



Key stage 2 English writing standardisation exercise 2

For this standardisation exercise, you should assume that following the discussion with the teacher during the moderation, you are satisfied that the writing is independent, including the use of any source material, and that any edits are the pupil's own.

Where handwriting seems inconsistent, you should base your judgement on the strongest piece and assume that this is validated by further evidence in the pupil's books.

Where there is no evidence of correct spelling of words from the statutory word lists in the pupil's independent writing, you should assume that the teacher has provided evidence in the form of spelling tests or writing from across the curriculum.

This exercise does not contain any collections from pupils deemed to have a particular weakness.

All assessments should be made using the [Teacher assessment frameworks at the end of key stage 2: English writing](#) – working towards the expected standard, working at the expected standard or working at greater depth. You should not assume that the exercise includes one collection from each of the standards. Each collection should be judged individually.

Pupil A

This collection includes:

- A) a Viking saga
- B) a guide
- C) a news report
- D) a webpage
- E) a review
- F) a mystery story

Key stage 2

Pupil A – Piece A: a Viking saga

Context: pupils were tasked with writing a narrative involving conflict. Pupil A drew on their prior learning, additional independent research and their memories of reading 'The Saga of Erik the Viking' by Terry Jones to inspire this piece.

Before the first glimmers of morning light hit the earth's surface, Captain Madara of the Uchiha clan had summoned a meeting in the secret hideout nestled between the trees. Tension filled the air, palpable. Between Madara's commands, a momentary silence that no one dared fill. He continued, "As you know, my honorable brother, Izuna Uchiha has been mercilessly murdered at the hands of Hashitama's men. Today we avenge. Kill or be killed. Approach this battle with as little care for the wellbeing of Hashitama's men as he himself had shown my brother." Madara's eyes were steely with determination and rimmed with sadness. His clan hung off his every word; Madara was a seasoned leader, all respected him and dutifully followed any command he set forth.

This had come to no surprise to the men; they had been training for this day for many months. Target practice, strategic planning, training regimens and sleepless nights—they knew what was to come and they were ready and yet doubt still tried to creep its way into their minds like mold. Raising their weapons in agreement, his men quelled any fear, reflecting back at Madara their own determination to satisfy their leader.

"Show no mercy—except for Hashitama himself. Leave him to me," Captain Madara continued, satisfaction permeated his words as he spoke. Captain Madara was not a leader afraid to get his hands dirty. Others preferred to let their men do the work, take the risk and then claim victory afterwards but not him; he was a well experienced fighter in his own right.

Madara knew Hashitama's men would be unaware of the pending attack but every minute they waited was a minute their plan could be

galed. "Quickly with haste!" Madara shouted, ushering his soldiers out of the hideout and down the banking to the perimeter of Hashitama's territory. His men stood poised, awaiting his signal, bows furrowed, fists clenched around weapons.

"ATTACKKKKKK!!!!!" Madara bellowed and without a second's thought, his men leapt over the barriers and into Hashitama's land. As the soldiers galed in, Hashitama appeared, signaling to his own army to come forward. Despite being unaware of the attack, a Viking was always prepared for battle to some degree, such was life living in such a hostile and unpredictable environment. Even when in the deepest of sleeps, a Viking was ready to be catapulted into action with less than a moment's notice.

Within moments, dismantled body parts lay strewn, cries of horrific pain were met with cries of anger and violence. It was a horror scene.

The grass, now a sea of red, was more a mortuary than a field. Both clans were having their strongest, fiercest men slaughtered. The ground was awash with grievous fighters, now laying limp and lifeless. The two greatest tribes in existence were both taking significant hits and numbers of men left fighting were waning.

All of a sudden, silence befall. Madara trampled over his own and gve's deceased clan members towards Hashitama. He and Hashitama stood face to face in the centre of the battlefield.

Words spilled out from Hashitama's mouth, "So your arrival has finally come, Sir Madara."

"I see you are still a vain and optimistic as ever, leaving your clan to bear the burden of eliminating my army - my army who are the best warriors in the nation no less," blurted Madara placing no ~~gitter~~ gitter over his words. "It seems most of your men are now watching

from the skies, judging, ~~evaluating~~ evaluating your worth as a leader. Are you going to get your own hands dirty? Fight to the death. Or are you filled with cowardice. Will you make your soldiers proud or end up joining them in the clouds. If you do join them in the clouds, be sure to apologise for being a weak leader!"

Hashitama stood, angered. Madara's words had hit him, penetrated deep beneath his skin. "Let's get this over with. I have a family to get home to to share news of my victory." Hashitama kept his words measured, sitting on his bubbling rage, not allowing it to spill into his tone.

