



SATS
Like
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NINJA

Key facts and revision tips to supercharge your SATs

BLOOMSBURY

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JENNINGS**

SATS

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What are SATs?

What?

Key Stage 2 SATs are the National Curriculum Assessments or Standard Assessment Tests that happen at the end of primary school for Year 6 pupils in England. The tests cover spelling, punctuation, grammar, reading and maths.

When?

Key Stage 2 SATs normally take place in early May after the school holidays. The tests start on the Monday of the testing week and run through until the Thursday. If pupils are unable to attend school due to illness or other issues, tests will be taken when they return to school. The tests are normally carried out first thing in the morning, but schools are free to choose when the test takes place.

Some schools choose to invite Year 6 children into school early each morning before the tests and provide breakfast for them. This is to allow pupils to arrive in good time, relax with their friends before the test and revise information that might be useful in the test that day.

Where?

The tests will normally be completed in school. Some schools administer the tests in a school hall, but more commonly schools will deliver the tests in multiple classrooms, libraries and other spaces in school. Schools often choose locations that children are familiar and comfortable with.

How?

SATs tests are paper booklets. Pupils are required to answer in the booklets using pencils, pens and other equipment that will be provided for them by the school, such as rulers and protractors. Pupils don't need to bring anything of their own to complete the tests.

Each test has a set time limit and will be completed under test conditions.

Members of staff who are leading the tests may read certain parts of questions to pupils, but not support or prompt a pupil's knowledge.

Why?

SATs are used to gauge whether pupils are leaving primary school and moving onto secondary school at an expected level or not. This is known as 'working at the expected standard'. Scores from the test tell you whether a pupil is working below, at or above this expected standard and whether they are ready to access learning at secondary school.

Scores

Marks from the test papers are converted into a score. Scores are given on a scale of 80 to 120, with a score of 100 or more meaning that a pupil is meeting the expected governmental standard (but this equates to different marks for each paper).



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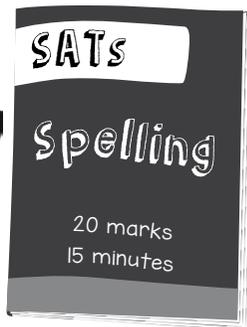
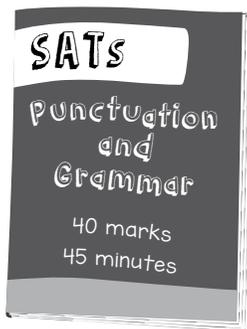


Timeline of the tests

Monday

Punctuation and grammar - This paper has 50 questions. Each question is worth one mark.

Spelling - This paper has 20 questions. Each question is worth one mark. This test is usually carried out straight after the Punctuation and Grammar paper.

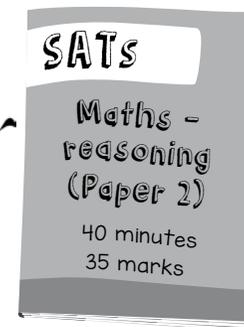
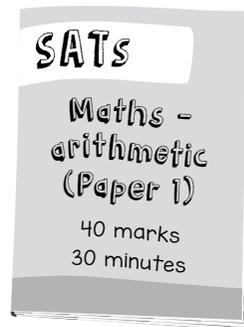


Total marks for spelling, punctuation and grammar - 70 marks.

Wednesday

Maths - arithmetic (Paper 1) - This paper has 36 questions. Each question is worth one mark. This paper will contain two long multiplication and two long division questions, which are worth two marks each.

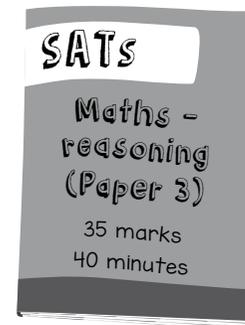
Maths - reasoning (Paper 2) - This paper has between 21 and 25 questions. Questions can be worth one, two or three marks.



