YEAR 2 - Comprehension
Fiction, Non - Fiction and Poetry Texts in Themes

Introduction
Year 2 Comprehension is a collection of fiction, non-fiction and poetry texts grouped in themes suitable for the age group. These exercises can be used to prepare children for SAT style tests or matched to themes the class may be studying at the time. The question pages are split into three sections. Section A gives an overview of the text with missing words or phrases to find, Section B contains more open-ended questions and Section C is a relevant written/illustrative challenge for more able pupils or those who work quickly. All the pages have been printed ‘Landscape’ to make maximum use of the space on Interactive Whiteboards. Black and white images are used in the paper book; full colour images have been used in the e.book and download.

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My Holiday

Mum and Dad said we were going on holiday to Devon. We packed lots of games to play in the car because we knew it would take a long time to get there.

We stayed in a cottage so close to the beach that we could hear the sound of the waves crashing on the rocky shore.

On the first morning James and I ran outside with our buckets and spades to build a sandcastle but we couldn’t see any sand.

Dad laughed and told us to be patient. As the tide started to go out we began to explore the rock pools. They were full of tiny fish and crabs.

“I think you might need these,” said Dad as he passed us some fishing nets.

James caught ten crabs but I only caught seven. At the end of the morning, we returned them to the pool and went to eat our picnic.

After lunch we paddled in the sea, built a sandcastle and played cricket with some of the other children on the beach.

“This has been the best holiday of my life,” said James.

“And it’s still only the first day!” said Mum.
My Holiday

Section A

Circle the best word to match the writing.

The family went on holiday to


They stayed in a

2. hotel. cottage. tent. caravan.

On the first morning the children could not see any

3. sea. sand. cliffs. waves.

When the tide went out they explored the

4. beach. sea. rock pools. park.

At the end of the morning they ate a

5. hot-dog. ice cream. picnic. biscuit.

Section B

1. From the cottage they could hear the sound of...
   - cars  - planes
   - birds  - waves

2. Dad passed the children some...
   - buckets  - spades
   - cricket bats  - fishing nets

3. James caught ten crabs but I only caught...
   - five  - six
   - seven  - eight

4. Why did the children pack lots of games to play in the car?
   ___________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________

Section C

Write or draw about a seaside holiday.
The Fire of London

“Thomas, Thomas. Can you hear me? Your house is on fire,” shouted John the butcher on his way home from his shop. John had noticed flames in Thomas Farynor’s bakery as he walked past and he knew the family would be upstairs asleep. “Thomas, your house is on fire!” he called again at the top of his voice.

Inside, Thomas the Baker stirred in his sleep. He had been dreaming he was in a very hot place, possibly in the sun, possibly by a bonfire. Suddenly he woke up and realised what was actually happening. He could smell smoke and hear the cries of his friend. “I’m awake, I’m awake. Fetch a ladder as quickly as you can,” he shouted back to his friend.

Thomas shook his wife to wake her up. “Elizabeth! Elizabeth! Wake up, the bakery is on fire. Get the children quickly, I will look for a way out.”

Elizabeth sprang to her feet and dashed into the next room. She woke the five sleeping children and dragged them out of their beds. Thomas dashed to the top of the stairs only to find the flames were already halfway up them. The recent dry weather and the wooden building made sure the fire spread really quickly.

“The roof, the only way out is the roof,” Thomas shouted to his family. “Follow me!” Thomas climbed out of the tiny bedroom window onto the thatched roof. Elizabeth passed out each child in turn for Thomas to lift onto the roof. Finally, Elizabeth squeezed herself through the small opening. For a moment, they were safe.
The Fire of London

Section A

Circle the best word to match the writing.

Thomas was a
1 butcher. baker. tailor. sailor.

John was a
2 butcher. baker. tailor. sailor.

When Thomas woke up he could smell
3 cheese. the dog. smoke. gas.

He woke up his wife

She dashed into the next room to wake up the
5 four five six seven
sleeping children.

Section B

1. What was Thomas dreaming about?
   - his holidays
   - being in a very hot place
   - his wife
   - November 5th

2. Why did John wake Thomas up?

3. What made the fire spread so quickly?

4. How did they get out of the house?

5. How would Thomas feel when he saw the fire?

Section C

Write or draw about the Fire of London.