

# Introduction to

# Shine Reading Skills

Shine Reading Skills is a reading comprehension intervention designed to give targeted support to pupils who need an extra boost to improve their skills in answering comprehension questions.

The key comprehension skills have been organised into three intervention focusses, called **Areas of Learning**, as follows:

## Retrieval, Vocabulary and Inference

Each Area of Learning is made up of a group of relevant content domains from the National Curriculum Programme of Study (2014) for English, that are assessed in the English reading test:

- Retrieval:**
  - 2b:** retrieve and record information/identify key details from fiction and non-fiction.
  - 2c:** summarise main ideas from more than one paragraph.
  - 2f:** Identify/explain how information/narrative content is related and contributes to meaning as a whole
  - 2h:** Make comparisons within the text
- Inference:**
  - 2d:** make inferences from the text / explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text.
  - 2e:** predict what might happen from details stated and implied
- Vocabulary:**
  - 2a:** give/ explain the meaning of words in context
  - 2g:** Identify/explain how meaning is enhanced through choice of words and phrases

The collage displays four sample worksheets from the Shine Reading Skills program. The first is a 'Year 5 Fiction 2' worksheet with a color-coded table for reading strategies. The second is a 'Text A - A Trip to the Vet' worksheet with a text passage and comprehension questions. The third is a 'Text A - Tsunami: Violent Waves' worksheet with a text passage, a diagram of a tsunami, and comprehension questions. The fourth is a 'Text A - Record of Interests' worksheet with a table for recording interests and a grid for tracking progress.

For the purposes of teaching, the interventions are divided into units of content, called **Learning Sequences**.

*Shine Reading Skills* is made up of 180 Learning Sequences, from Year 1 to Year 6 (Primary 2 to Primary 7 for the Scottish Curriculum).

Each year has a Learning Sequence related to the school terms, labelled 1, 2 and 3. These correspond to content from Autumn (1), Spring (2) and Summer (3) test content respectively. All three terms have a fiction and a non-fiction text within the Learning Sequence, and the summer term (3) Learning Sequence also has a poetry text.

Year Group	Genre and Term	Area of Learning
Year 1/P2 – Year 6/P7	Fiction 1	Retrieval
		Vocabulary
		Inference
	Non-Fiction 1	Retrieval
		Vocabulary
		Inference
Year 1/P2 – Year 6/P7	Fiction 2	Retrieval
		Vocabulary
		Inference
	Non-Fiction 2	Retrieval
		Vocabulary
		Inference
Year 1/P2 – Year 6/P7	Fiction 3	Retrieval
		Vocabulary
		Inference
	Non-Fiction 3	Retrieval
		Vocabulary
		Inference
	Poetry 3	Retrieval
		Vocabulary
		Inference

The Learning Sequences are labelled with a year group, text genre, term number, edition number (.1 for 2020 content and .2 for 2022 content) and Area of Learning for example:

- Year 4, Non-Fiction 1.1, Retrieval
- Year 5, Fiction 2.2, Inference
- Year 6, Poetry 3, Vocabulary

## How do the Learning Sequences work?

Each Learning Sequences should be used to teach, practise and apply reading skills related to the three Areas of Learning (Retrieval, Vocabulary and Inference).

There is no expectation that any pupil will complete all three Learning Sequences relating to any text. However, if more than one Area of Learning is identified for a pupil, it is recommended that the Learning Sequences are completed in the order: Retrieval, Vocabulary, Inference.

You can choose how many of the termly Learning Sequences individual pupils complete. Some may need to focus only on non-fiction, others on fiction, or on poetry, while other pupils may need more than one.

### Progression between Learning Sequences

There is a progression of difficulty in the texts and Learning Sequences aimed at pupils in Year 3/P4, Year 4/P5, Year 5/P6 and Year 6/P7 which reflects pupils' growing proficiency in reading. Within each term and intervention, the texts are well matched for difficulty.

Pupils are expected to work with more independence, and there is a gradual progression in reading stamina and text complexity.

