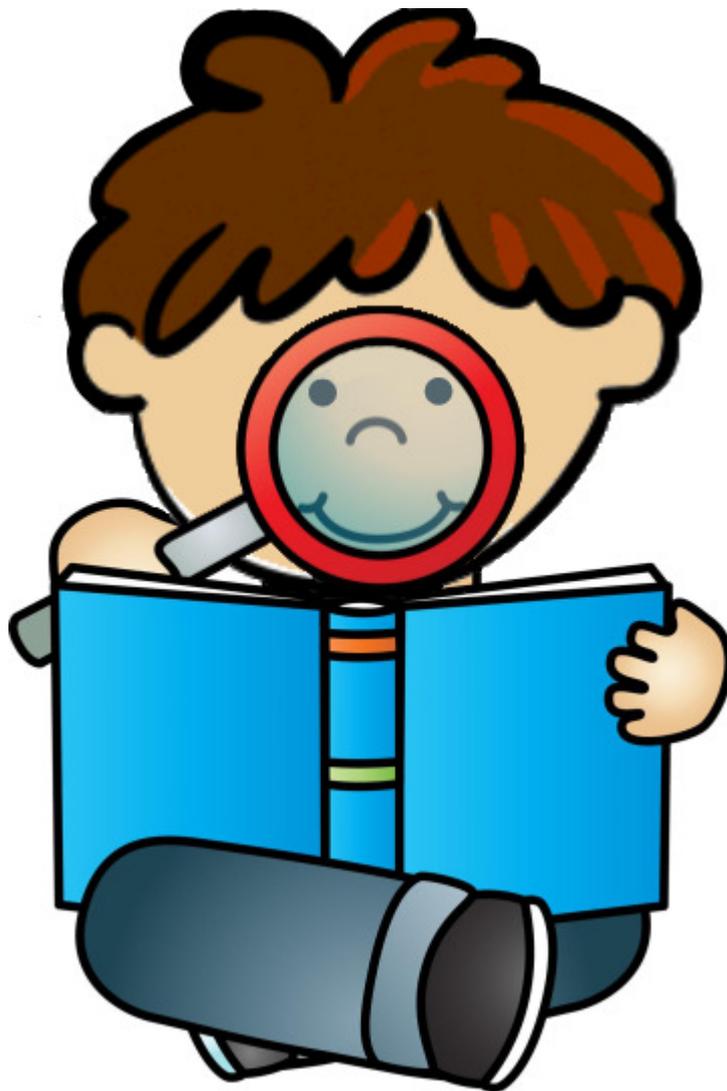


# KS2 Reading for Inference



Name.....

## READING FOR INFERENCE 1

### Breakfast at Sasha's

Despite the fact that they didn't get to sleep until past 3 a.m., Sasha and her friend Ellie were downstairs, at the kitchen table, as the digital clock on the oven blinked exactly 8 o'clock.

"There's no school or work today so we have a special breakfast." said Sasha's dad, "Sit yourself down Ellie and help yourself to some orange juice."

Dad had all sorts going on in the kitchen and it was the smell drifting upstairs that had lured and tempted the girls downstairs so early. "We love a fry up when we don't have to go to school, we do it every week." said Dad, who looked a little silly standing by the cooker in a pink, frilly apron.

"Now then Ellie, we have a bit of everything today, a proper feast. I hope you're hungry."

Ellie nodded but Sasha noticed she had a bit of a worried look on her face.

"Guests first.....Ellie would you like...sausages?"

"No thanks, Mr Richards." said Ellie politely.

"Eggs?"

"Yes please."

"Some nice crispy bacon?"

"No thanks."

"Beans?"

"Oh yes please."

"I've got some fried bread?"

"Great." smiled Ellie.

"And a special treat," said Dad, picking a plate off the top of the microwave, "Ta-da! Mushrooms and black pudding!"

"Ooh," said Ellie, "Yes to the mushrooms but I'll pass on the black pudding. Thank you this looks great."

"I don't really need to ask you do I Sasha? A bit of everything?"

"Yes please Dad." replied Sasha and all three of them tucked into their breakfast.

## READING FOR INFERENCE 1

### Breakfast at Sasha's Questions

1. What is the setting of this story?

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2. Do you think it is 'contemporary' (set in the present time)? What clues tell you this?

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3. What day of the week do you think it might be? What clues tell you this?

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4. Which two words from the text describe how the girls were drawn downstairs?

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5. What word (not in the piece) best describes Ellie staying at Sasha's for the night?

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6. How many hours sleep do you think they had?

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7. Ellie chooses only some of the breakfast foods offered. Is there a pattern to her choices? Why do you think she decides to make these choices?

