

5. Mark schemes for the English reading test

Section 1: Gaby to the Rescue

Qu.	Requirement	Mark
1	<p>A Siamese cat crouched on a tree branch, peering down at Gaby with brilliant blue eyes.</p> <p>Which word is closest in meaning to <i>crouched</i>?</p> <p>Tick one.</p> <p>Content domain: 2a – give / explain the meaning of words in context</p> <p>Award 1 mark for:</p> <p>balanced <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>squatted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>trembled <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>pounced <input type="checkbox"/></p>	1m
2	<p>Look at the first paragraph, beginning: <i>A Siamese cat...</i></p> <p><i>Gaby pulled the cardigan tighter around her.</i></p> <p>Why does Gaby do this?</p> <p>Tick one.</p> <p>Content domain: 2d – make inferences from the text / explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text</p> <p>Award 1 mark for:</p> <p>She is thinking of wrapping the cat in her cardigan. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>She is worried about damaging the cardigan. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>She is feeling cold. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>She is worried the cardigan will be difficult to climb in. <input type="checkbox"/></p>	1m

Section 1: Gaby to the Rescue

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3	<p>In the paragraph beginning: <i>Mind made up...</i> Gaby says to the cat, ‘<i>You’re out of luck...</i>’</p> <p>In what way does Gaby think the cat is out of luck?</p> <p>Content domain: 2d – make inferences from the text / explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text</p> <p>Award 1 mark for reference to any of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Gaby’s mother wasn’t there, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Gaby’s mum wasn’t back</i> <i>because the cat rescuer isn’t there.</i> Only Gaby is available, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>that Gaby is the only one here for the cat.</i> Gaby’s mother is the expert, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>her mum could get cats out of trees easily</i> <i>because it says her mum is a master tree climber and cat rescuer.</i> Gaby is inexperienced at rescuing cats, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>because she wasn’t as experienced at getting cats</i> <i>she has never climbed up a tree to rescue a cat before.</i> <p>Do not accept reference to the cat being stuck up a tree.</p>	1m
4	<p>When Gaby pulls herself up on the branch on page 4, the cat meows.</p> <p>What does Gaby think that the cat is trying to say when it meows?</p> <p>Content domain: 2d – make inferences from the text / explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text</p> <p>Award 1 mark for references to the cat wanting Gaby to hurry, e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>hurry up</i> <i>get me down from here quickly</i> <i>it’s being impatient.</i> <p>Do not accept ‘I am hurrying’.</p>	1m

Section 1: Gaby to the Rescue

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5	<p>Why had Gaby climbed the tree the previous summer?</p> <p>Content domain: 2b – retrieve and record information / identify key details from fiction and non-fiction</p> <p>Award 1 mark for reference to either of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> to have a water fight / to attack the boys, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>to have a water-balloon game with the boys</i> <i>so she could beat the boys in a water-balloon fight</i> <i>to get the boys with water bombs.</i> it was a good position for the game, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>because it was the perfect spot for a full-blown assault on the boys</i> <i>she could throw balloons better from up there.</i> <p>Also accept quotations that meet an acceptable point.</p>	1m
6	<p><i>Gaby secured her feet and hands and climbed higher...</i></p> <p>What does <i>secured her feet and hands</i> mean?</p> <p>Content domain: 2a – give / explain the meaning of words in context</p> <p>Award 1 mark for reference to either of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> getting a good / firm hold, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>she gripped her hands and feet onto the branch.</i> adjusting her feet and hands, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>she got her hands and feet into place.</i> <p>Also accept references to ensuring that she doesn't fall / is safe (with no reference to hold / adjustment), e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>she checked her hands were in a safe place on the tree.</i> 	1m
7	<p>Gaby thinks she makes two mistakes while trying to rescue the cat.</p> <p>What is the first mistake that Gaby makes while trying to rescue the cat?</p> <p>Content domain: 2b – retrieve and record information / identify key details from fiction and non-fiction</p> <p>Award 1 mark for reference to Gaby looking down.</p>	1m