Thursday

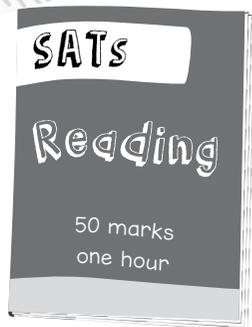
Maths - reasoning (Paper 3) - This paper has between 21 and 25 questions. Questions can be worth one, two or three marks.

Total marks for maths - 110 marks.



Friday

No tests today. Relax, you are finished!



Tuesday

Reading - This paper has approximately 35 questions. Questions can be worth one, two or three marks.

Total marks for reading - 50 marks.





Top 10 Ninja SATs preparation tips



1 Let's make a revision date

Time for a routine! Plan a little study time each day - short sessions work way better than last-minute craziness. Try to stick to 15-20 minutes max. But remember, your school will be doing everything to get you ready for SATs, so try not to worry about it!

2 Create your super study zone

Find a cosy spot with good light for your study adventures. Less distraction, more focus!

3 Get past papers in the game

Practice makes perfect, right? Try out some past papers to get the hang of how things work. It's like a sneak peek into the SATs world. Search for 'KS2 SATs Papers' online, there are many websites where you can download these for free.

4 Put your phone and tablets away!

Phones, tablets and tech can be a major distraction. So, if you're working in smart 15-20 blocks, just leave your gadgets in another room.

5 Books, books and more books

Dive into cool stories and interesting facts. Mix it up with different kinds of books. Reading makes your brain super strong!

6 See the whole picture

Remember, the SATs tests check your learning from Year 3 to Year 6, so lots of the content is quite simple. You already know most of it, so don't overcomplicate things. Use SATs Like a Ninja to focus on the areas you don't feel confident with.

7 Get moving with revision

Active learning is like a superhero move for your brain! Mix it up by creating some flashcards, or why not try teaching stuff to your buddy or even your pet?

8 Fuel your brain with good stuff

Eat well, sleep tight and keep active. Your brain loves it when you treat it right. Healthy choices equal super study powers! Drink water, get as much sleep as possible and get outside and exercise.

9 You're a learning superstar

Mistakes are just stepping stones to being a genius. Keep going, and remember, you're a learning ninja in the making!

10 Chill time is a must

Break time! Plan breaks during study sessions, and make sure you have time for your favourite stuff and most importantly, get outside. A happy mind is a smart mind!



You've got this! SATs are just a little adventure on your learning journey. Stay positive, do your best, and don't forget to high-five yourself for being awesome!

SPAG

English grammar, punctuation and spelling: Paper 1



Test details

Test day - Monday

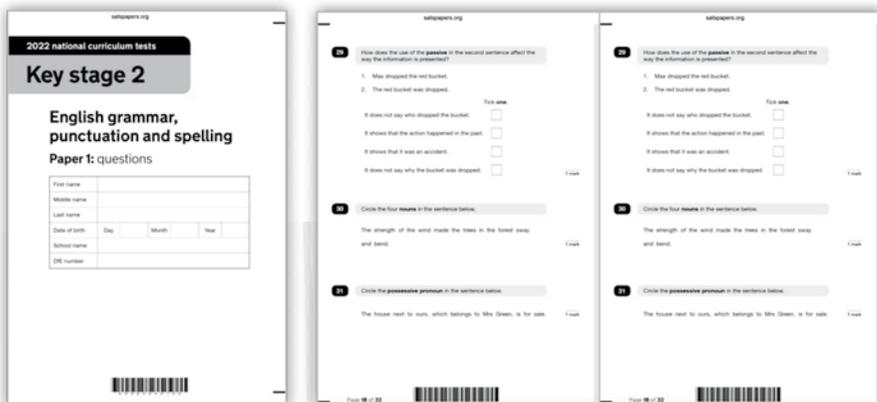
Time allowed - 45 minutes

Number of questions - 50 questions. Each question is worth one mark. 50 marks total.

The marks for this paper are combined with the marks for the spelling paper to give a combined grammar, punctuation and spelling mark out of 70.

Layout and appearance

The grammar and punctuation paper looks like this. You will find multiple questions on each page.