Progression of difficulty can also be found in:

- the increasing number of questions within each year group
- the types of questions in each year group e.g. more questions requiring longer written answers than multiple choice questions, more interpretation of opinion than of fact
- the increase in reading stamina required to read a text

<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Fiction 1 and Non-fiction 1:</b> Book band Gold/White	<b>Fiction 2 and Non-fiction 2:</b> Book band White	<b>Fiction 3, Non-fiction 3 and Poetry 3:</b> Book band White/Stars
<b>Year 4</b>	<b>Fiction 1 and Non-fiction 1:</b> Book band Stars	<b>Fiction 2 and Non-fiction 2:</b> Book band Stars/Mercury	<b>Fiction 3, Non-fiction 3 and Poetry 3:</b> Book band Mercury
<b>Year 5</b>	<b>Fiction 1 and Non-fiction 1:</b> Book band Venus/Earth	<b>Fiction 2 and Non-fiction 2:</b> Book band Earth	<b>Fiction 3, Non-fiction 3 and Poetry 3:</b> Book band Mars/Jupiter
<b>Year 6</b>	<b>Fiction 1 and Non-fiction 1:</b> Book band Jupiter	<b>Fiction 2 and Non-fiction 2:</b> Book band Jupiter	<b>Fiction 3, Non-fiction 3 and Poetry 3:</b> Book band Saturn

## What's in a Learning Sequence?

Each Learning Sequence is self-contained and can be completed either online or on paper. It includes:

- A Prepare, Do, Review (PDR) document, which introduces the Learning Sequence
- Printable copies of two texts: Text A and Text B, complete with questions
- Option to complete Text A online using the interactive learning sequence in front of the class/intervention group
- Option to complete Text B questions online using the interactive practice quiz
- Teaching guidance, including key strategies to practise, as well as answers to questions
- Key vocabulary cards
- Printable record and impact of intervention forms

### Prepare, Do, Review

A Prepare, Do, Review Document (PDR) accompanies each of the Learning Sequences and includes the following information:

- Prepare: Planning and preparing for the intervention
- Do: Introducing the texts and teaching each Learning Sequence
- Review: Rehearsing key skills; reinforcing new vocabulary and reviewing next steps.

The image shows three pages from a Learning Sequence PDR for Year 5 Fiction 2. The first page is the 'Prepare' section, which includes an intervention overview, reading accuracy check, and a list of questions. The second page is the 'Do' section, which includes suggested timetables for two sessions, teacher guidance, and introduction to the texts. The third page is the 'Review' section, which includes answers to the questions and a list of skills practised.

### Text A and Text B: questions and teaching guidance

Each Learning Sequence takes place over two sessions: the **first session (using Text A)** is for the adult to model how to interpret the questions and find answers in the text. This session is available as both print copy and interactive learning sequence. The **second session (using Text B)** is for the adult to closely monitor the pupils as they tackle the questions independently. This session is available as both print copy and interactive practice quiz. Within each Learning Sequence, the structure of Text B mirrors that of Text A. All the questions relating to Text B have been rehearsed through matching questions relating to Text A. The wording and layout of the questions also reflects those frequently used in tests so that pupils become familiar with the vocabulary of test questions.

- **Text A:** this is intended as a modelling activity to be led by an adult. Pupils make progress by:
  - reading the text together
  - working in a group to discuss questions
  - practising appropriate reading strategies
  - composing and agreeing answers.
- **Text B:** this is intended as a more independent activity, where pupils practise using the skills in the context of a supported group.

For each Learning Sequence, there are separate sets of questions, each covering one Area of Learning: Retrieval, Vocabulary or Inference.

**Shine Reading Skills Inference, Fiction 2**

**Text A - A Trip to the Vet**  
by Dee Reid

Steve Clark was the best basketball game ever. I was about to get my highest score when...

"Max!"

My mum was standing over me and shouting my name. As I put down the controller, I heard the whistle go on full time.

"I've been calling you for 10 minutes," said Mum sharply. "Next time, if you don't answer me when I call, I'll confiscate your console."

I knew my mum. She meant what she said.

I need you to take Tiddles to the vet for Mrs Atkins out door," said Mum. "Tiddles is due a flu jab and Mrs Atkins has a bad cold."

My heart sank. Tiddles was cute and cuddly with Mrs Atkins but with me, she turned into a vicious wild animal.

So that's how I came to be in the waiting room of Muddy Paws Vet with Tiddles hissing in her cat basket. The other people waiting looked nervously at the cat basket.

