



SATs Information

Evening

2026

English

English overview



English at Alameda Middle School focuses upon three core areas:

- Reading
- Writing
- Grammar

We are on a journey to prepare your child for the end of KS2, and to lay the foundations for the challenges of KS3 and beyond.

English overview



- 6 lessons of English each week
 - One dedicated library lesson
- Homework is set weekly – we use SATs Bootcamp (reading and SPaG)
- Reading and writing skills are tracked and assessed throughout the year
- Speaking and listening skills are developed in English lessons
 - E.g. through talk for writing and drama



SATs week organisation

Timings

Monday 11th May	English: grammar, punctuation and spelling
Tuesday 12th May	English: reading
Wednesday 13th May	Maths Paper 1 (arithmetic) Maths Paper 2 (reasoning)
Thursday 14th May	Maths Paper 3 (reasoning)

SPaG: Monday 11th May 2026



Grammar, punctuation and spelling consists of two papers:

- **Paper 1** focuses on all three elements (grammar, punctuation and spelling or GPS). The paper lasts for **45 minutes**.
- **Paper 2** consists of a **spelling test only**. It should take approximately **15 minutes**, although this is not a set amount of time.



SPaG overview

The children will have been working hard with their class teacher on developing and securing their knowledge of the technical vocabulary needed in this test.

This test focuses on:

- Grammatical terms/ word classes;
- Functions of sentences;
- Combining words, phrases and clauses;
- Verb forms, tenses and consistency;
- Punctuation;
- Vocabulary;
- Standard English and formality.

This test requires a range of answer types but does not require longer formal answers.



Example questions:

1

Which sentence is a **command**?

Tick **one**.

The relay race will be next.

☐

I hope I don't drop the baton.

☐

Run as fast as you can.

☐

I know you can win this race.

☐

1 mark



Example questions:

39

Complete the sentence below with an appropriate **subordinating conjunction**.

E.g. Although, while football is his favourite sport, James also enjoys
watching tennis on TV.

1 mark



Example questions:

49

Rewrite the sentence below in the **passive**.
Remember to punctuate your answer correctly.

The Romans invaded Britain over two thousand years ago.

e.g. Over two thousand years ago, Britain was invaded by the Romans.

1 mark

SPaG Paper 2 - Spelling



Paper 2 is a shorter paper that focuses solely on spellings.

Example questions:

Spelling

1. There was a _____ in the field.
2. I kept in _____ with my old friends when we moved.
3. The questions were _____ from one to ten.

2023 Spelling script

Spelling 1: The word is **lamb**.

There was a **lamb** in the field.

The word is **lamb**.

Spelling 2: The word is **touch**.

I kept in **touch** with my old friends when we moved.

The word is **touch**.

Spelling 3: The word is **numbered**.

The questions were **numbered** from one to ten.

The word is **numbered**.

Reading: Tuesday 12th May 2026



There is one reading test that lasts for **60 minutes**.

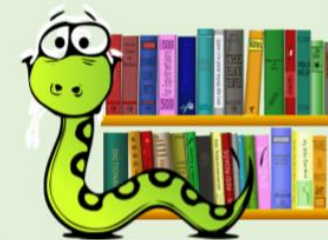
There are three different set texts for children to read. These could be any combination of **non-fiction, fiction and/ or poetry**.

The test covers the following areas (known as Content Domains):

- Give/ explain the meaning of words in context;
- Retrieve and record information/ identify key details from fiction and non-fiction;
- Summarise main ideas from more than one paragraph;
- Make inferences from the text/ explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text;
- Predict what might happen from details stated and implied;
- Identify/ explain how information/ narrative content is related and contributes to meaning as a whole;
- Identify/ explain how meaning is enhanced through choice of words and phrases;
- Make comparisons within the text.

Reading Vipers

Vocabulary
Infer
Predict
Explain
Retrieve
Summarise



Reading



The reading SATs paper requires a range of answer styles.

Example questions:

Questions 1–12 are about *A Noise in the Night*
(pages 4–5)

- 1 Look at the first paragraph.
How can you tell Priya was feeling nervous?

Write **two** ways.

1. _____
2. _____

2 marks

Priya and her father
Mr Jones had to

Priya woke with a start.
Something had happened.
She was sure what. At first she lay
beside her, and tried to remember.
but now she could not.
tent, and she felt nervous.
must have risen.
trying to calm herself.
something rude.
told herself she was wrong.
It's something

Qu.	Requirement	Mark
1	Look at the first paragraph. How can you tell Priya was feeling nervous? Write two ways. Content domain: 2d – make inferences from the text or explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text Award 1 mark for reference to any of the following, up to a maximum of 2 marks: - Priya's heart beating fast, e.g. <i>Priya's heart started to race</i> <i>her heart was beating really quickly.</i> - Priya taking a deep breath / trying to calm herself down, e.g. <i>she took a deep breath</i> <i>Priya was trying to calm herself</i> <i>she must be nervous because she needs to calm down.</i> - Priya telling herself there is nothing to worry about, e.g. <i>she tells herself it must be something harmless</i> <i>she tries to reassure herself.</i> - Priya waking with a start, e.g. <i>she woke with a start.</i>	Up to 2m

Reading



17

Look at Harriet's answer beginning: *It's actually very appropriate...*

Find and **copy one** word that is closest in meaning to 'eat'.

