KS1 Reading Prompts

The KS1 Reading Content Domains

The content domain sets out the relevant elements from the national curriculum programme of study (2014) for English at key stage 1 that are assessed in the English reading test. The tests will, over time, sample from each area of the content domain.

The key stage 1 English reading tests will focus on the comprehension elements of the national curriculum.

The following table shows the content domain, which sets out how elements of the curriculum will be defined for test development purposes.

Content domain reference	
1a	draw on knowledge of vocabulary to understand texts
1b	identify / explain key aspects of fiction and non-fiction texts, such as characters, events, titles and information
1c	identify and explain the sequence of events in texts
1d	make inferences from the text
1e	predict what might happen on the basis of what has been read so far

Source: 2016 key stage 1 English reading test framework: national curriculum tests from 2016 STA/15/7338/e ISBN: 978-1-78315-823-2

Whilst the Content Domains are based on the National Curriculum they do not include the national curriculum programme of study for reading at KS2 in its entirety, and therefore it is essential that teachers still plan their lessons using the national curriculum.

1a: Draw on knowledge of vocabulary to understand texts

- What does this... word/phrase/sentence... tell you about... character/setting/mood etc?

- Highlight a key phrase or line. By using this word, what effect has the author created?

- In the story, 'x' is mentioned a lot. Why?

- The writer uses words like ... to describe .... What does this tell you about a character or setting?

- What other words/phrases could the author have used?

- The writer uses ...words/phrases...to describe ... How does this make you feel?

- How has the writer made you and/or character feel ...happy /sad/angry/ frustrated/lonely/bitter etc? Can you find those words?

- Which words and /or phrases make you think/feel...?

1b: Identify and explain key aspects of fiction and nonfiction texts, such as characters, events, titles and information

- Where/when does the story take place?

- What did s/he/it look like?

- Who was s/he/it?

- Where did s/he/it live?

- Who are the characters in the book?

- Where in the book would you find...?

- What do you think is happening here?

- What happened in the story?

- What might this mean?

- Through whose eyes is the story told?

- Which part of the story best describes the setting?

- What part of the story do you like best?

- What evidence do you have to justify your opinion?
- Find, it. Prove it.
- How do the title/contents page/chapter headings/glossary/index... help me find information in this book?
- Which part of the text should I use to find...?
- Why has the author organised the information like this?

1c: Identify and explain the sequence of events in texts

What happens first in the story?

- Use three sentences to describe the beginning, middle and end of this text?

- You've got 'x' words; sum up this story.

- Sort these sentences/paragraphs/chapter headings from the story

- Make a table/chart to show what happens in different parts of the story

- Why does the main character do 'x' in the middle of the story?

- How does the hero save the day in the story?

1d: Make inferences from the text

What makes you think that?

- Which words give you that impression?

- How do you feel about...?

- Can you explain why...?

- I wonder what the writer intended?

- I wonder why the writer decided to...?

- What do these words mean and why do you think the author chose them?

1e: Predict what might happen on the basis of what has been read so far

- Look at the cover/title/first line/chapter headings...what do you think will happen next? How have the cover/title/first line/chapter headings...helped you come up with this idea?

- What do you think will happen to the goodie/baddie/main character? Why do you think this?

- What will happen next? Why do you think this? Are there any clues in the text?

- Can you think of another story, which has a similar theme; e.g. good over evil; weak over strong; wise over foolish? Do you think this story will go the same way?

- Which stories have openings like this? Do you think this story will develop in the same way?

- Why did the author choose this setting? How will that effect what happens next?

- How is character X like someone you know? Do you think they will react in the same way?