"Don't worry," said "She's very friendly, really," bent down to tick my finger through the basket to try to calm Tiddles. Big mistake! She clamped her teeth around my finger. I gave a loud yelp, and I pulled my finger away. I must have knocked the doggie which rustled the door. In an instant, Tiddles was out of her basket. She sprang at a cage with a parrot in it. The terrified bird began to squawk. This cracked and a hamster, as a little girl picked it up to comfort it, but the hamster wriggled and shot out of her hands. At once, Tiddles was on the trail.

"Stop!" I screamed as I leapt to grab Tiddles.

Substantially, I found on the wall of a dog that had been sleeping quietly next to its owner. With a loud bark, the dog jumped up and knocked the goldfish bowl out of the hand of a young woman. I watched in horror as the goldfish flew through the air. Out of the corner of my eye, I could see Tiddles with her mouth open. I jumped up and intercepted the goldfish on its way to certain death. Luckily, as my mum was about Clark said:

Afterwards, I returned Tiddles to Mrs Atkins. "Is that a parrot together on your coat?" she required.

"Don't ask," I said.



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**Shine Reading Skills Inference, Fiction 2**

**Text B - A Dog in the Garden**  
by Dee Reid

I was in the kitchen when I saw the dog in our garden. I was about to hammer on the window to show it away when I realised that I recognised the dog. It belonged to the people three doors down the road who had moved in a couple of weeks ago.

At school, we'd been doing a project called Our Neighbourhood. It was all about how we should be friendly to the people who live near us. Well, I thought this was my chance to be a good neighbour. And, who knew? The neighbours might be so grateful to have their dog back, they might give me a reward.

I returned into the garden. I was going to call the dog, but how do you call a dog if you don't know its name? I inched closer. I'm not exactly scared of dogs, but I was beginning to feel a little anxious.

It was then that I noticed the dog wasn't wearing a collar. How was I going to lead it down the road to the neighbours? The dog opened its mouth just a little. It may have been smiling at me, but I couldn't help noticing the points of its sharp teeth.

"Follow me!" I said to the dog, trying to sound like I was used to giving instructions to dogs. I turned to walk away but the dog didn't budge.

I decided the only thing to do was to put my arm around the dog's neck and make it walk alongside me. To my surprise, the dog went along with this plan and we walked out of the garden and down the road to Number 106. I rang the doorbell and waited. After a few minutes, the lady came to the door. Pudding after her was their dog. Their dog! I looked down at the dog I had my arm around. Who was this impostor?

"Is this your dog?" I asked the lady. My voice had gone all squeaky.

"No," she said. "This is my dog." And she looked down at the dog beside her. "I've never seen that dog before in my life."

"Aaargh!" I shouted as I loosened my grip on the strange dog and ran home. So much for being a good neighbour.

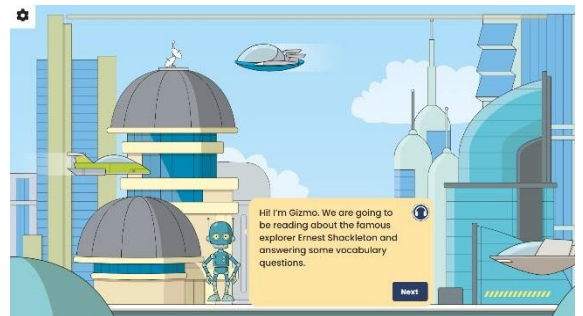


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**Interactive learning sequences**

The interactive learning sequences can be used to complete the Text A sessions. They can be used with a large group, on an interactive whiteboard, or with smaller groups on desktops.

Click on the link to the interactive to open it in your browser. This will open a 'start' screen, which will then lead to a friendly guide character who will introduce you to the text and questions. You can either read the text aloud, ask pupils to read it, or click on the 'audio' button to play the accompanying audio. Using the teaching guidance, you can demonstrate approaches to the text by discussing it with the pupils and asking questions.




**Text A - Traditional Tale: The Faithful Falcon**

long ago, in the country which is now called Turkey, there lived a noble king who loved hunting.

The king had a falcon that accompanied him whenever he went hunting. One day, the hunting party came to a clearing in the forest. The king heard the croak of a branch and there, in the middle of the clearing, he saw a gazelle. The king was suddenly struck by how magnificent the creature was.