"Unlike yours, my family did not shy away from war. I know not if they are alive or deceased but I know they are supporting me now," Madara replied.

With that both men charged towards each other but defeat on either side was not straightforward. No matter how hard one thrust their blade, the other would dodge and retaliate a counter attack. Tension in the air was palpable.

"We would make such a great team, it's too bad that you chose the wrong path," Hashitama spoke between thrusts of his sword.

"We could never," Madara replied, "And it is time now for you to die." Madara began to swing his axe with more velocity, more determination than ever to rid the world of Hashitama.

As Madara went in for the kill, Hashitama made an intelligent move - crouching, creating an opening for himself to cut off Madara's legs.

Slash. Blood gushed uncontrollably, draining the life from Madara. Unable to speak, he fell to the ground in agony and within minutes had joined his comrades as a lifeless body on the ground.

Hashitama lifted his fist into air as the realisation that victory was his washed over him.

Key stage 2

Pupil A – Piece B: a guide

Context: while studying 'Kensuke's Kingdom' by Michael Morpurgo, pupils explored the topic of survival. Pupil A chose to write an explanation text focussed on how parents can best support their children to enable them to survive and thrive at primary school.

How to survive primary school

Within a person's lifetime, nine years are spent in primary school. This period of time is the first stage of a child's education, designed to equip them with the necessary basics in reading, writing and mathematics so that they may go on into high school to hone their skills before seeking higher education or an apprenticeship. The curriculum advances through stages from learning the fundamentals through play, into more formalised activities sat at tables and chairs. Primary school is split into three key stages with the later two culminating in examinations to distinguish the progress each child has made. The final year of primary school is the most crucial and it can bear influence on a child's success at high school. This guide is written with children about to experience year 6 in mind, providing insight and advice to their parents, enabling them to guide their child to ensure their final year is a fruitful one.

With between twenty-five and thirty-five students in a class, it can from time to time be challenging to focus on the task in hand. Innuocuous fun with classmates may not be as harmless as it seems, with recent studies indicating that children who engage in frivolity during lesson hours are almost six times less likely to pass the statutory Assessment Tests (SATs) that assess the skills learnt ^{throughout} ~~throughout~~ Key Stage 2. 68% of children who do not pass SATs tests are boys and there is an extremely high correlation between the inattentiveness of males in class and their under performance in tests. Social interaction is important, and playing with friends at primary school is a treasured

memory for many adults, however it is recommended that in order to achieve their potential, students save such encounters for play times. Parents are advised to remind children of this often and stay in contact with their class teacher by attending parents' evenings to monitor their child's engagement in the classroom. Enrolling a child in clubs, particularly if they are a boy, can provide them with freedom to enjoy time socially with friends outside of the classroom and may encourage focus when they are within it.

It is likely that as students approach the end of key stage 2 and the SAT tests loom, there will be an increase in homework expectation from the class teacher. Children frequently become awash with revision guides, spelling lists, online learning and worksheets during this final year. Support should be offered to children within the family home through a structured timetable, ensuring studies come before any other optional activities. A timetable can be drawn up in agreement with the child to ensure that the workload is spread out over the week, preventing the child from suffering burnout.

Listening skills are vital in year 6. Children should be made aware that at this stage it is unlikely their teacher will use the 'hands up' technique seen lower down the school. Instead, teachers in year 6 opt for a vastly different approach, commonly named 'no hands up'. This provides an additional layer of challenge; a child cannot sit complacent, comforted by the knowledge that formulating an answer is optional. Any child may be selected to answer at any given moment and children will be expected to have an answer ready to share. Parents can support their children by building in opportunities to develop speaking and listening skills at home. At such a time as this where technology use is wide spread, the ability to speak and listen is wavering within the population - and yet is such a vital skill at school. Parents should include dinner table talk to model speaking and listening, removing any iPads or other devices to focus on fostering communication

skills.

With love and guidance, the odds of your child achieving highly are vastly increased. Follow the nuggets of wisdom shared within this guide offered as support in assisting your child to navigate their way through the schooling system.

Key stage 2

Pupil A – Piece C: a news report

Context: after studying news reports, Pupil A chose to write about the situation in Ukraine in Spring 2022. The piece is presented as a live blog which gives readers updates in real time, and the pupil carried out their own research to add authenticity to this partly fictionalised report.