Section 1: Gaby to the Rescue

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8	<p>Look at the paragraph beginning: <i>She knew the universal rule...</i></p> <p>What does the word <i>universal</i> tell you about the rule?</p> <p>Content domain: 2a – give / explain the meaning of words in context</p> <p>Award 1 mark for reference to either of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> it is something everyone knows / agrees on, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>it is a rule that everybody should keep</i> <i>that this rule applies to everyone in the universe</i> <i>the rule is global because everyone knows that rule.</i> it is something that is known / agreed on everywhere, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>it is known all around the world.</i> <p>Also accept references to it being a rule that all climbers should know / agree on, e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>it is known by all tree climbers.</i> <p>Do not accept reference to it being the only rule / the one rule.</p> <p>Do not accept answers which qualify everyone and everywhere, e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>many people know it.</i> 	1m
9	<p>Look at the paragraph beginning: <i>Well, she'd just have to not fall...</i></p> <p><i>The cat was too shiny. Too chubby.</i></p> <p>What conclusion does Gaby draw from this?</p> <p>Content domain: 2b – retrieve and record information / identify key details from fiction and non-fiction</p> <p>Award 1 mark for references to the cat having an owner / being looked after, e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>it wasn't a stray</i> <i>somebody loved it</i> <i>it's well fed.</i> <p>Do not accept answers which do not sufficiently recognise human care for the cat, e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>it looks glossy / fat.</i> 	1m

Section 1: Gaby to the Rescue

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10	<p>Look at page 5.</p> <p>What are three ways the cat shows it does not enjoy Gaby trying to rescue it?</p> <p>Content domain: 2d – make inferences from the text / explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text</p> <p>Award 1 mark for reference to any two of the following.</p> <p>Award 2 marks for reference to any three of the following.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. it arched its back2. it hissed, e.g.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>the cat hissed to tell her to go away.</i>3. it showed its teeth, e.g.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>it snarled at Gaby</i>• <i>it bares its teeth.</i>4. it dug its claws into her / latched onto her, e.g.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>it scratches Gaby</i>• <i>the cat attacked her.</i>	Up to 2m								
11	<p><i>She resettled on the branch, considering her options.</i></p> <p>What does <i>considering her options</i> mean in this sentence?</p> <p>Tick one.</p> <p>Content domain: 2a – give / explain the meaning of words in context</p> <p>Award 1 mark for:</p> <table><tr><td>thinking about what to do</td><td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td></tr><tr><td>changing her mind</td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr><tr><td>looking at it from the cat’s point of view</td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr><tr><td>wishing her mother was there</td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr></table>	thinking about what to do	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	changing her mind	<input type="checkbox"/>	looking at it from the cat’s point of view	<input type="checkbox"/>	wishing her mother was there	<input type="checkbox"/>	1m
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12	<p>Look at page 5.</p> <p>Give one piece of advice that Gaby's mother gives her for dealing with cats.</p> <p>Content domain: 2b – retrieve and record information / identify key details from fiction and non-fiction</p> <p>Award 1 mark for reference to either of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. speak softly to them, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>talk gently to it.</i> 2. pick them up by the loose skin / by the back of their neck, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>to take hold of their loose skin</i> • <i>hold a cat by the scruff of their neck like its mother would have.</i> <p>Do not accept anything that Gaby's mother does that is not offered as advice, e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>to giggle and sweet talk the cats.</i> 	1m
13	<p>Gaby uses the Spanish word <i>gato</i> for cat.</p> <p>Who else in the story speaks Spanish?</p> <p>Content domain: 2b – retrieve and record information / identify key details from fiction and non-fiction</p> <p>Award 1 mark for any reference to Gaby's mother, e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mum.</i> 	1m
14	<p>Number the following events 1–5 to show the order in which they happened.</p> <p>The first one has been done for you.</p> <p>Content domain: 2c – summarise main ideas from more than one paragraph</p> <p>Award 1 mark for the correct sequence:</p> <p>Gaby breaks the universal rule of tree climbing. 4</p> <p>Gaby notices the cat. 1</p> <p>Gaby tries to pick up the cat. 5</p> <p>Gaby remembers the water-balloon fight. 3</p> <p>Gaby takes her cardigan off. 2</p>	1m