The king was renowned as the most accomplished hunter in the land and could not miss the opportunity to hunt, so silently he crept, he loosed his bow and arrow and aimed at the gazelle. But



Drag the sentences to show the order the events happened in the story. The first one has been done for you.

- The crack of a branch alerted the king to the gazelle.
- The falcon saved his master from being poisoned.
- Alone and lost in the forest, the king attempted to relieve his desperate thirst.
- The gazelle bounded away.

← Back Check

The guide character will walk pupils through the questions, providing direction and feedback, and is supported by audio if pupils require more support.

Once pupils are ready to move onto answering the questions, they select or type their answer, click 'check' and the friendly guide character will provide feedback on their answer. If they get it wrong the first time, they will be given a prompt. If they get it wrong a second time, they will be provided with the correct answer.

**Text A - 1001 Arabian Nights: Barmecide's Feast**

Never have I tasted anything so delicious, said Barmecide, as they both went on eating and doing the pretense.

It was Barmecide who spoke and said: "I am now so full that I cannot eat one bit more."

Then the Barmecides laughed heartily. "How long have we been

Good try but the answer is that Shacabac also pretended to wash his hands and his face. Try the next question.

← Back Continue

- He also pretended to wash his hands and his face. ✓
- He looked for the basin and the water.
- He pretended that he was hungry.
- He clapped his hands for the servant to come.

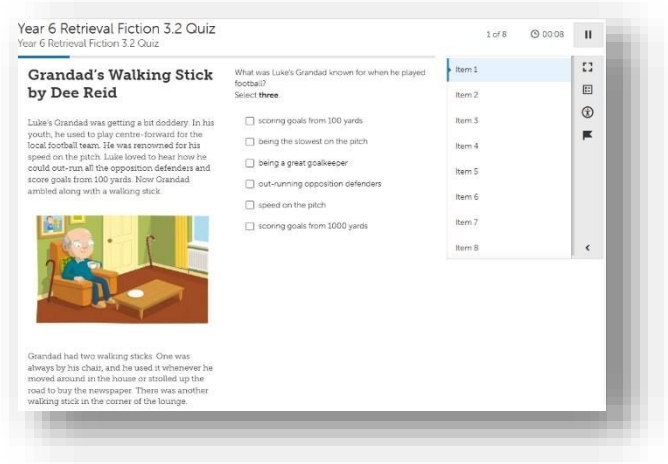
Texts for younger years are broken up by illustrations so that the length of the passage isn't too overwhelming. This means that scrolling is required to read the whole text. For questions where pupils are asked to order events in particular, we suggest supporting pupils to scroll through the text so that they don't miss any paragraphs.

### Interactive practice quizzes

The interactive practice quizzes can be used to complete the Text B sessions.

Once the pupils finish the first session of each Learning sequence (Text A), whether using the PDF or the interactive learning sequence, they will have the opportunity to complete an interactive quiz, which is based on the existing questions in the 'Independent Practice' session of each Learning Sequence.

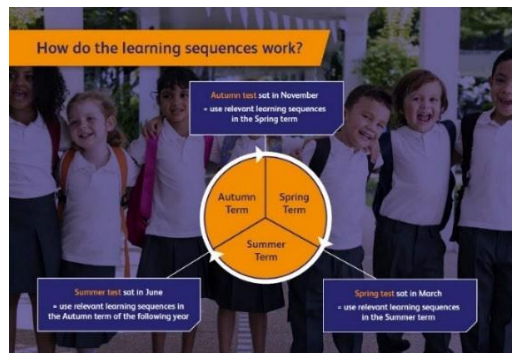
For support on how to assign the Shine Reading interactive quizzes and how to generate reports in Boost Insights visit the Hachette Learning help centre: [Shine Interventions – Hachette Learning Help Centre](#)



### Ways to use Shine Reading Skills

You are likely to want to complete the interventions after assessment, so either towards the end of a term or at the beginning of the next term. The expectation is that:

- Learning Sequence 1 will follow the Autumn Term Assessment and be completed prior to the Spring Term assessment
- Learning Sequence 2 will follow the Spring term Assessment and be completed prior to the Summer Term assessment and
- Learning Sequence 3 will follow the Summer term Assessment and be completed prior to the next year's Autumn Term assessment.



