

2025 national curriculum tests

Key stage 1

English reading braille transcript

**Braille transcript of Paper 1:
Reading prompt and question booklet**

**Slow Down, Sami!
Helpful Animals**

[braille page 1]

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[braille page 2, facing page 3]

Slow Down, Sami!

Sami was always in a hurry. On Friday morning, he zoomed into the kitchen.
Bam!

Sami bumped into Dad who dropped the pancakes on the floor.
“Slow down, Sami!” said Dad.

.....

[braille page 3]

Practice questions

a. Which word means the same as zoomed?

- A. jumped
- B. ran
- C. crept
- D. stamped

b. Where was Dad?

[braille page 4, facing page 5]

Sami ran all the way to school and flew into the classroom.

“Everyone, please give me your homework,” said Mr Goff.

Sami groaned. “I was in such a hurry that I left it on my bed.”

Mr Goff shook his head. “Not again, Sami! That’s the third time this week. You need to slow down.”

.....

[braille page 5]

1. Who was Mr Goff?

2. What did Mr Goff ask the class to do?

[braille page 6, facing page 7]

On Saturday, Sami's cousin, Fara, asked him to help in the garden. Sami raced outside. He did not see Fara's cat curled by the door. Sami tripped over the cat.

Crash!

He knocked into a flowerpot which smashed into pieces.

"Sorry, Fara," said Sami. "Everyone is always telling me to slow down."

"Maybe I can help," said Fara gently.

.....

[braille page 7]

3. What made Sami knock into the flowerpot?

4. After Sami broke the flowerpot, Fara was...

A. angry.

B. surprised.

C. sad.

D. kind.

[braille page 8, facing page 9]

The next morning, Fara brought a present for Sami. It was another flowerpot.

"I've planted a little seed inside," she said with a twinkle in her eye. "Take the time to look at it and you will see something special. But you'll have to slow down and watch it closely or you might miss it."

.....

[braille page 9]

5. What had Fara put in the flowerpot?

6. Why did Sami need to slow down when he was looking after the present?

[braille page 10, facing page 11]

Sami waited.

He watched the flowerpot.

"Nothing special is happening," he sighed.

"Try again tomorrow. It might take some time," said Dad. The next day, Sami sat down again to watch the flowerpot. He jiggled his arm. He shook his leg. Sami was not used to sitting still. But the flowerpot stayed as it was.

.....

[braille page 11]

7. "Nothing special is happening," he sighed.

This tells you Sami was feeling...

A. worried.

B. happy.

C. relaxed.

D. disappointed.

8. What did Dad tell Sami to do?

[braille page 12, facing page 13]

Days passed. Sami did not give up.

He waited and waited. Then, one afternoon, he saw a tiny green shoot peeping out of the pot. He gasped.

“Mum! Dad!” he shouted. “Come and look!”

Then he sat back and smiled. Maybe slowing down was worth it after all.

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[braille page 13]

9. What did Sami finally see?

10. He gasped.

This tells you that Sami...

A. could not believe what he saw.

B. wanted to go back to rushing around.

C. thought he should carry on waiting.

D. was scared of what was in the pot.

[braille page 14]

Please do not start answering the questions on the next text until you are told to do so.

[braille page 15, facing page 16]

Helpful Animals

Humans have always lived with animals. Pictures of humans with dogs have been found on cave walls. These cave pictures were painted thousands of years ago.

Today, many people keep animals as pets. If you have a pet, you have to look after it. However, did you know that some animals can look after their owners too?

.....

[braille page 16]

Practice questions

c. What type of animal has been found in pictures on cave walls?

d. These cave pictures were painted thousands of years ago.

This tells you the pictures are...

A. pretty.

B. old.

C. small.

D. big.

[braille page 17, facing page 18]

Guide dogs

The best-known animal helpers are probably guide dogs. They help people who are blind or who cannot see well. Every year in the UK, 850 guide dogs start their jobs after training for over 12 months.

Guide dogs help their owners to walk safely by making sure they do not bump into things or step into the road. The best guide dogs have to be **[braille page 18]** obedient so they are easier to train. They also have to be friendly.

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11. How many guide dogs start their jobs every year in the UK?

12. Look at the text. How do guide dogs help their owners to walk safely?

[braille page 19, facing page 20]

Hearing dogs

Dogs can help people in other ways. Hearing dogs help people who are deaf or who cannot hear well. They can let their owner know when they hear sounds like alarms, doorbells or phones ringing.

Hearing dogs need to be trained for a long time before they start their work, just like guide dogs.

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13. Which sounds are hearing dogs trained to listen for?

[braille page 20]

- A. quiet sounds
- B. sounds that no one can hear
- C. important sounds
- D. sounds that dogs make

14. Why is it difficult for dogs to become hearing dogs?

- A. They have to learn for a long time.
- B. Dogs cannot hear very well.
- C. They have to learn to be guide dogs first.
- D. No one knows how to train them.

[braille page 21, facing page 22]

Guide horses

Guide dogs are not suitable for everyone who is blind or cannot see well. Some people are allergic to dogs or frightened of them. Luckily, other animals, such as miniature horses, can help. A miniature horse is a type of horse that is quite small. People can't use normal-sized horses because they are too big to go in their houses.

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[braille page 22]

15. Some blind people cannot have guide dogs.

Why not?

Write one reason.

16. Find and copy one word that means the same as small.

[braille page 23, facing page 24]

Miniature horses are sometimes called guide horses because they can do many of the tasks that guide dogs do. They are strong so they can carry things for their owners using a special basket called a pannier.

.....

[braille page 24]

17. ...many of the tasks...

The word tasks means the same as...

- A. games.
- B. visits.
- C. jobs.
- D. tricks.

18. Why is it useful for guide horses to be strong?

[braille page 25, facing page 26]

Ferrets

A ferret is a small animal that can be kept as a pet. Surprisingly, ferrets can also be helpful to humans. People can train ferrets to wake up their owners to remind them to take medicine.

They can be calm animals so they are easy to travel with. Ferrets are very friendly and like to give their owners lots of attention. **[braille page 26]** They are used to help cheer people up who feel sad.

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19. Why are ferrets good animals to travel with?

- A. They are relaxed.
- B. They move quickly.
- C. They like hiding.
- D. They are soft.

20. Why are ferrets good at cheering people up?

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End of test

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Key stage 1 English reading

Braille transcript of Paper 1: reading prompt and question booklet

Print version product code: STA/25/8900/BTp ISBN: 978-1-83507-320-9

Electronic PDF version product code: STA/25/8900/BTe ISBN: 978-1-83507-332-2

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