Live Updates: War rages on in Ukraine

Round up of latest news:

- Zelensky's speech at UN
- Death toll rises
- Putin's next move
- Bomb falls on primary school
- Russia vs the world
- Charities help displaced civilians

6 Seconds ago: Zelensky directs speech at UN

President Zelensky has addressed UN officials asking for further support in the form of military aid. The plea comes after heavy bombing on what was thought to be a Ukrainian strong-hold over night, and an attack on a primary school, demonstrating the true volatility of the situation. "We must continue to fight against evil for Ukraine but also for the future of democracy," he stated in his emotional address from the presidential office in Ukraine's capital city, Kiev.

5 minutes ago: Death toll rises

The number of deaths as a consequence of attacks on several Ukrainian buildings, including a primary school, has now risen to 96, with a further 300 civilians injured. Boris Johnson has taken to Twitter to condemn the attacks, referring to them as heartless and cruel.

12 minutes ago: What is Putin's next move?

Sources on the ground in Moscow have shared information which claims Putin has given the green light for nuclear weapons to be put on standby. Analyst Jacob Jones explains, "This is a significant development and one not to be underestimated. The UK and other western countries are becoming increasingly nervous of full-scale nuclear attack. The peace agreement signed by countries, including Russia, prohibited any use of nuclear weapons. Doing so could see the UK and its allies forced into direct military action. To be clear: if Russia presses the nuclear button, so to speak, the west will have to respond." He continues, "Despite the reports, it is unlikely that Putin would instigate a nuclear war.

Preparation of the missiles is more likely to be a scare tactic in retaliation for the financial sanctions imposed against his country by the majority of Western nations. Still Putin is known for unpredictable and unjustifiable actions and so there will be serious talks in the cabinet office of 10 Downing Street this evening putting into place contingency plans for if this war does turn nuclear."

26 minutes ago: Bomb hits primary school in outskirts of Kiev

A Russian missile has blown apart a primary school on the Kiev border in what is thought to have been a targeted attack by Russian troops. The callous act is thought to have killed at least twenty people as the war intensifies. The school, closed to pupils but being used as a medical centre to provide care for civilians caught up in attacks, was hit in a coordinated attack on several buildings as Russian troops struggle to gain entry into the capital city. An urgent stay-at-home order has been issued across the city with more attacks expected in the coming hours. Despite this new ^{wave} ~~wave~~ of devastation, it is thought that Russian plans to take the capital are severely behind schedule due to the unexpected ferocity shown by Ukrainian fighters - a realisation sure to have angered Putin.

32 minutes ago: Russia vs the world: who would win? - special report by Michael Robinson

Whilst Putin may believe other countries are inferior to Russia, how would Russia's military aggression hold up against united powers from around the world? Michael Robinson, Warfare expert, explains, "Russia is inherently secretive so knowing what they have up their sleeves is difficult but it is unlikely that it matches up to NATO's combined force. World War 2 is a good example which shows what allied nations can achieve."

1 hour ago: Charities rush to provide further support to displaced Ukrainians

Approximately 5 million civilians have been forced to flee Ukraine over the past two weeks as war wages on and their livelihoods are torn apart. The British Red Cross has warned that tensions are continuing to rise and violence is increasing - they are urgently seeking supplies such as: clothing, money to provide shelter, medical supplies and ~~shelter~~ ^{refugees} as camps fill with displaced refugees. The British Red Cross and other charities have been quick to set up sites of safety but now need further funding from the public. To donate click [here](#).

1 hour ago: Responses from around the world.

How have different countries responded to the horror scenes witnessed so far in Ukraine?

- USA - The USA have always had a difficult relationship with Russia so it is no surprise that they have been in full support of Ukraine from the beginning and have provided them with millions of dollars worth of aid so far.
- China - China has stayed quiet so far. Known to be an ally of Russia, China has not provided any support to Ukraine.
- UK - The UK, a member of the UN and a country with a substantial military budget given its size, has publically expressed its support for Ukraine and has been integral in pushing the UN to impose financial sanctions on Ukraine. Critics however claim the UK has not done enough and could do more to restrict Russia's income. The UK relies heavily on petrol and diesel from Russia and so it is in a difficult position. The UK has provided over 300 missiles and 200 tanks to Ukrainian forces over the last week with Boris Johnson promising 'ultimate Unlimited assistance to the country.'

Key stage 2

Pupil A – Piece D: a webpage

Context: pupils were tasked with writing the text for the website of an imaginary luxury hotel. Pupil A chose to base their hotel in Dubai.

The most iconic hotel in Dubai, a jewel, a diamond, a global icon...