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8. In the text, there is a hint that Sasha suspects Ellie might be a bit uncomfortable. Which sentence suggests this?

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## READING FOR INFERENCE 1

### Breakfast at Sasha's answers

1. What is the setting of this story?

*The kitchen in Sasha's house*

2. Do you think it is 'contemporary' (set in the present time)? What clues tell you this?

*Yes. Digital clock on the oven, a microwave in the kitchen*

3. What day of the week do you think it might be? What clues tell you this?

*Saturday or Sunday, no school or work and a weekly event.*

4. Which two words from the piece describe how the girls were drawn downstairs?

*'Lured' and 'tempted'.*

5. What word (not in the piece) best describes Ellie staying at Sasha's for the night?

*Sleepover.*

6. How many hours sleep do you think they had?

*About 5 hours.*

7. Ellie chooses only some of the breakfast foods offered. Is there a pattern to her choices? Why do you think she decides to make these choices?

*She only chooses non-meat foods, possibly a vegetarian.*

8. In the piece there is a hint that Sasha suspects Ellie might be a bit uncomfortable. Which sentence suggests this?

*"She had a bit of a worried look on her face".*

## READING FOR INFERENCE 2

### The Little Shop of Curiosities

As Maggie opened the creaky door, a little brass bell that was attached to the door frame, announced her arrival. Her hands tightened on the small package she was holding. The shop was dark, dusty and every available shelf and cabinet were crammed full of unusual and exotic objects. The only light in the room came from two hissing gas lamps on the furthest wall behind the counter and a candle set in an old wine bottle. The wine bottle was set on the counter and long streaks of molten wax had made unusual cascading shapes all down the neck and base of the bottle.

As Maggie stood in the doorway, clutching the precious small parcel, she became immediately aware of the sound of shuffling, slow footsteps, descending the creaking, wooden stairs from the room above the shop. After a moment or two, the strange, stooping figure of a little man appeared in the doorway behind the counter. He was dressed in a dark, dusty and tattered old black coat that had known better days. Perched on his nose, were a pair of small spectacles. But the most alarming aspect of his appearance was the sight of his ears! They were enormous. And protruding from inside his head, were great tufts of grey, curly hair.

"How can I help you my dear?" he said in a croaky, thin voice.

## READING FOR INFERENCE 2

### The Little Shop of Curiosities

#### Questions

1 What is the setting of this text?

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2. a) When do you think this passage is set?  
b) What evidence leads you to this conclusion?

a)

b)

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3. The piece does not mention what kind of objects were on the shelves and in the cabinets. Using your imagination, what do you think these objects might have been and why?

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4. The writer says that the man's coat "*had known better days*", what do you think this might mean?

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5. How old do you think the little man is? What words in the piece give you a clue to his age?
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## READING FOR INFERENCE 2

### The Little Shop of Curiosities

#### Answers

1 What is the setting of this text?

A dusty old shop.

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2. a) When do you think this passage is set?  
b) What evidence leads you to this conclusion?

a) Olden times.

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b) Gas lights, candles, bell on the door not electric.

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3. The piece does not mention what kind of objects were on the shelves and in the cabinets. Using your imagination, what do you think these objects might have been and why?

Stuffed animals, old pottery, etc.

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4. The writer says that the man's coat "*had known better days*", what do you think this might mean?

Was showing signs of wear and age.

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5. How old do you think the little man is? What words in the piece give you a clue to his age?

An old man; "shuffling slow footsteps", "stooping figure", "croaky thin voice".

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## READING FOR INFERENCE 3

### A Day Out with Granddad

"When I was your age, I had a sticking plaster on my knees every week." said Granddad to Evie as she tried desperately to fight back tears looking at the graze on her leg from when she had fallen. "The slides were steeper and higher, the floor was concrete, not wood shavings and the swings weren't made of rubber, they were solid, heavy wood." continued Granddad.

None of Granddad's words were of much comfort to Evie as she began to see little dribbles of blood start to appear.

"Now, stop your fussing, dry your tears and be brave. It's a scratch, a tiny scratch at that, no harm done. That little scratch is nothing. Let's get you back on the slide, in fact, let's get you on that bigger one!"

### A Day Out with Granddad

#### Questions

1. What is the setting of this piece? Which words suggest this?

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2. How old do you think Evie is? What makes you reach this conclusion?

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3. Granddad mentions differences between playgrounds in his times and Evie's; what are they?

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4. Do you think Granddad is sympathetic to Evie? What might he have said if he was kinder?