Each Learning Sequence is intended to be taught over two sessions. It is likely that each session will take around 25 minutes.

- The first session will be working together as a group on Text A and its questions
- The second session will be with pupils working more independently on Text B and its questions.

*Shine Reading Skills* is intended to provide Learning Sequences to support teachers in addressing gaps in learning identified through PiRA and NTS formal tests. It is deliberately designed to offer teachers the maximum flexibility to intervene precisely and effectively. For instance:

- **Following a termly standardised assessment.** The Learning Sequences were written to support pupils who take the standardised termly tests, PiRA and NTS. In this instance, the test outcomes and reporting will have produced for you an analysis of which Learning Sequences are suggested for each child.

**Once the Learning Sequence resources have been downloaded, you will also be able to use Shine in the following ways:**

- **If pupils have taken a different test,** your own analysis of their answers and areas of weakness will help you to decide which Learning Sequences are appropriate.
- **Following observations in guided/independent reading sessions.** The Learning Sequences can be used to support groups and individuals who you have observed to be struggling during a reading session.
- **Following extended absence from school.** Pupils who have been absent from school following illness, holidays or school closure can benefit from intensive, targeted support.
- **Before introducing a class focus on an area of reading comprehension.** Some pupils will benefit from pre-teaching and developing strategies before you move on to a class focus on developing specific reading skills.
- **At the start of a new school year.** You may be using this product at the beginning of the Autumn term. In this case, you may wish to use the term 3 Learning Sequence from the previous year group to support children who are struggling with the transition to your year group.

### A note for pupils who need further support

*Shine Reading Skills* is intended to be used as a booster intervention for pupils who need targeted comprehension intervention, not for those who need more substantial reading support. For pupils who need more support, we recommend additional guided and individual reading using the comprehension questions accompanying a structured resource such as *Rising Stars Reading Planet* and/or *Cracking Comprehension* and/or *On Track English Reading Comprehension*.

### Vocabulary Cards

Each Vocabulary Learning Sequence introduces words which pupils are challenged to identify or define. These words are listed on the Prepare, Do, Review pages. Most of those words are also reproduced as Vocabulary Cards for further vocabulary practice. Some words are not included because they are expressions or phrases which are specific to the text in which they arise.

bellowing	confiscate	hammer	recognised
vicious	anxiously	grateful	inched
clamped	freaked out	budged	padding

### Acquiring new vocabulary

When pupils match a word in a Comprehension question to a word in a text this does not automatically mean they have acquired knowledge of that word and would be able to provide a definition for that word if they subsequently came across when reading. In order for pupils to have mastery of new vocabulary they need to meet the word several times, in various contexts and have had the opportunity to put the word's meaning in their own words. For this reason, it is very beneficial if pupils completing the Vocabulary Area of Learning have further opportunities to revisit the Vocabulary of the session where they can explain the word and give examples of its use. A **10-minute weekly revision group focussing on Vocabulary** will pay dividends in extending pupils' vocabulary and building their reading confidence.

### Ideas for Vocabulary activities in a 10-minute revision session

There are a variety of ways the Vocabulary cards can be used to help extend pupils' range of vocabulary.

1. The Vocabulary cards linked to the most recent session are placed face up on the table. The adult gives a definition for one of the words and challenges a pupil in the group to pick up the card which matches that definition.
2. The adult holds up each card in turn and asks a pupil to give a definition of that word.
3. The adult holds up each card in turn and asks a pupil to use the word in a sentence.
4. The adult places one card face-up on the table. Then the adult goes around the group asking pupils to supply words that link with the word on the card. The adult should write each of these words on a whiteboard. For example, with the word *deliver*. Pupil 1 could say: *delivers*. Pupil 2 could say: *delivering*. Pupil 4 could say: *delivered*. Pupils 5 could say: *delivery*. Once pupils are familiar with this word building game, they could take on the role of writing the additional words on the whiteboard.

### Vocabulary words and spelling

The vocabulary questions in the texts focus on words that are intended to widen pupils' vocabulary so it's perfectly possible that the words may be unfamiliar to pupils. For this reason, as suggested above, the words should be revisited with the adult to further familiarise pupils with them. The words are not intended to be words for pupils to practise as spellings. Some pupils may acquire spelling knowledge of the words through the games and activities listed above but generally the words are likely to be beyond the spelling capability of most pupils completing the Vocabulary Area of Learning. Pupils, like adults, can read and understand far more words than they can confidently spell, so the words on the Vocabulary Cards are not going to be the most appropriate words for these pupils to learn to spell. It would be more beneficial for pupils to work at acquiring the spelling of easier more commonly used words.