Section 3: An Encounter at Sea

Qu.	Requirement	Mark
29	<p><i>...like a toy sitting on a glass table.</i></p> <p>What does this description suggest about the boat?</p> <p>Content domain: 2g – identify / explain how meaning is enhanced through choice of words and phrases</p> <p>Award 1 mark for reference to either of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> small / insignificant, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>it was small in a big ocean.</i> still / unmoving, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>it created no ripples.</i> 	1m
30	<p>Look at page 8.</p> <p>What was unusual for Michael about this day?</p> <p>Content domain: 2d – make inferences from the text / explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text</p> <p>Award 1 mark for reference to Michael seeing no dolphins.</p> <p>Do not accept references to the weather / temperature.</p>	1m

Section 3: An Encounter at Sea

Qu.	Requirement	Mark
31	<p><i>...the 'putt-putt' of her engine was lost in the big, quiet stillness of the afternoon.</i></p> <p>Choose the best words to match the description above. Circle both of your choices.</p> <p>Content domain: 2a – give / explain the meaning of words in context</p> <p>Award 1 mark for:</p> <p>The boat was chugging smoking racing roaring</p> <p>Content domain: 2d – make inferences from the text / explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text</p> <p>Award 1 mark for:</p> <p>along on the cold sea. bubbling ripples. smooth waters. rocking tide.</p>	<p>1m</p> <p>1m</p>
32	<p>Look at page 8.</p> <p>Find and copy two different words that show Michael enjoyed the feeling of the cool water.</p> <p>Content domain: 2a – give / explain the meaning of words in context</p> <p>Award 1 mark for both of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>savouring</i> <i>delicious (coolness).</i> 	1m

Section 3: An Encounter at Sea

Qu.	Requirement	Mark
33	<p>Look at page 9.</p> <p>How is the whale made to seem mysterious?</p> <p>Explain two ways, giving evidence from the text to support your answer.</p> <p>Content domain: 2d – make inferences from the text / explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text</p> <p>Acceptable points:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. unexpected / unidentified / unfamiliar sound it makes 2. unexpected appearance / disappearance 3. Michael's shock / confusion 4. it describes parts of the whale / the whale is only partly visible 5. it doesn't immediately say what it is 6. it uses familiar things to describe the unrecognisable 7. rules out what it is not rather than telling you what it is. <p>Award 3 marks for two acceptable points, with at least one supported with evidence, e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>the whale is made mysterious because out of the blue, there is a 'ppppffffwwraa' noise. It is also mysterious as it seems to appear out of nowhere 'A black shape much, much bigger than the biggest dolphin, showed about five metres from the boat'. [AP1 + evidence, AP2 + evidence]</i> • <i>because of the unusual sound it makes and it doesn't say it's a whale until Michael realises – a whale! That's what he had seen. [AP1, AP5 + evidence].</i> <p>Award 2 marks for either two acceptable points, or one acceptable point supported with evidence, e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>a black shape much much bigger than the biggest dolphin. It doesn't tell you what the shape is but you know it isn't a dophin which creates mystery. [evidence + AP7]</i> • <i>something takes Michael by surprise and he keeps you in suspense by not saying what it is yet. [AP3, AP5].</i> <p>Award 1 mark for one acceptable point, e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>it only describes a bit of it so you don't know what it is [AP4]</i> • <i>by describing it as being like something you know to help you understand. [AP6].</i> 	Up to 3m

Section 3: An Encounter at Sea

Qu.	Requirement	Mark
34a	<p>When Michael touched the whale it felt smooth.</p> <p>(a) According to the text on page 9, why might he have expected it to feel smooth?</p> <p>Content domain: 2d – make inferences from the text / explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text</p> <p>Award 1 mark for reference to it looking polished / like a polished rock.</p> <p>Do not accept reference to it being shiny / wet.</p>	1m
34b	<p>(b) According to the text on page 10, why might he not have expected it to feel smooth?</p> <p>Content domain: 2d – make inferences from the text / explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text</p> <p>Award 1 mark for reference to either of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> the whale's damaged skin / scars, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>it had bits of skin missing</i> <i>it had scars all over it.</i> the whale's head looked like a patchwork / wreckage. <p>Also accept quotations which meet an acceptable point.</p> <p>Do not accept reference to the crease of skin / it having creased skin.</p> <p>Do not accept reference to injury without referring to scarring / skin damage.</p>	1m
35	<p>Look at the paragraph beginning: <i>Carefully, Michael leaned...</i></p> <p>Where was the whale?</p> <p>Tick one.</p> <p>Content domain: 2d – make inferences from the text / explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text</p> <p>Award 1 mark for:</p> <p>in front of the boat <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>at the side of the boat <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>under the boat <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>five metres from the boat <input type="checkbox"/></p>	1m