Example questions

The grammar and punctuation paper asks you to answer questions in different ways. It might ask you to tick a box, circle a word or phrase, underline a word or phrase, and so on.



49 Tick one box in each row to show which form of the verb is underlined in each sentence.

Sentence	Simple past	Past progressive	Past perfect
Nathan had hoped for a part in the school play.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The children were rehearsing their lines.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lots of parents came to watch.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

1 mark

36 Which option makes the sentence start with an adverbial?

_____ we lined up for the class photo.

Tick one.

It was noisy and crowded, but

The photographer arrived while

With big smiles on our faces,

The whole class were ready so

1 mark

NINJA TIP:
It's really important to answer the question in the way in which you are asked to. If it asks you to circle a word, you need to circle a word.

33 Circle the relative pronoun in the sentence below.

The children who were going swimming had their lunch earlier than we did.

1 mark

24 Underline the subordinate clause in the sentence below.

When the crowd heard the clattering sound, they gasped in astonishment.

1 mark

Grammar

Nouns

Nouns are naming words. Nouns are used to name and identify people, places, objects and even feelings. There are three different types of nouns that you need to know:

Proper noun

Proper nouns are nouns that require capital letters because they are the name of a person (David, Lisa), a place (England, Rochdale) or an other official title (Nike, Apple, Samsung).

Common noun

Common nouns name everything we can see. Everything around you that you can see is a common noun. For example, table, chair, window, bottle, wall, T-shirt, teacher... everything! These are very obvious and very common.

Abstract noun

Abstract nouns are less obvious and name feelings or emotions. For example, love, pride, shock, talent. A good way to think about abstract nouns is that you can't touch them.

Examples

Andrew and Jessica walked to the park to walk the dog.

The children heard a rumour that Alex Walker was visiting the school.

Six birds sat next to the window, which gave Mia lots of pleasure.



NINJA TIP:

Articles and determiners (see p. 23) will often come before nouns, with articles being a, an, the.



SATS TIP

In the SATs, there may be questions where you need to find the nouns in a sentence. Remember, there could be more than one to find.

SATS example

Circle the four **nouns** in the sentence below.

The strength of the wind made the trees in the forest sway and bend.

strength, wind, trees, forest

SATS example

Circle the three **nouns** in the sentence below.

The fire gave the room a cosy feeling.

Fire, room, Feeling

Adjectives

Adjectives are used to describe nouns (see p. 12) and pronouns (see p. 19).

Adjectives are very common and help to add more information about a noun or pronoun. Visualise the following:

red ball scary monster large vehicle

NINJA TIP:

Adjectives are sometimes tricky to spot. As adjectives describe nouns and pronouns, an easy way to spot an adjective is to find the noun first, then look for words that describe that noun.



Examples

In these examples, the nouns are highlighted. The adjectives describing the nouns are underlined.

Thea was wearing a red dress and her hair was curly.

A strong wind blew the wooden door wide open.

The screaming children ran onto the playground, which was slippery.

SATS example

SATs questions might ask you to find many adjectives in a sentence.

Circle the three **adjectives** in the sentence below.

He made his way up the cobbled street, striding like the bold and determined man he was.

cobbled, bold, determined

Practice TASK

- Write a list of ten nouns. Add an adjective to each noun that describes it.
- Use these adjective and noun combinations in a sentence.



Verbs



Adverbs

Verbs are words that describe an action – a physical action, mental action or just a state of existing. Verbs are required for a sentence to be formed.

Examples

In these examples, the nouns are **highlighted**. The verbs are in bold.

Harry **ran** into the **classroom** and **dumped** his **coat** on the **floor**.

The **sun** **rose** above the **mountains** and **warmed** the **ground** below.

The **wolf** **stalked** its **prey** across the **meadow**, until it finally **pounced**.

Auxiliary verbs

Although you're unlikely to be tested on these, auxiliary verbs or 'helping verbs' such as were, is, was, are, have, can and has, are still classed as verbs. See 'were' in the SATs example below.