## Organising Groups

Groups of 4-5 pupils are likely to be most effective in meeting individual needs and are most likely to result in the desirable impact.

The Grouped Intervention Report will have identified groups of pupils who may benefit from each of the Learning Sequences. The *Shine* reports uses a simple algorithm to group and identify pupils who made more errors in an Area of Learning than 50%+ of pupils in the cohort of pupils whose results were used to standardise the tests. In this way, it identifies pupils whose performance is in the bottom 40–50% of each cohort.

Note that the *Shine* reports do not identify a lower limit for pupils to achieve so you will need to look at each pupils' scores. Those who score 0 points, or very few points, in any Area of Learning may need a more substantial intervention. These pupils are highlighted on the report with an asterisk.

If a large number of pupils is identified, you may want to subdivide them into smaller groups according to their scores so that the pupils in each group are working at a similar level. Alternatively, a larger group can be taught using Session 1: Text A, and then divided into smaller groups for Session 2: Text B. This can be done by identifying pupils who are able to work independently on the questions, and smaller groups who will need additional support from a TA.

## The roles of the teacher and teaching assistant

### Class Teacher

If interventions are to have impact, the class teacher needs to be involved and take responsibility for the outcome. The class teacher will need to:

- decide which Learning Sequence(s) is/are most appropriate for each pupil (fiction, non-fiction or poetry) based on the Individual Intervention Report
- consider the composition of groups based on the Grouped Intervention Report
- set targets for individuals (see Impact of Intervention form below)
- ensure time is set aside for preparation and record keeping, as well feedback and discussion with the Teaching Assistant
- provide information for SENDCO/SLT on the impact of interventions.

### Teaching Assistant

It is likely that Teaching Assistants will deliver the majority of the intervention sessions. They will need to:

- familiarise themselves with the expectation of the intervention prior to the first session
- prepare each session (as explained on the PDR document)
- observe each pupil and make notes (see Record of Intervention form below) as well as giving oral feedback to the teacher
- model the reading strategies, as explained in the teaching guidance pages
- mark the activities with the pupils and discuss how answers could be improved.

## Using the Record and Impact forms

Two Record and Impact forms are provided to help you to keep track of the interventions and to monitor impact.

There is a separate Record of Intervention form for the Learning Sequences in Y3/Y4 (P4/P5) and those in Y5/6 (P6/7).

### Impact of Intervention

This form can be used to track pupils’ involvement and attainment with the different Learning Sequences over time. One form can be used to record all three Areas of Learning. The same printable form can be used to track progress using *Shine Reading Skills* interventions throughout the school.

The teacher can record:

- the assessment (if appropriate) that prompted the intervention and the pupil’s mark in that assessment
- which Learning Sequence(s) the pupil engaged with
- the pupil’s attainment in each of the Learning Sequences.

### Record of Intervention

Before the intervention, the teacher should identify target skills for individual pupils from the ‘Reading skills checklist’ using the ‘target skills’ tick column.

The teaching assistant can then:

- make a brief comment on pupils’ performance, using the target skills for guidance
- make a quick assessment of pupils’ reading skills by ticking, crossing or making brief notes (guidance is given on the PDR documents to show how many errors constitute 90-95% accuracy)
- record how many of the questions for Text B the pupil answered correctly when working independently
- use the ‘Skills Practised’ statements in the Review section of the PDR to assess pupil learning.

### Record of Intervention – grouped

The ‘Record of Intervention – grouped’ form can be used to record scores and evidence from the intervention for a group of pupils who are doing the same Learning Sequence. Further rows can be added as required for larger groups of pupils.

The teacher or teaching assistant can use it to:

- record each pupils’ score for the modelled session, using text A and then for the practise session, using Text B
- note any areas of difficulty for each pupil within both sessions
- record evidence of progression for each pupil within both sessions
- make a note of next steps required i.e. whether: responses and marks indicate secure knowledge and understanding of the reading skill, further modelling or re-teaching is required, or further intervention is necessary