

2026 national curriculum tests

Key stage 2

English reading mark scheme amendments

**Amendments to the mark schemes for
modified large print (MLP) and braille**



**Standards
& Testing
Agency**

Introduction: modified large print

This guidance is for markers who have been allocated MLP scripts of the 2026 key stage 2 English reading test.

The standard version of the key stage 2 English reading test mark schemes should be used in conjunction with the additional guidance in this document. Markers should refer to the standard mark schemes when marking MLP test papers unless an alternative is given in this guidance.

Amendments to the mark schemes

Amendments to mark schemes are only provided where the content of the standard mark schemes is altered.

Amendments to mark schemes are not provided where the only change has been to further divide the question into subsections or where the layout of the question is different.

Mark schemes have been amended in some respects for the following questions:






Reading test	8, 20
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General guidance to be applied throughout the MLP papers

- Be sympathetic to the fact that the handwriting of pupils with visual impairment may be of inconsistent size and formation. They may also have difficulty circling or ticking their answers. Award marks where there is a clear and unambiguous indication of the correct answer.
- If pupils have missed any answer lines or spaces within the text, their answers may be elsewhere on the page. Any unambiguous indication of the correct answer should be credited, working within the parameters of the mark scheme.
- Markers should contact their supervisors if they have any problems applying the mark scheme to MLP scripts, or with specific responses. All supervisors have contact details of markers who will provide specialist advice.

Reading test

Q	Requirement
8	<div data-bbox="375 470 523 616">M</div> picked up the owl <div data-bbox="375 689 523 835">J</div> wondered where the owl came from <div data-bbox="375 920 523 1066">J</div> first suggested climbing the tree <div data-bbox="375 1151 523 1296">J</div> said they should leave the owl alone

Q	Requirement
20	<div data-bbox="381 398 525 539"></div> <div data-bbox="603 360 1222 562">Matilda has a good imagination, which helps her invent.</div> <div data-bbox="381 622 525 763"></div> <div data-bbox="603 629 1219 763">Thomas Edison invented windscreen wipers.</div> <div data-bbox="381 831 525 972"></div> <div data-bbox="603 837 1273 972">Grandad Wilf was a mentor to Matilda.</div> <div data-bbox="381 1077 525 1218"></div> <div data-bbox="603 1039 1228 1256">Granny Joss enjoyed sharing stories about her previous job.</div> <div data-bbox="381 1317 525 1458"></div> <div data-bbox="603 1323 1305 1458">Matilda's inventions are designed to solve problems.</div>

Introduction: braille

This guidance details the amendments made to the standard mark schemes for questions that have been adapted or replaced in the braille version of the 2026 key stage 2 English reading test.

This guidance should be used in conjunction with the standard version of the 2026 key stage 2 English reading test mark schemes. Markers should refer to the standard mark schemes when marking the braille test papers, unless additional guidance is given in this document.

Amendments to the mark schemes

Amendments to mark schemes are only provided where the content of the standard mark schemes is altered.

Amendments to mark schemes are not provided where the only change has been to further divide the question into subsections or where the layout of the question is different.

Mark schemes have been amended in some respects for the following questions:

Reading test	1, 3, 5, 8, 10, 14, 15, 19, 20, 23, 25, 27, 30, 36
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General guidance to be applied throughout the braille papers

- You should make every effort to understand what the pupil has written in an answer, without reading into the answer anything that the child did not intend.
- Any unambiguous indication of the correct answer should be credited.
- Throughout the test, where question responses are labelled with letters or letters and numbers, pupils may write the letter or letter and number of their chosen answer rather than writing out their answer in full, for example, B, D, 1C, 2A.
- Some braille questions are worded differently from the standard version, but the differences are sufficiently small that the standard mark scheme can still be applied. For example, pupils may write the answer rather than circle the answer.

Marking brailled test scripts

Brailled scripts will usually be marked by specialist braille markers who will be provided with the physical copy to be marked. Markers should contact their supervisors if they have any problems applying the mark schemes to brailled scripts or with specific responses.

Reading test

Q	Requirement
1	C
3	B
5	C
8	A. M (Mandy) B. J (James) C. J (James) D. J (James)
10	B C A
14	A F
15	D
19	A D
20	A. T (True) B. F (False) C. T (True) D. F (False) E. T (True)
23	D
25	D

Q	Requirement
27	B
30	A. 1923 B. 1928 C. 1932
36	B C E D A

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