1 mark

Q This ordinary bridge is popular with bats.
What makes it such a hotspot?

A It's actually very appropriate that you call it a 'hotspot'. The gaps underneath the bridge are a perfect place for mother bats to raise their young. Baby bats are born hairless and have only a few months to develop before travelling south in autumn. They need somewhere warm and safe and the gaps under the bridge are just the right width to trap warmth nicely. These bat pups need to spend their energy on growth, not on keeping themselves warm.

Texas in general is a paradise for bats because of all its tasty insects. A mother bat will go out hunting every evening and consume about two-thirds of her body weight in insects every single night to meet her energy needs. The feeding frenzy can last all night.

Reading



Example questions:

Based on text 2: Bats Under the Bridge

22 Draw **four** lines to match an amount on the left to a fact on the right.

thousands	people visiting the Congress Avenue Bridge each year
a few	bats living in one cave
ten	months baby bats need to develop before travelling
fifteen million	tonnes of insects eaten by bats each night

1 mark

Section 2: Bats Under the Bridge

Qu.	Requirement	Mark
22	Draw four lines to match an amount on the left to a fact on the right. Content domain: 2b – retrieve and record information or identify key details from fiction and non-fiction Award 1 mark for all correctly matched: thousands a few ten fifteen million people visiting the Congress Avenue Bridge each year bats living in one cave months baby bats need to develop before travelling tonnes of insects eaten by bats each night	1m

Reading



Example questions: 3 mark question

38

Look at the paragraph beginning: *Innis sat up...* to the end of the text.

Innis meets the boy. What do you learn about the boy's personality?

Give **two** things, using evidence from the text to support your answer.

Personality	Evidence

3 marks

Section 3: A Howl at Dusk

Qu.	Requirement	Mark														
38	Look at the paragraph beginning: <i>Innis sat up...</i> to the end of the text. Innis meets the boy. What do you learn about the boy's personality? Give two things, using evidence from the text to support your answer. Content domain: 2d – make inferences from the text or explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text Award 3 marks for two acceptable points, at least one with evidence. Award 2 marks for either two acceptable points, or one acceptable point with evidence. Award 1 mark for one acceptable point.	Up to 3m														
	<table><tr><th>Acceptable points (personality)</th><th>Likely evidence</th></tr><tr><td>1. he is unfriendly / rude / surly</td><td> • unfriendly eyes • 'What's it to you?' • strode off without another word • didn't bother to look at Innis whilst replying • he didn't look at him when he replied. </td></tr><tr><td>2. he is independent / brave / calm</td><td> • he was on his own • not concerned he might be walking towards the wolf • he didn't seem to be shocked that there was a wolf about. </td></tr><tr><td>3. he is curious</td><td> • the only questions asked were about wolves • 'How far?' • 'Where exactly?' • he stops when Innis mentions the wolf. </td></tr><tr><td>4. he is mysterious / strange</td><td> • he doesn't talk much • he wiped the snow off, turned and strode off • he appeared out of nowhere • he didn't tell Innis much about himself. </td></tr><tr><td>5. he is secretive / defensive</td><td> • he didn't tell Innis anything about himself • strode off without another word • 'What's it to you?' </td></tr><tr><td>6. he is determined / single-minded / self-centred</td><td> • was only interested in the wolf • strode off without another word • he only paid attention to what he was interested in • he only interacted when he realised that Innis had useful information. </td></tr></table>	Acceptable points (personality)	Likely evidence	1. he is unfriendly / rude / surly	• unfriendly eyes • 'What's it to you?' • strode off without another word • didn't bother to look at Innis whilst replying • he didn't look at him when he replied.	2. he is independent / brave / calm	• he was on his own • not concerned he might be walking towards the wolf • he didn't seem to be shocked that there was a wolf about.	3. he is curious	• the only questions asked were about wolves • 'How far?' • 'Where exactly?' • he stops when Innis mentions the wolf.	4. he is mysterious / strange	• he doesn't talk much • he wiped the snow off, turned and strode off • he appeared out of nowhere • he didn't tell Innis much about himself.	5. he is secretive / defensive	• he didn't tell Innis anything about himself • strode off without another word • 'What's it to you?'	6. he is determined / single-minded / self-centred	• was only interested in the wolf • strode off without another word • he only paid attention to what he was interested in • he only interacted when he realised that Innis had useful information.	
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Reading



Since the current testing formation for the SATs began in 2016, there has been a tendency for three types of questions to be the most popular.

In the latest Reading SATs paper,

- **18%** of marks could be gained from answering questions involving giving and explaining the meaning of words in context;
- **32%** of marks could be gained from answering questions involving retrieving and recording information or identifying key details from a text;
- **46%** of marks could be gained from answering questions involving making inferences from a text and justifying inferences with text evidence.

When reading with your child at home try focusing on these types of questions.