SATS TIP

Spotting nouns can make it easier to spot verbs, as the verb usually describes an action that the noun or pronoun (subject) is performing.



NINJA TIP:

Verbs can vary depending on how they are used in a sentence. For example, **jump**, **jumps**, **jumped** and **jumping** are all verbs.

SATS example

Circle the four **verbs** in the passage below.

There were hundreds of gulls circling in the sky.

They gathered near the dock, searching for scraps.

were, circling, gathered, searching

Practice TASK

- 1 Read a few pages of a book. As you read, spot the verbs. Each sentence should contain at least one. Books are great for endless verb spotting!
- 2 Write three sentences. Once finished, circle the verbs and highlight the nouns.



Adverbs most commonly describe verbs and tell us more about how the verb (action) is being performed. Adverbs can also describe adjectives and other adverbs.

Examples

Try to spot the verb first and then spotting the adverb will be much easier. In these examples, the verbs are in bold. The adverbs have a dotted line underneath.

The team **darted** quickly out onto the muddy sports pitch.

Esther aimlessly **wandered** through the woods.

Julian **ran** hard into the gale force wind and rain.



NINJA TIP:

If you are unsure about identifying an adverb, try to spot the verb first. If you can pick out the verb, you can then look for a word close by that gives more information about the verb (action).

SATS example

Tick the **adverb** in the sentence below.

Tick **one**.

The lively crowd cheered loudly when the rally car race began.



loudly

SATS example

Circle the three **adverbs** in the sentence below.

Because it was raining hard, the driver was unable to see clearly and almost crashed his shiny car.

hard, clearly, almost

Practice TASK

- 1 Use the internet to search for common adverbs. Create a poster about all of the common adverbs you have found. Include two or three example sentences in your poster showing adverbs in action.



Modal verbs

Modal verbs suggest possibility and give the reader an understanding of how likely something is to happen. The great thing about modal verbs is there aren't too many and they are easy to remember. Here's a few of the main ones.

can could must shall should would
may might ought to will need

Examples

The modal verbs in these examples have been highlighted.

I think Ruby is worried because we **may** get caught.

Hamed said that he **might** come out to play later.

Do you think we **should** go in?



NINJA TIP:

Some modal verbs, like **will** and **can't**, show a high level of certainty, whereas words like **might**, **could** and **should** are uncertain and could go either way.

SATS example

Circle the **modal verb** in the sentence below.

Kate hoped that she would see goats and sheep at the farm.

would

SATS TIP

Some modal verb questions might ask you to explain how different modal verbs change the meaning of a sentence.

- 1) Yusuf and his sister go swimming with their dad.
- 2) Yusuf and his sister might go swimming with their dad.

In the second sentence, the use of **might** suggests that it is not certain that they will go swimming. In the first sentence, it is certain that they go swimming.

Co-ordinating conjunctions

Co-ordinating conjunctions are much simpler than they sound. Co-ordinating conjunctions join two words, two phrases or two clauses together.

Joining words

The sun was **bright and warm**.

My ice-cream was **cold yet delicious**.

I would like **pizza or pasta** for lunch.

Joining phrases

He was **excited for the concert but nervous** about the noise.

We can **walk to the park or drive** to the pool.

Joining clauses

A simple explanation of a clause is a group of words that contain a subject and verb, and could form a simple sentence. A co-ordinating conjunction joins two of these clauses together.

The **rain hammered** down on the roof, **and** the **wind battered** the windows with debris.

clause 1

cc

clause 2

NINJA TIP:

There are only seven co-ordinating conjunctions to focus on for SATs and it's easy to remember all seven using the mnemonic FANBOYS:

F - For, **A** - and, **N** - nor, **B** - but, **O** - or, **Y** - yet, **S** - so



SATS example

Most SATs question ask you to circle the co-ordinating conjunction or add the correct one to a sentence.

Circle the **co-ordinating conjunction** in the sentence below.

If you want to enter the competition, you can send your idea by email or by post.

or

Circle the **co-ordinating conjunction** in the sentence below.

I started drawing a car, but then I changed my mind because I had a better idea.

but