Section 3: An Encounter at Sea

Qu.	Requirement	Mark
36	<p>Look at the paragraph beginning: <i>Carefully, Michael leaned...</i></p> <p>What does this paragraph tell you about Michael's character?</p> <p>Explain two features of his character, using evidence from the text to support your answer.</p> <p>Content domain: 2d – make inferences from the text / explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text</p> <p>Acceptable points:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. curious / interested 2. observant 3. brave / daring 4. respectful / gentle 5. cautious / calm. <p>Award 3 marks for two acceptable points, at least one with evidence, e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>He's careful because instead of screaming or running to the side of the boat, he went carefully and calmly. He's also very aware of the things around him.</i> [AP5 + evidence, AP2] • <i>Michael is daring because he tried to touch the whale not knowing what would happen. He is very interested.</i> [AP3 + evidence, AP1]. <p>Award 2 marks for either two acceptable points, or one acceptable point with evidence, e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>It tells you he is quite curious about things as a normal person would stay away, but he leaned over the boat so he could see it better.</i> [AP1 + evidence] • <i>It tells us that he is a gentle kind character and cautious.</i> [AP4 + AP5]. <p>Award 1 mark for one acceptable point, e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>He is very inquisitive.</i> [AP1] • <i>He is very brave and adventurous.</i> [AP3]. <p>Do not accept general responses relating to Michael liking animals.</p>	Up to 3m

Section 3: An Encounter at Sea

Qu.	Requirement	Mark
37	<p>The whale did not seem to be alarmed by meeting Michael. How can you tell this from its actions?</p> <p>Give two ways.</p> <p>Content domain: 2d – make inferences from the text / explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text</p> <p>Award 1 mark for reference to any of the following, up to a maximum of 2 marks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> the whale stayed / left and came back the whale allowed Michael to touch it, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>the whale stayed to be touched</i> <i>the whale didn't draw away.</i> the whale looked Michael in the eye / allowed Michael to look it in the eye the whale came close to Michael / close enough to touch the boat, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>the whale came near the boat.</i> the whale slowly went away / caressed the boat. <p>Also accept quotations which meet an acceptable point.</p> <p>Do not accept answers referring to possible aggression by the whale, e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>the whale didn't attack him</i> <i>the whale didn't swallow him / the boat.</i> <p>Do not accept reference to the whale remaining calm without further explanation.</p>	Up to 2m
38	<p><i>Like a sleeper waking from a dream, he looked around, dazed.</i></p> <p>This tells us that at the end of the story Michael felt that...</p> <p>Tick one.</p> <p>Content domain: 2d – make inferences from the text / explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text</p> <p>Award 1 mark for:</p> <p>he wanted the experience to continue. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>he had experienced something similar before. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>the experience was unreal. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>the experience was worrying. <input type="checkbox"/></p>	1m

Section 3: An Encounter at Sea

Qu.	Requirement	Mark															
39	<p>Tick one box in each row to show whether each statement is true or false.</p> <p>Content domain: 2b – retrieve and record information / identify key details from fiction and non-fiction</p> <p>Award 1 mark for all four correct:</p> <table> <tr> <th></th><th>True</th><th>False</th></tr> <tr> <td>Michael was in an unfamiliar area of sea when he saw the whale.</td><td></td><td>✓</td></tr> <tr> <td>The boat was still motoring forwards when the whale appeared.</td><td></td><td>✓</td></tr> <tr> <td>The whale felt warm and soft when Michael touched it.</td><td></td><td>✓</td></tr> <tr> <td>Michael could not name the colour of the whale's eye.</td><td>✓</td><td></td></tr> </table>		True	False	Michael was in an unfamiliar area of sea when he saw the whale.		✓	The boat was still motoring forwards when the whale appeared.		✓	The whale felt warm and soft when Michael touched it.		✓	Michael could not name the colour of the whale's eye.	✓		1m
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