Writing



During each unit of study in Year 6, your child will complete at least one writing assessment.

- This is assessed using the KS2 statutory framework
- From each piece of writing, your child will know what they have had success with
- Your child will also be given a target – they are given the opportunity to work on this area, before improving on this in their writing

In addition, your child will undertake writing across the curriculum.

e.g. science experiment reports and recounts demonstrating their learning in history.

Supporting your child in preparing for the English SATs



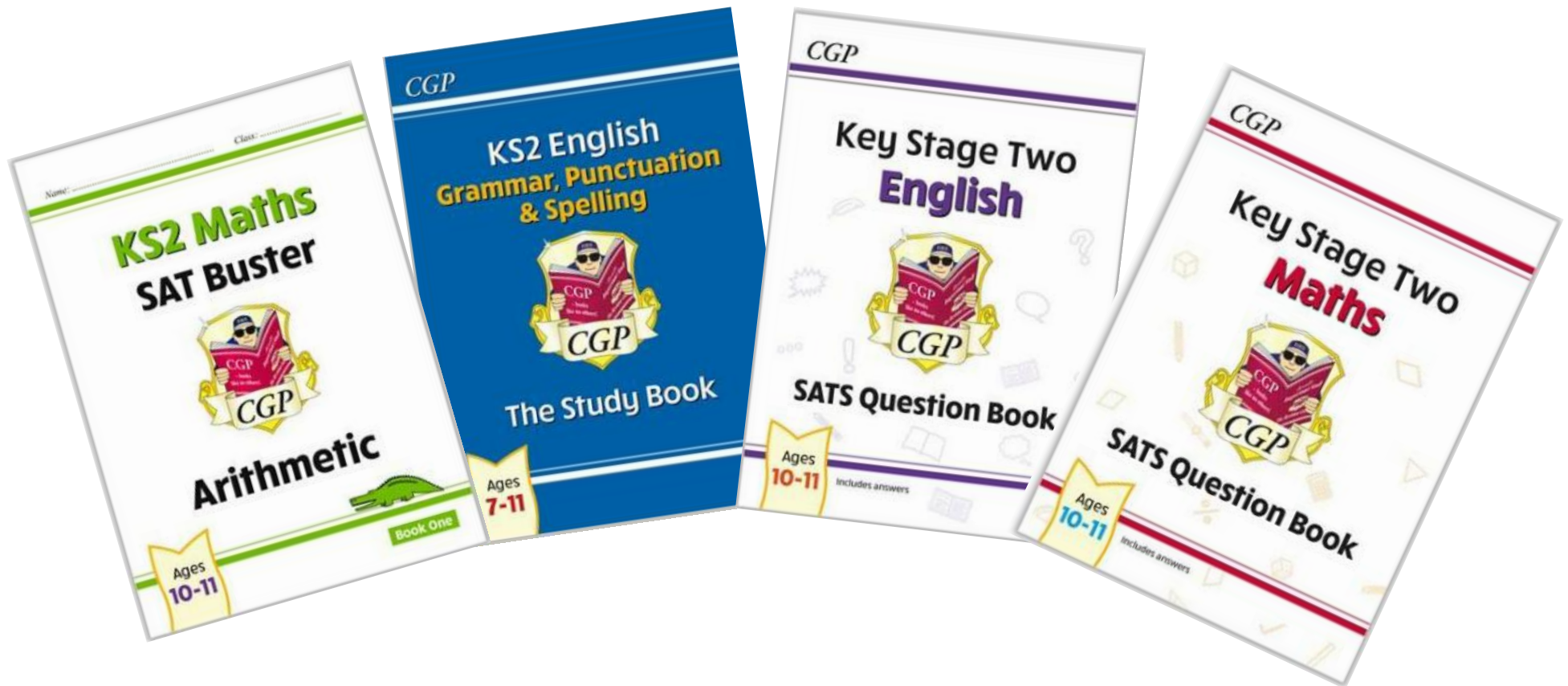
Tips:

- Support with the completion of homework
- Find the buzz words in any questions or tasks that they are sent home – encourage them to highlight
- Read with your child regularly, then ask them questions using the question stems
- When reading with your child, discuss the use of punctuation: inverted commas to mark speech; the use of capital letters etc. (see the handout for SPaG terms)
- Read aloud to your child whilst your child follows the text: listening is an important part of reading; it will help your child learn the importance of punctuation and reading with expression

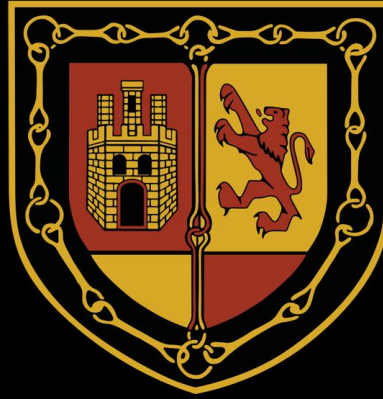
Capital letters and sentence punctuation are key to success – remind your child when they complete any homework.

Ambitious  **Motivated**
Confident to Soar





Ambitious ■ Motivated
Confident to Soar



Thank you
for your support.