

# 60-Second Reads Guidance

The National Curriculum states that:

*Pupils in Year 5 and 6 should be able to read aloud a wide range of poetry and books written at an age-appropriate interest level with accuracy and at a reasonable speaking pace. They should be able to read most words effortlessly and to work out how to pronounce unfamiliar written words with increasing automaticity.*

This resource aims to give you the ability to test a pupil's level of fluency to this expected standard. Each 60-Second Read Activity Card features a short extract of age-appropriate text with an average word count of around 90-120 words. The cumulative word count for each line of text is shown in the left-hand margin of each card. Each of the cards also contains a set of comprehension questions that link to the KS2 reading content domains.

Each different question type has its own canine helper to remind children of what they need to do to answer a question appropriately:

## Vocabulary Questions

Vocabulary Victor is there to help you work out the meaning of unknown words and phrases using context clues.



2a: Give / explain the meaning of words in context.

## Retrieval Questions

Rex Retriever is there to help you to go into a text and just simply retrieve the facts and key details.



2b: Retrieve and record information / identify key details from fiction and non-fiction.

## Summary Questions

Summarising Sheba is there to remind you to summarise the main point(s) or main event(s) of a paragraph or text.



2c: Summarise main ideas from more than one paragraph.

### Inference Questions

Inference Iggy will help you hunt for clues in a text about how someone might be feeling or why something is happening.

2d: Make inferences from the text / explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text.



### Prediction Questions

Predicting Pip tries to see the future and she will help you to work out what might happen next from clues in the text.

2e: Predict what might happen from details stated and implied.



### Compare, Contrast & Comment Questions

Cassie the Commentator discusses the content of a paragraph/text and compares events and characters. Can you do the same?

2f: Identify/explain how information/narrative content is related and contributes to meaning as a whole.

2h: Make comparisons within the text.



### Author Choice Questions

Arlo the Author likes to help you to spot examples of ambitious vocabulary and figurative language, and explain how these words/phrases add to the meaning of the text.

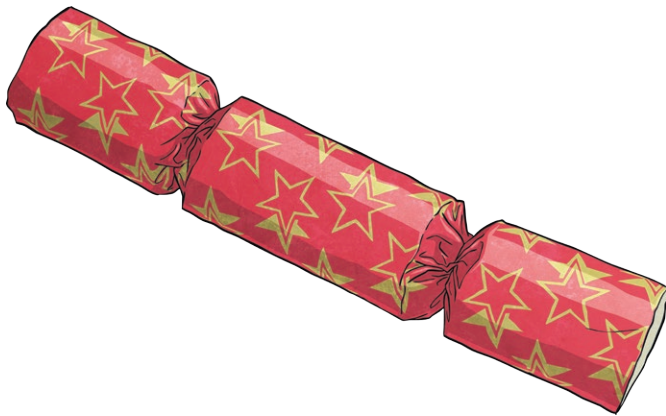
2g: Identify/explain how meaning is enhanced through choice of words and phrases.



# Christmas Crackers!

10 Mother has been working extra hours for the past month  
19 to provide some treats this Christmas. Her rich employer  
30 has offered to buy us a sizeable turkey. Last year, we  
40 managed to poach two rabbits so each got a morsel -  
50 that's the trouble with having six siblings! But this year,  
54 we will have leftovers.

64 Father says we can spend some of mother's earnings on  
75 gifts for each other but, because I am used to making  
88 gifts, I'm going to make my sisters each a peg doll and my  
97 brothers a cracker. The crackers were invented last year  
107 (1848) by a sweet maker in London: they are expensive,  
118 but I will spend my farthing to buy rhubarb and custard  
122 sweets to go inside!



# Quick Questions



1. Who invented Christmas crackers? When?

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2. Find two adjectives which are antonyms of each other.

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3. How will Christmas differ this year to previous years?

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4. Do you think they will have any leftovers? Why?

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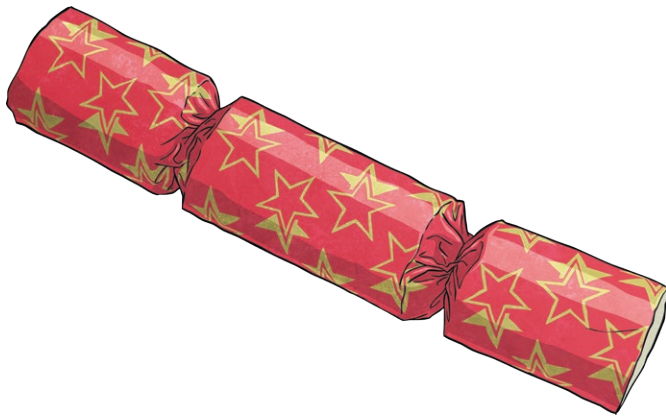
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122 sweets to go inside!