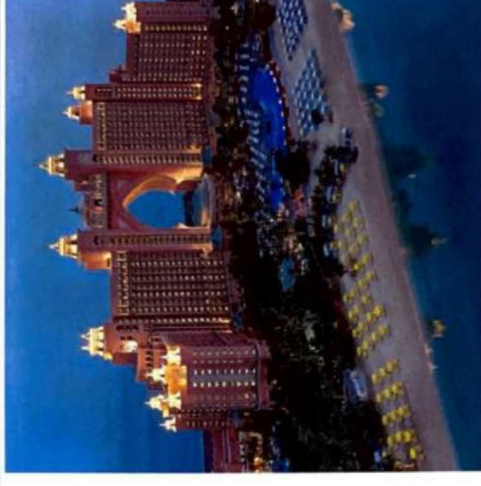
THE ONE

Luxury awaits you at this 5*, all-inclusive resort which exudes all the glitz and glamour you would expect from a hotel in the heart of Dubai's city centre. A lavish lifestyle of chandeliers, fast cars and out-of-this-world experiences await you. Every inch of this hotel has been meticulously designed to ooze splendour. From the world class spa, complete with three infinity pools and eight saunas, to the fully equipped gym, there is something for everyone here are at THE ONE Dubai.

Sumptuous, unforgettable stays await you in our luxurious marina suites, each designed by world-renowned designer, Florence De-Zuma. Exquisite oil paintings line the walls and duck-down pillows lay upon sumptuous king-sized beds. With 24 hour concierge, a private living room, valet parking, Gucci amenities and a selection of 10 different types of pillow to suit all posture preferences, guaranteed relaxation awaits.

Unwind on our own private stretch of sugar white beach or engage in activities Dubai is famous for: pick up designer fashion on a shopping trip, dine at a triple-Michelin-starred restaurant or take a trip up Burj Khalifa, the world's tallest tower.

The finest French and Indian cuisines are available courtesy of our award-winning chefs in our twelve al a carte restaurants which you can visit over your stay with us. Simply present your Platinum Card and have your world opened up to tantalising new tastes. Devour succulent steak or crunch into a freshly made salad- the choice is yours.



Tweets



Mr Jones @jonesfamily1

Exceptional stay @theonedubai Thank you so much- see you guys again next year!



Cat Myers @misscatbx

Absolutely amazing- so sad to be leaving today @theonedubai

Key stage 2

Pupil A – Piece E: a review

Context: pupils studied online reviews, focussing on negative reviews and how writers express dissatisfaction online. They were asked to write an online review from the viewpoint of a dissatisfied customer.

The One Hotel Dubai

Scam! Avoid! Lies! 07/06/22 post by Owleyes2244

Beach hotel? Well, what can I say? This place is advertised as the best you can get. Looking at the pictures, anyone would get a bolt of excitement at the prospect of staying here: diamond-dust beaches lapped by idyllic crystal clear ocean; enchanting rose blossoms lining the promenade; and stunning hotel rooms complete with a whole host of unrivalled, top quality amenities. What's not to love you wonder? Despite the cost of £645 per night, it looked like a dream and I thought why not- you only live once!

I thought wrong!!! Let's start with the greeting. Not the warm, welcoming arrival we had been promised- more an utter shambles. Valet parking- sounds great- until you realise the driver could not care less about your car and proceeds to scratch the entire side of it on a lamppost!! As you can imagine, I was livid. To make matters worse, I have never experienced such RUDE customer service from a receptionist in my life- she really needs to work on her customer relations!

I wasn't holding out much hope for the room at this point, and I was right to keep my expectations at rock bottom. It was a MESS!!! Putrid smells from the bathroom knocked me and my husband sick! I had specified on the booking that we would need three beds- the room had one! The décor was old and dirty; wall paper had begun to peel from the walls and there was mould on the bathroom ceiling. The oil paintings the hotel boasts about on their website aren't even real- they are print outs from the internet stuck onto bits of cardboard! The windowsills were rife with dead bugs and dust, and when I managed to find a cleaner and demanded it be cleaned, she just walked off!!!

Entering the restaurant with my 'platinum' card (NOTHING platinum about this place!), I clasped eyes on one of the worst, no- THE worst, piece of steak I've ever seen in my life! Dry, mouldy and completely inedible! I opted for what I thought to be a safer option, a salad, only to find a BEETLE wreaking havoc under a lettuce leaf!

At this point, my family and I had had enough- we weren't even able to spend the night. I demand a full refund from the owner, am in touch with lawyers and trading standards and urge anyone teetering on the edge of booking this place- DO NOT DO IT.