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## READING FOR INFERENCE 3

### A Day Out with Granddad.

#### Answers

1. What is the setting of this piece? Which words suggest this?

*A park/ playground. Slides and swings.*

2. How old do you think Evie is? What makes you reach this conclusion?

*Between 4 and 8, she cries when she has grazed her knee.*

3. Granddad mentions differences between playgrounds in his times and Evie's; what are they?

*Slides were steeper and higher, the floor was concrete, the swings were made of heavy wood.*

4. Do you think Granddad is sympathetic to Evie? What might he have said if he was kinder?

*Not very sympathetic, he might have said, 'There, there, let's dry your tears, what a brave girl etc'.*

## READING FOR INFERENCE 4

### Feeding the Animals

By the time Ali and Josie had reached the edge of the field, the animals were already pressed hard up against the gate. The children had watched them gallop from the far edge of the meadow - it was obvious they were expecting a treat. Ali reached into his bag and brought out three orange carrots. "Mind your fingers when you feed them," he warned Josie. She took the smallest of the vegetables and, with a deep breath, reached up and offered the treat to the biggest of the snorting animals. Ali kept a caring eye on her as she laid her palm flat while giant teeth delicately and carefully took the treat from her hand.

"That's it, well done. Now count your fingers just to be sure he hasn't eaten one." he said in a teasing but caring way. He quietly laughed to himself as Josie did just as he had suggested. "One...two... three" all the way up to ten, "They're all here." she said, not quite understanding the joke.

When all the carrots had disappeared, the animals did too, trotting and whinnying back to the far edge of the field.

### Questions

1. a) What are the animals referred to in the text?  
b) What is your evidence for this?  
c) What words has the writer used which led you to this conclusion?

a)

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b)

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c)

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2. a) What do you think is the relationship between Ali and Josie?  
b) Who do you think is the eldest?  
c) What is your evidence for this?

a)

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b)

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c)

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3. Why do you think the largest animal was fed first?
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## READING FOR INFERENCE 4

### Answers

#### Feeding the Animals

1.
  - a) What are the animals referred to in the piece?
  - b) What is your evidence for this?
  - c) What words has the writer used which led you to this conclusion?

*a) Horses*

*b) They like carrots, the girl has to reach up to feed them, they have large teeth.*

*c) Gallop, snorting, trotting, whinnying.*
2.
  - a) What do you think is the relationship between Ali and Josie?
  - b) Who do you think is the eldest?
  - c) What is your evidence for this?

*a) Brother and sister.*

*b) Ali.*

*c) His caring attitude and loving, teasing manner.*
3. Why do you think the largest animal was fed first?  
*To avoid squabbles between the horses.*

## READING FOR INFERENCE 5

### Conrad Bartosz Obituary

Born in Berlin in 1936, Bartosz fled persecution in Nazi Germany with his parents in 1940. Arriving in Blitz-hit London, his father enrolled in the R.A.F. and flew with Bomber Command until being lost in action while returning from a bombing raid in Germany. His mother, Olga, was left to bring up Bartosz and his two younger sisters.

He excelled at school, St. John's Grammar School in Walthamstow, and gained a scholarship in 1956 to study chemistry at St. Bede's College, Oxford. On completion of his doctorate in 1963, he went to work for I.C.I. in Middlesbrough where he began to research his ground-breaking work with synthetic polymers. Leading a small team of devoted colleagues, he developed the revolutionary product, Polyformite.

Leaving industry after 15 years, he took up a professorship at Durham University where his engaging teaching style and mischievous sense of humour were much appreciated by his students.

He had married a fellow student, Barbara Mayhew, in 1962 whilst studying at Oxford. They had 3 children. Tom, his eldest son, died in a car crash in 1984. His dear Barbara pre-deceased him two years ago. In his retirement, Conrad, pursued his interests in water-colours (several of his paintings have been exhibited at Newcastle City Art Gallery) and playing chess.

His funeral will take place at 11 a.m. next Wednesday at Durham Synagogue.

He will be sorely missed by all who knew him.

Conrad Bartosz 13th October 1936— 2nd February 2016.

## READING FOR INFERENCE 5

### Questions

#### Conrad Bartosz Obituary

1. How old was Bartosz when he fled Germany?

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2. Why do you think his family fled Germany?

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3. How many children did his mother and father have?

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4. In which year did Bartosz leave I.C.I ?

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5. How did his eldest son die?

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6. What do you think "pre-deceased" means?

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7. For how many years had he been married when his son died?

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8. What hobbies did he enjoy in his retirement?

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9. How old was he when he died? (think carefully about this)

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10. What religion did he follow? What clues in the piece lead you to your answer?

