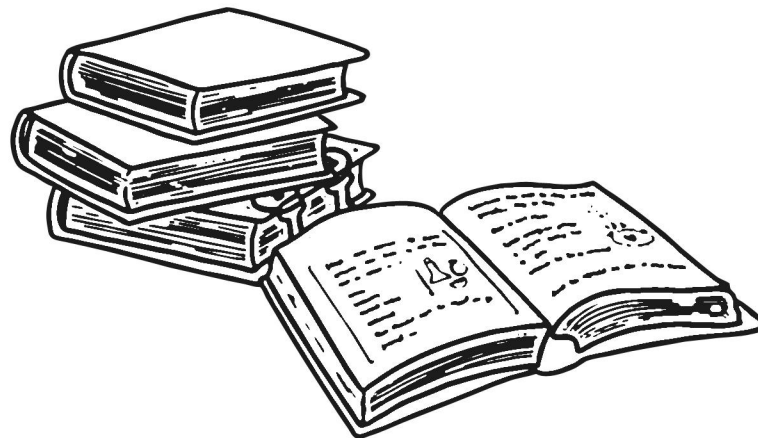


Spotting the Relevant Information

Teacher Notes

To help your students learn about retrieving and recording information from their reading, use these cards to help them differentiate between the relevant and irrelevant elements of a text when they are trying to find answers to a question. They should try to write the answers in their own words, without simply copying the text.



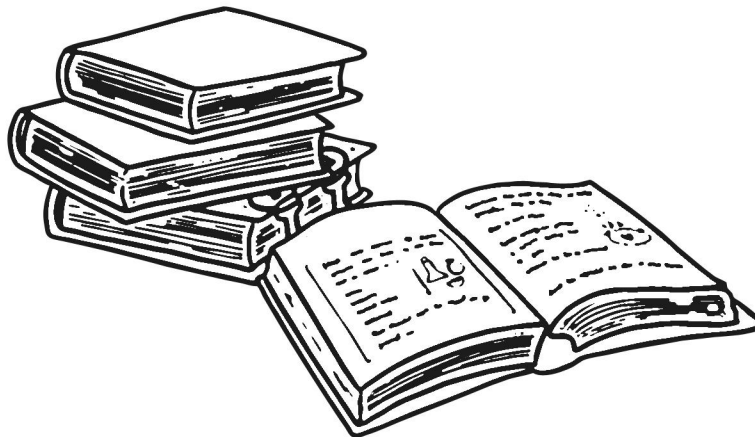
Spotting the Relevant Information

Here are some questions and texts. Can you find the specific information in each text which will help you to answer the question?

Read the whole text and question first, then look for the **key information** which tells you the answer.

Tips

- Use your coloured pens or highlighters to mark ONLY the words or phrases which help you know the answer.
- Try to write the answer in your own words – don't copy big chunks of the text. Use the question to help you phrase your answer. E.g. if the question says "Why didn't the Celts defeat the Romans?" you could begin your answer, "The Celts didn't defeat the Romans because..."
- Remember to use the evidence you've highlighted to prove that your answer is correct.



Spotting the Relevant Information

Text:

Many Greek parents preferred boy children because a son would look after his parents in old age. A daughter went away when she married, and had to take a wedding gift or dowry. This could be expensive, especially if a family had lots of daughters.

A father could decide whether or not the family kept a new baby; unwanted or weak babies were sometimes left to die outdoors. Anyone finding an abandoned baby could adopt it and take it home, perhaps to raise it as a slave. If a couple were rich, they might hire a poor neighbour or a slave to nurse a new baby.

Question:

Why did Greek girls cost their parents a lot of money?

Text:

Viking attacks on Anglo-Saxon England started end of the AD700s. The Vikings came by sea in longships and attacked monasteries and churches, steal gold or other treasures. By the 800s, great numbers of Vikings roamed England. In AD869, they killed Edmund of East Anglia.

After King Alfred of Wessex fought the Vikings, he made peace with them, although he continued to build and wall towns to defend his kingdom against attacks. However, fighting between the English and Vikings went on into the AD1000s.

Question:

How do you know the Vikings did not respect the Christian faith?

Spotting the Relevant Information

Text:

Your heart plays an important part in being healthy because it keeps all the blood in your circulatory system flowing. Blood carries oxygen around your body to all your cells, where it is needed. When you exercise, you can feel your pulse in your wrist or neck, which tells you how fast your heart is pumping. Smoking, alcohol, fatty foods and too much sugar are bad for your health and fitness. They damage your lungs, heart and teeth.

Question:

Where on your body can you check how fast your heart is beating, apart from your chest?

