. However, the search she left on the world of aviation was, and still is, insolvable.</p> <p>The route of Amelia's last flight</p>	<p>Amelia Earhart commissioned by STA, 2026.</p>	<p>690 words (including captions and labels).</p> <p>Flesch-Kincaid Level – 8.0 – Early Secondary.</p>

KS2 SATs 2026 Reading Analysis

Content Domain Coverage

	Percentage of 2026 test	Percentage range outlined by the test developers' framework	Percentage of 2025 test	Percentage change based on last test
2a - define	10%	10 - 20%	12%	-2%
2b - retrieve	36%	16 - 50%	30%	+6%
2c - summarise	4%	2 - 12%	6%	-2%
2d - infer	42%	16 - 50%	48%	-6%
2e - predict	0%	0 - 6%	0%	=
2f - relate	4%	0 - 6%	0%	+4%
2g - explore	4%	0 - 6%	2%	+2%
2h - compare	0%	0 - 6%	2%	-2%

Question Stems

Question Style (NB. questions can have more than one)	Marks Available
Who	2
What	9
What does this tell you...	1
What does...suggest about...	1
What are the two.../What two...	2
When	1
Why	5
How	5
Write two	8
Write three	3
According to...	2
What is the meaning of the word...in this sentence	2
The word...is closest in meaning to...	1
The word...tells us that...	1
What does the word...tell you about...	1
The way the text is written makes it seem as though...	1
Using information from the text, write the year...	1
Tick one box in each row to show whether each statement is true or false	2
Tick one box in each row to show whether each statement is about what...or...did	2
Think about/Look at the whole text	8
Impression and evidence	3
Number	2
Complete the table	5
Grid	3
Tick box	9
1 mark	28
2 marks	16
3 marks	6

Reading Booklet Word Count				
	Word Count: Text 1	Word Count: Text 2	Word Count: Text 3	Total Word Count
2016	384	768	635	1787
2017	602	709	626	1937
2018	560	214	714	1488
2019	633	632	903	2168
2022	474	538	541	1553
2023	627	808	611	2046
2024	578	648	786	2012
2025	578	551	800	1929
2026	605	632	690	1927

Total Word Count (Reading Booklet and Questions)			
	Reading Booklet	Questions	Total
2016	1787	930	2717
2017	1937	1203	3140
2018	1488	1077	2565
2019	2168	1020	3188
2022	1553	975	2528
2023	2046	1174	3220
2024	2012	1061	3073
2025	1929	1106	3035
2026	1927	1142	3069