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## READING FOR INFERENCE 5

### Answers

#### Conrad Bartosz Obituary

1. How old was Bartosz when he fled Germany?  
*4 years old.*
2. Why do you think his family fled Germany?  
*Nazi persecution— fleeing war.*
3. How many children did his mother and father have?  
*3*
4. In which year did Bartosz leave I.C.I ?  
*1978*
5. How did his eldest son die?  
*In a car crash.*
6. What do you think ' pre-deceased' means?  
*Died before.*
7. For how many years had he been married when his son died?  
*22 years.*
8. What hobbies did he enjoy in his retirement?  
*Painting water colours and playing chess.*
9. How old was he when he died? (think carefully about this)  
*79*
10. What religion did he follow? What clues in the piece lead you to your answer?  
*Jewish - Nazi persecution and funeral at a synagogue.*

## READING FOR INFERENCE 6

### My Shadow

I have a little shadow that goes in and out with me,  
And what can be the use of him is more than I can see.  
He is very, very like me from the heels up to the head;  
And I see him jump before me, when I jump into bed.

The funniest thing about him is the way he likes to grow —  
Not at all like proper children, which is always very slow;  
For he sometimes shoots up taller like an India-rubber ball,  
And he sometimes gets so little that there's none of him at all.

He hasn't got a notion of how children ought to play,  
And he can only make a fool of me in every sort of way.  
He stays so close beside me, he's a coward you can see;  
I'd think shame to stick to nursie as that shadow sticks to me!

One morning, very early, before the sun was up,  
I rose and found the shining dew on every buttercup;  
But my lazy little shadow, like an arrant sleepy-head,  
Had stayed at home behind me and was fast asleep in bed.

Robert Louis Stevenson.

(13 November 1850 - 3 December 1894)

## READING FOR INFERENCE 6

### My Shadow

#### Questions

1.
  - a) What makes the shadow grow?
  - b) At what times would it be tall?
  - c) At what time would it be little?

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_
2. When the writer says the shadow jumps into bed before him, what might the source of light be that caused the shadow?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. "An India rubber ball" would seem to be a toy of the poet's childhood, what might we have nowadays?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4.
  - a) In the third verse, what clue is there for when the poem was written?
  - b) Are there any other clues for this in the rest of the text?

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_
5. Why was there no shadow when the poet saw the dew on the buttercup?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## READING FOR INFERENCE 6

### My Shadow

#### Questions

1. a) What makes the shadow grow?  
b) At what times would it be tall?  
c) At what time would it be little?

a) *The sun*

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b) *Tall shadows, when sun is low, early morning, late evening*

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c) *Little - when the sun is high - midday.*

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2. When the writer says the shadow jumps into bed before him, what might the source of light be that caused the shadow?

*Bedroom light or candle.*

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3. "An India rubber ball" would seem to be a toy of the poet's childhood, what might we have nowadays?

*A super bouncy ball.*

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4. a) In the third verse, what clue is there for when the poem was written?  
b) Are there any other clues for this in the rest of the text?

a) *Nursie, Victorian children were often looked after by a nurse.*

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b) *The dates of the poet's birth and death at the bottom of the page.*

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5. Why was there no shadow when the poet saw the dew on the buttercup?

*The poet writes "very early, before the sun was up"*

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## READING FOR INFERENCE 7

### World Book Day

World Book Day is sometimes known as International Day of the Book. It is organised by UNESCO \* which is part of the United Nations. World Book Day is held every year to encourage children to read and love books. It is held all over the world. In most other countries it is held on 23rd April. This date was chosen because in 1923 a group of Spanish book sellers decided to celebrate the work of a famous Spanish author called Cervantes who died on this date in 1616. Coincidentally, this date is the day that William Shakespeare died too.

In the United Kingdom, World Book Day celebrations are held on the first Thursday of March because the 23rd of April can often fall during the Easter school holidays. It was first held in the U.K. in 1995.

Each year the organisers choose a selection of books that can be bought for just £1.

\*United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation.

## READING FOR INFERENCE 7

### World Book Day

#### Questions

1. What is another name for World Book Day?

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2. What does the acronym (a word made up from the initial letters of a phrase) UNESCO stand for?

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3. What was unusual about the date the 23rd April 1616?

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4. How many years ago was World Book Day first held in the U.K?

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5. Why is World Book Day in the U.K. not held on 23rd April?

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## READING FOR INFERENCE 7

### World Book Day

#### Answers

1. What is another name for World Book Day?

International Day of the Book.

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2. What does the acronym (a word made up from the initial letters of a phrase) UNESCO stand for?

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation.

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3. What was unusual about the date the 23rd April 1616?

Both Cervantes and Shakespeare died.

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4. How many years ago was World Book Day first held in the U.K?

21 years

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5. Why is World Book Day in the U.K. not held on 23rd April?

To avoid school Easter holidays.

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