

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 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.

The Outstanding Olympics

11 Do you believe that you have the power needed to compete
21 against men with Heracleian strength? Yes? Well, if I were
30 you, I would apply for this outstanding opportunity to
41 be a part of the Spartan Olympic team and honour Zeus
46 (the King of the Gods).

55 You will have the chance to choose between javelin,
62 discus, jumping, pankration (a combination of boxing
70 and wrestling), chariot racing or running. Strength of
80 mind and body are required for all events but especially
89 the marathon, when you will be required to run
97 bare-footed in memory of Phidippides, who helped win
105 the Battle of Marathon with his epic running.

109 Women need not apply.



Quick Questions



1. What is 'pankration'?



2. Find two words that are synonyms of each other.



3. Why does the author include a sentence in the subjunctive mood following the initial question?



4. Why do you think the advert ends with the phrase 'Women need not apply'?

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Answer



1. What is 'pankration'?

A combination of boxing and wrestling



2. Find two words that are synonyms of each other.

Accept 'power' and 'strength'



3. Why does the author include a sentence in the subjunctive mood following the initial question?

Accept a reasonable explanation focusing on the effect of this being to give advice to the reader to apply for the Olympics / to persuade.



4. Why do you think the advert ends with the phrase 'Women need not apply'?

Accept a reasonable explanation that focuses on the fact that 'men' are mentioned at the beginning of the advert, so these Olympics must be only for men/ women were not allowed to compete.

Treasure Hunting

7 In 1873, an archaeologist called Heinrich Schliemann
16 discovered a large collection of gold and other artefacts.
26 He unearthed them in a place where he believed the
36 ancient city of Troy was located. The collection is called
43 Priam's Treasure after a famous king, Priam.

48 What is in the collection?

59 There is a shield, a cauldron, a vase, two diadems,
67 rings, buttons, bracelets, goblets, a bottle, gold cups and
69 silver knives.

77 When would it have been made and used?

79 2600-2300 BC

83 Where was it found?

88 It was found in Hissarlik,
93 which is believed to be
95 Ancient Troy.

99 There is still some
102 controversy with many
105 archaeologists claiming that
110 this treasure does nothing to
115 prove the existence of Troy.



Quick Questions



1. Where was the treasure found?



2. Which two words mean the same as 'found'?



3. How does the layout help the reader?



4. Do you think this treasure proves the existence of Troy? Why?

Treasure Hunting

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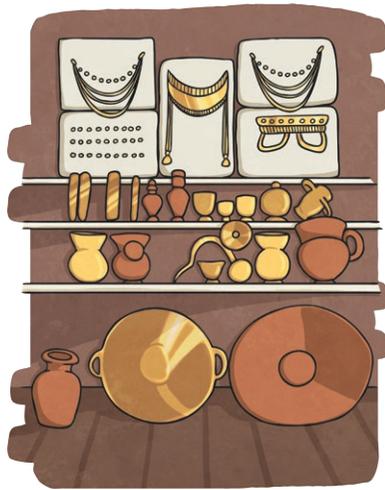
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105 archaeologists claiming that
110 this treasure does nothing to
115 prove the existence of Troy.



Answers



1. Where was the treasure found?

Hissarlik



2. Which two words mean the same as 'found'?

Accept 'discovered' and 'unearthed'



3. How does the layout help the reader?

Accept a reasonable explanation that the bold subheadings make it easier for the reader to find the information they need.



4. Do you think this treasure proves the existence of Troy? Why?

Accept a reasonable explanation, e.g. Yes, because this treasure dates from the time of Ancient Greek history or no, because it just proves there was a settlement there but not necessarily Troy.

Trial by Jury

10 Today I witnessed the trial of a fine man, Socrates –
19 a philosopher who questioned the existence of the gods
29 as recognised by the state. Socrates knew how the court
40 system worked but when he was found guilty by a vote
52 of 280 to 220 men, he was angry. His accusers suggested
61 that the punishment should be the death penalty. Socrates
69 found the charges against him ridiculous so initially
78 responded with the sarcastic remark that he should be
86 rewarded! He eventually suggested his fine should be
96 one piece of silver. If Socrates had proposed a stronger
104 punishment (for example, exile from Athens), the jury
110 probably would have voted for it.
120 But he left them little choice by not treating the
122 trial seriously...



Quick Questions



1. How many men were on the jury?



2. Which two words mean the same as 'recommended'?



3. Summarise the main points of this text in 20 words or less.



4. What do you think happened to Socrates in the end?

Trial by Jury

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104 punishment (for example, exile from Athens), the jury
110 probably would have voted for it.
120 But he left them little choice by not treating the
122 trial seriously...



Quick Questions



1. How many men were on the jury?

Accept: 500



2. Which two words mean the same as 'recommended'?

Accept 'suggested' and 'proposed'



3. Summarise the main points of this text in 20 words or less.

Accept any reasonable summary which is 20 words or less in length.



4. What do you think happened to Socrates in the end?

Accept a reasonable explanation that focuses on him probably dying / receiving the death penalty due to being found guilty and leaving the jury 'little choice' when he failed to give a stronger alternative punishment.



