

READING

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

This Reading Syllabus seeks to offer Learners the opportunity to:

- Read and perform for pleasure
- Extend the breadth of literature and poetry read
- Develop artistic skills
- Develop fluency
- Project the enjoyment of the printed word to the listener
- Increase word recognition
- Increase confidence in prepared reading
- Increase confidence in sight reading
- Instill an interest in reading and poetry

Guidelines for Reading Learners:

- Entries are welcomed and encouraged from Learners who have special learning difficulties, or have difficulty with fluency and word recognition; these Grades are particularly useful to increase their confidence and ability.
- The Learner should:
 - Read their prose selection from the **book**.
 - Read their poetry selection from a suitably presented copy.
 - Provide a copy of each selection for the Examiner.

Overseas Learners:

Taking exams at a centre outside the British Isles may, if they wish, substitute the prose selection in each Grade for an author from their own culture appropriate to the Grade.

ENTRY LEVEL

At this Level no piece should exceed 2 minutes.

Marks awarded at this Level taking into consideration technique, communication and interpretation throughout each section:

Entry Level	Technique, Communication and Interpretation		
	Preparatory	50	
Introductory	50		50
Preliminary	50		50
Transition	45	45	10

PREPARATORY GRADE (10 Minutes)

Learners should:

1. Prepare and read a short poem of their own choice.
2. Prepare and read a short passage from:
 - Any story by Shirley Hughes; or
 - Any story by Laura Owen

INTRODUCTORY GRADE (10 Minutes)

Learners should:

1. Prepare and read a short poem by either:
 - Julia Donaldson; or
 - Rachel Field
2. Prepare and read a passage from:
 - The 'Paddington' series by Michael Bond; or
 - Any story by Jessica Ennis Hill

PRELIMINARY GRADE (10 Minutes)

Learners should:

1. Prepare and read a short poem by either:
 - John Foster; or
 - Roger Stevens
2. Prepare and read a passage from:
 - any story from the 'Spy Dog' series by Andrew Cope; or
 - any story by Jill Murphy

TRANSITION GRADE (10 Minutes)

Learners should:

1. Prepare and read a poem by either:
 - Allan Ahlberg; or
 - Richard Edwards
2. Prepare and read a passage from:
 - any story by Adam Blade; or
 - any story by Astrid Lindgren
3. Read at sight a passage of prose.

LEVEL 1 – FOUNDATION

At this Level no piece should exceed 2 minutes.

Marks awarded at this Level taking into consideration technique, communication and interpretation throughout each section:

Foundation Level 1	Technique, Communication and Interpretation			
Grade 1	35	35	15	15
Grade 2	35	35	15	15
Grade 3	35	35	15	15

GRADE 1 (10 Minutes)

Learners should:

1. Prepare and read a poem by either:
 - David Harmer; or
 - Gregory Harrison
2. Prepare and read a passage from:
 - Any story by L M Montgomery; or
 - Any story by David Walliams
3. Read at sight a passage of poetry.
4. Read at sight a passage of prose.

GRADE 2 (10 Minutes)

Learners should:

1. Prepare and read a poem by either:
 - Charles Causley; or
 - Jan Dean
2. Prepare and read a passage from any fantasy novel by:
 - Eva Ibbotson; or
 - Katherine Rundell
3. Read at sight a passage of poetry.
4. Read at sight a passage of prose.

GRADE 3 Foundation Medal (15 Minutes)

Learners should:

1. Prepare and read a poem by either:
 - Laurie Lee; or
 - Judith Nicholls
2. Prepare and read a passage from any novel by:
 - Emma Carroll; or
 - Michelle Harrison
3. To read at sight a passage of poetry.
4. To read at sight a passage of prose.

LEVEL 2 – INTERMEDIATE

At this Level no piece should exceed 3 minutes.

Marks awarded at this Level taking into consideration technique, communication and interpretation throughout each section:

Intermediate Level 2	Technique, Communication and Interpretation			
Grade 4	35	35	15	15
Grade 5	35	35	15	15

GRADE 4 (15 Minutes)

Learners should:

1. Prepare and read a poem by either:
 - Brian Patten; or
 - W B Yeats
2. Prepare and read a passage from the works of:
 - Francis Hardinge; or
 - Patrick Ness
3. Read at sight a passage of poetry.
4. Read at sight a passage of prose.

GRADE 5 (15 Minutes)

Learners should:

1. Prepare and read a poem by either:
 - Carol Ann Duffy; or
 - Wilfred Owen
2. Prepare and read a passage from the travel works of:
 - Michael Palin; or
 - Paul Theroux
3. Read at sight a passage of poetry.
4. Read at sight a passage of prose.

LEVEL 3 – ADVANCED

At this Level no piece should exceed 4 minutes.

Marks awarded at this Level taking into consideration technique, communication and interpretation throughout each section:

Advanced Level 3	Technique, Communication and Interpretation				
Grade 6	35	35	15	15	
Grade 7	35	35	15	15	
Grade 8	20	20	20	20	20

GRADE 6 Bronze Medal (15 Minutes)

Learners should:

1. Prepare and read a poem by either:
 - Robert Browning; or
 - Sylvia Plath
2. Prepare and read a passage from the works of:
 - Malorie Blackman; or
 - J R R Tolkien
3. Read at sight a passage of poetry.
4. Read at sight a passage of prose.

GRADE 7 Silver Medal (20 Minutes)

Learners should:

1. Prepare and read a poem by either:
 - Louis Macneice; or
 - Dylan Thomas
2. Prepare and read a passage from the works of:
 - Margaret Atwood; or
 - John Steinbeck
3. Read at sight a passage of poetry.
4. Read at sight a passage of prose.

GRADE 8 Gold Medal (25 Minutes)

*The Jenny Seagrove Certificate of Excellence
Is awarded annually to the Learner gaining the highest Distinction mark in this examination.*

Learners should:

1. Prepare and read a poem of their own choice written after 1970.
2. Prepare and read a sonnet by:
 - John Clare; or
 - Edna St Vincent Millay
3. Prepare and read a passage selected from an autobiography or biography of their own choice.
4. Read at sight a passage of poetry.
5. Read at sight a passage of prose.