# Answers



1. Who invented Christmas crackers? When?  
**Accept: a sweet maker in London and 1848.**



2. Find two adjectives which are antonyms of each other.  
**Accept: 'sizeable' and 'morsel'.**



3. How will Christmas differ this year to previous years?  
**Accept an explanation focusing on the amount of food they will have (with the large turkey) compared to small rabbits in the past; bought gifts rather than home-made ones and treats rather than none.**



4. Do you think they will have any leftovers? Why?  
**Accept any reasonable explanation that yes, they will because they will have a large turkey which they are not used to having, or no, they will not because they are a large family who will enjoy the treats over Christmas.**

# Jobs for Children

11 Do you have what it takes to apply for these jobs  
13 for children?

## 15 **Factory Worker**

25 • Must be able to work for 16 hours a day,  
33 with only Sunday off (to go to church).

41 • Must be able to stay focused to avoid  
46 losing fingers in the machinery.

55 • Must not be easily distracted: sitting, chatting or gazing  
64 through windows (where there are any) is not allowed.

## 66 **Chimney Sweep**

71 • Must be small - most chimneys  
76 are 12 inches (30cm) wide.

81 • Must not require large meals  
86 – you need to remain small.

92 • Must not scare easily – if you  
99 refuse to go up the chimney, it

105 might start to get quite hot!

111 Apply today and you could start  
117 contributing to your family by earning

125 a wage of a few pennies a week!



# Quick Questions



1. For which job was it important to be small?  
Why?

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2. Find two verbs that are antonyms of each other.

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3. Why do you think the chimney could get hot if  
the child refused to go up?

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4. Summarise the main information about the  
factory worker job in 20 words or less.

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125 a wage of a few pennies a week!



# Answers



1. For which job was it important to be small?  
Why?

**Accept: Chimney sweep, to fit up the narrow chimneys.**



2. Find two verbs that are antonyms of each other.  
**Accept: 'focused' and 'distracted'.**



3. Why do you think the chimney could get hot if the child refused to go up?  
**Accept reference to the fire being lit so the heat would rise up the chimney.**



4. Summarise the main information about the factory worker job in 20 words or less.  
**Accept any reasonable summary which includes the main facts about the factory worker job and is 20 words or less in length.**

# Victorian Toys



6 Victorian toys were usually made from  
13 wood, metal and paper. The toys that  
19 Victorian children had depended on how  
24 much money their family had.

30 Children from rich families had toys  
36 like clockwork train sets, toy soldiers  
42 and tea sets whereas children from  
47 poorer families normally played with  
52 home-made toys (e.g. peg dolls).

## 57 To Make a Peg Doll:

- 63 1. Paint the peg, including a face.
- 72 2. Cut out circular piece of fabric double the height  
82 of the peg. Cut a small hole in the middle.
- 91 3. Pull the fabric over the head of the peg,  
99 using a rubber band or piece of string  
105 to secure the fabric in place.
- 112 4. Use a pipe cleaner to create arms.
- 123 5. Cut wool for hair; glue the hair onto the doll's head.
- 129 6. Add beads and sequins for decoration.

# Quick Questions



1. Give two examples of toys that a child from a rich family might have?

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2. Find two adverbs of frequency in the text.

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3. Why do you think that poorer children played with home-made toys?

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4. Why has the author used imperative verbs?

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# Answers



1. Give two examples of toys that a child from a rich family might have?

**Accept: train set, toy soldiers or tea set.**



2. Find two adverbs of frequency in the text.

**Accept: 'usually' and 'normally'.**



3. Why do you think that poorer children played with home-made toys?

**Accept an explanation focusing on their lack of money and therefore the need to make toys out of items they had (such as pegs).**



4. Why has the author used imperative verbs?

**Accept any reasonable explanation that this is an instructional text and imperative verbs are used to command / instruct the reader to do something.**



# Who Was Florence Nightingale?

- 9 Name:** Florence Nightingale (named after the city in Italy  
**13** where she was born).
- 19 Date of Birth:** 12th May 1820.
- 24 Family:** Rich, upper-class British family.
- 32 Occupation:** In 1851, Florence became a nurse against  
**35** her family's wishes.
- 44 Work:** Between 1854 and 1856, Florence took some other  
**54** nurses to the Ottoman Empire to care for the wounded  
**60** soldiers fighting in the Crimean War.
- 67 Known for:** Establishing nursing as a respectable  
**73** profession for women - in 1860 her  
**76** nursing school opened.
- 81** Working hard to make hospitals  
**83** more hygienic.
- 89** She wrote over 200 books and  
**90** pamphlets.
- 96 Known as:** 'The Lady with the  
**101** Lamp' because when she was  
**105** checking her patients during  
**112** the night she held a lamp in  
**114** her hand.



# Quick Questions



1. Why was Florence Nightingale so-called?

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2. Which word means the same as 'regarded by people to be good'?

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3. Why do you think Florence wrote over 200 books and pamphlets?

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4. Why has the author used bold sub-headings?

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# Answers



1. Why was Florence Nightingale so-called?  
**Accept: she was named Florence after the city in Italy where she was born**



2. Which word means the same as 'regarded by people to be good'?  
**Accept: 'respectable'.**



3. Why do you think Florence wrote over 200 books and pamphlets?  
**Accept an explanation focusing on so her need to educate others: she opened a nursing school / her efforts to improve hygiene within hospitals.**



4. Why has the author used bold sub-headings?  
**Accept any reasonable explanation that this is a fact sheet and the bold sub-headings allow readers to find the information they require without having to read the whole passage.**