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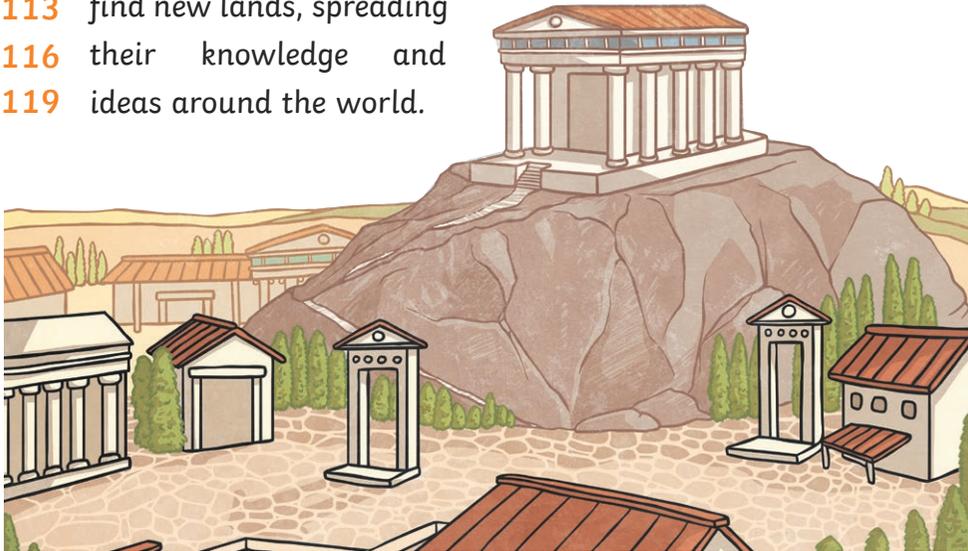
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Who Were the Ancient Greeks?

11 Greece was one of the most important places in the ancient
20 world – there is evidence of settlers from around 40,000BC,
28 but the influential period was around 2,500BC onwards.
36 These ancient Greeks were fantastic thinkers, writers, actors,
42 artists, athletes, warriors, architects and politicians.

51 The Greeks called themselves 'Hellenes' and their land was
62 'Hellas'. The name 'Greeks' was given to the people of Greece
72 later by the Romans. They lived in mainland Greece (which
80 was split into city-states including: Athens, Sparta, Corinth
90 and Olympia) and the Greek islands, but also in colonies
97 scattered around the Mediterranean Sea, including: Italy,
104 Sicily, Turkey, North Africa, and even France.

109 They sailed the sea to trade and
113 find new lands, spreading
116 their knowledge and
119 ideas around the world.



Quick Questions



1. What was the true name of Ancient Greece?



2. Which word tells us that the Ancient Greeks were spread out?



3. Name four things the Ancient Greeks were talented in.



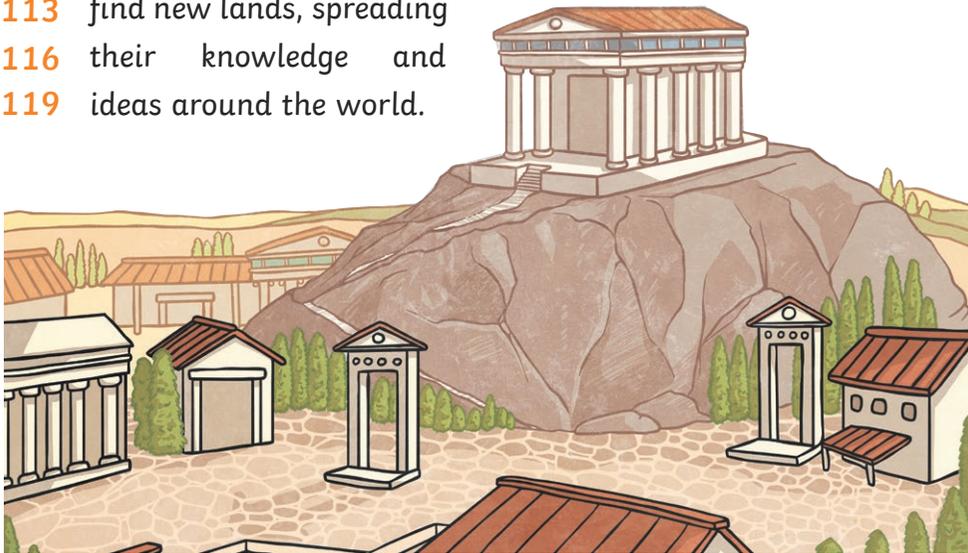
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Answers



1. What was the true name of Ancient Greece?

Hellas



2. Which word tells us that the Ancient Greeks were spread out?

Accept 'scattered'



3. Name four things the Ancient Greeks were talented in.

Accept any of the following: thinkers, writers, actors, artists, athletes, warriors, architects and politicians



4. How were the Ancient Greeks influential?

Accept a reasonable explanation that focuses on the fact that they travelled, spreading their knowledge and ideas around the world.