Key stage 2

Pupil A – Piece F: a mystery story

Context: after studying suspense narratives, including stories from 'Short and Scary' by Louise Cooper, pupils were asked to write a suspense narrative with a slow reveal.

I almost missed the coach, arriving in the nick of time and jumping on board just as the door began to close. Such a close call - but it wasn't quite as lucky as I'd thought...

Knocked from side-to-side from the motion of the bus, I hurried to grab a seat beside my friend Megan. As usual, her nose was buried in a book; she was the type to read stories all day long, even during her own birthday celebrations! We chatted a bit, excited about the trip. I'd never heard of the theme park before and it didn't have a website so we had no idea what to expect.

"Bit unusual to organise a last-minute school trip the night before, ain't it?" I prodded Megan.

She frowned and leaned closer. "It's not just that," she whispered, pausing for effect. "The teachers are all acting strange. Look at Miss Shaw..."

"What on earth is she doing?" I gasped in disbelief.

"She's been banging her head against the seat in front for the last ten minutes. And Miss Price can't seem to get her words out. When she ticked off the register before you arrived, she barely managed a word for each person."

I couldn't think of anything to say. It seemed rude to laugh, and

Megan wasn't smiling anyway. An eerie, uncomfortable feeling of dread was beginning to form in the pit of my stomach. As I looked around, I realised none of the other pupils had noticed a thing; they were chatting away without a care in the world.

She continued, "I've read about things like this happening - adults' behaviour changing, violent outbursts, losing the ability to speak. It's dangerous, Susie."

There was nothing we could do for the rest of the journey but dwell on the seriousness of our situation. I considered texting my parents, yet I knew without a doubt they'd assume I was over-reacting. Plus, the last thing I wanted was to worry them unnecessarily.

Eventually, the coach pulled off the motorway and drove down a bumpy old track. It was heading towards a theme park, that was for sure but it didn't look like any theme park a group of year 6s would enjoy visiting. The carpark (well, muddy field) was deserted. The entranceway displayed an ancient, yellowed and peeling poster advertising 'Rides 10p! Entry 20p!'. It was obviously extremely old and I wondered why on earth we'd come. A shiver ran down my spine as I looked up and spotted the top of a rusted, rickety old rollercoaster. There was no way I would be risking my life on that.

"Stop pushing me!" one of my classmates exclaimed as we were herded forwards.

"Hey, you're not allowed to kick us!" a girl cried out, her face whipping around to glare at Miss Shaw.

To escape the adults' shoving, Megan and I moved towards the theme park's entrance. The crowd were jostling around us, and before I knew it, we were standing in front of a carousel. The mechanical horses were unmoving, until several of our group climbed up.

and started messing around on top of them.

"Something bad's going to happen, it doesn't look safe!" Megan yelled urgently. It was too late. With a screeching metallic sound, the carousel began to turn. Peculiar, spine-chilling piano music began to tinkle and the horses started to creak up and down. Those who were on the ride rushed to the side to get off, but it was spinning faster and faster. Megan screamed, and I closed my eyes to the sight of children flying off into crumpled heaps.

"Move along now, move along. We'll see to them!" Miss Preele's growling voice declared.

Without any chance to process what had just happened, we found ourselves standing beside the waltzers.

"This is my ~~king~~ kind of thing, let's make the most of being off school!" Joey, who usually acts like the class clown, climbed up and scrambled into a booth. His mates followed him.

"I'll push you guys!" another boy shrugged uncertain but eager to please.

Then just as he started to tug on the side of the booth to spin it the music started and the ride moved of its own accord.

All we heard were the boys' terrified screams, while the waltzers spun round in circles. When the ride stopped they were gone.

There were three of us left: Open-mouthed, eyes wide, a cold sweat on our necks.

"We need to get somewhere up high, somewhere safe and away from

whoever's operating the goinground ~~rides~~ rides!" Megan bubbled in a high-pitched voice.

"The ferris wheel!" Our companion, a girl named Lisa shouted and dashed off.

"Wait for us!" I called, but it was too late, she was already at the bottom of the wheel, climbing onto the seat.

"You get in the next one!" she yelled. "We'll be safer in separate ones in case we're too heavy and they break."

Then the music started and the wheel began to turn:

I don't know if it was Megan or I screaming. All I knew was that I couldn't watch as Lisa's body began to corrode into thin air.

Megan and I clashed at each other in sheer panic, our wails only quelled by a sudden announcement:

"Congratulations, you are the final two! Make your way to the ticket office for the final round... Ready to play hook a duck?" I groze in shock - it was Miss Shaw, her voice laced with evil...