Text:

Soils are a mixture of tiny particles of rock, dead plants and animals, air and water. Different plants grow better in different types of soil. Sandy soil is pale coloured with lots of small air gaps. Water drains through this type of soil easily, so it usually feels quite dry. Clay soil is an orange or blue-ish sticky soil with very few air gaps so water does not drain through it easily. Therefore, when it rains, puddles stay on top of clay soil for a long time. Peat is different from other soils because it does not contain any rock particles. It is made from very old decayed plants and is dark, crumbly and rich in nutrients (chemicals plants need to grow).

Question:

Why would sandy soil be a bad environment for a plant which needs lots of water?

Spotting the Relevant Information

Text:

Diwali is perhaps the most well-known of the Hindu festivals.

The word Diwali means 'rows of lighted lamps'. Diwali is known as the 'festival of lights' because houses, shops and public places are decorated with small earthenware oil lamps called diyas.

The festival celebrates the victory of good over evil, light over darkness and knowledge over ignorance, although the actual legends that go with the festival are different in different parts of India.

Question:

What would you see if you walked along a street in India during this festival?

Text:

Jake went down the shops with some money his mum gave him. She told him to keep the £5 note safe in his pocket. He went past the library, police station and hairdressers before he got to the butcher's shop, where he bought what he was looking for. Once he'd got the main ingredient for Mum's stew, he wandered into the newsagent to look at the latest copy of 'Fifa' magazine.

Question:

Which shop did Jake's mum tell him to go to?

Spotting the Relevant Information Answers

Text:

Many Greek parents preferred boy children because a son would look after his parents in old age. A daughter went away when she married, and had to take a wedding gift or dowry. This could be expensive, especially if a family had lots of daughters.

A father could decide whether or not the family kept a new baby; unwanted or weak babies were sometimes left to die outdoors. Anyone finding an abandoned baby could adopt it and take it home, perhaps to raise it as a slave. If a couple were rich, they might hire a poor neighbour or a slave to nurse a new baby.

Question:

Why did Greek girls cost their parents a lot of money?

Model answer: A Greek girl cost more money than boys because her parents had to pay for wedding presents when she got married.

Text:

Viking attacks on Anglo-Saxon England started at the end of the AD700s. The Vikings came by sea in their longships and attacked monasteries and churches to steal gold or other treasures. By the 800s, great armies of Vikings roamed England. In AD869, they killed King Edmund of East Anglia.

After King Alfred of Wessex fought the Vikings, he made peace with them, although he continued to build ships and walled towns to defend his kingdom against Viking attacks. However, fighting between the English and the Vikings went on into the AD1000s.

Question:

How do you know the Vikings did not respect the Christian faith?

Model answer: Vikings attacked churches, which belong to Christians. That means they didn't respect the Christian faith or the people who worshipped there.

Spotting the Relevant Information Answers

Text:

Your heart plays an important part in being healthy because it keeps all the blood in your circulatory system flowing. Blood carries oxygen around your body to all your cells, where it is needed. When you exercise, you can feel your pulse in your wrist or neck, which tells you how fast your heart is pumping. Smoking, alcohol, fatty foods and too much sugar are bad for your health and fitness. They damage your lungs, heart and teeth.

Question:

Where on your body can you check how fast your heart is beating, apart from your chest?

Model answer: There is a pulse in your arm and neck where you can feel your heart beating.

Text:

Soils are a mixture of tiny particles of rock, dead plants and animals, air and water. Different plants grow better in different types of soil. Sandy soil is pale coloured with lots of small air gaps. Water drains through this type of soil easily, so it usually feels quite dry. Clay soil is an orange or blue-ish sticky soil with very few air gaps so water does not drain through it easily. Therefore, when it rains, puddles stay on top of clay soil for a long time. Peat is different from other soils because it does not contain any rock particles. It is made from very old decayed plants and is dark, crumbly and rich in nutrients (chemicals plants need to grow).

Question:

Why would sandy soil be a bad environment for a plant which needs lots of water?

Model answer: The text says that sandy soil 'usually feels quite dry' so it probably wouldn't be good for a plant that likes water because it wouldn't be wet enough.

Spotting the Relevant Information Answers

Text:

Diwali is perhaps the most well-known of the Hindu festivals.

The word Diwali means 'rows of lighted lamps'. Diwali is known as the 'festival of lights' because houses, shops and public places are decorated with small earthenware oil lamps called diyas.

The festival celebrates the victory of good over evil, light over darkness and knowledge over ignorance, although the actual legends that go with the festival are different in different parts of India.

Question:

What would you see if you walked along a street in India during this festival?

Model answer: I think you would see lots of buildings and houses all lit up with rows of lights.

Text:

Jake went down the shops with some money his mum gave him. She told him to keep the £5 note safe in his pocket. He went past the library, police station and hairdressers before he got to the butcher's shop, where he bought what he was looking for. Once he'd got the main ingredient for Mum's stew, he wandered into the newsagent to look at the latest copy of 'Fifa' magazine.

Question:

Which shop did Jake's mum tell him to go to?

Model answer: She told him to go to the butcher's shop because the text says that's where he found what he was looking for.